

Since our last Council meeting on January 16:

- The week of January 16th was VERY busy. Thank you to the staff for preparing the materials needed for the 3 work sessions that week. I was able to call in for the last two of the work sessions, since I was in Anchorage at the RCAC Board meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Smith did an excellent job running the meetings, thank you for stepping up Nate.
- The RCAC Board meeting was heavily weighted with discussion and information on the oil spill response services transition and both the terminal and tanker C-Plans.
- I got home in time to attend the Valdez Women's March with our City Clerk on Saturday, January 20. It was well attended by both genders and ages ranging from preschool to seniors, there were even 4 people from Kenny Lake. I urged all participants to get more involved in our local government, since the municipal level decisions truly effect people in very noticeable, everyday ways.
- Our attorneys and VFDA's counsel sent opposition to the state's request to strike Susan Harvey's public comment/affidavit which was submitted to support the C-Plan appeal. They also agreed to not oppose consolidating the hearings and asked for "in anticipation of consolidation of these matters, Valdez and PWSRCAC respectfully request an extension until February 26, 2018, to file a reply to the Division's Response and Opposition to Request for Adjudicatory Hearing in this matter."
- We received information from the Alaska Small Business Development Center about the upcoming Valdez Small Business Workshops January - March 2018. I hope they are well advertised and attended.
- The School Board decided to offer a Superintendent candidate the job after interviews on the 20th and made that public at their meeting on the 22nd. The candidate regretfully declined the offer due to family issues, so the board met again on February 1 to discuss the continued search.
- On Tuesday the 23rd, I attended a PWSEDD teleconference meeting, had a nice visit with Curt Wilson about this year's Mayor's Cup race, and spoke with a Cub Scout troop who asked good questions about running for office and City government.
- On Thursday the 25th, I was given a tour of the ECO offices/warehouse and one house. It is amazing how well built they are and how quickly the construction has been. They should be completed and in use this Spring. I also attended a lunch meeting for the formation of the AVV Community Prevention Coalition and look forward to the good work this group will do in Valdez. The Philanthropy sub-committee of the Providence Health Advisory Council met that same afternoon to discuss the hospital needs and brainstorm fundraising efforts. To top the day off, I attended the RCAC Information Education Committee teleconference meeting.
- On the afternoon of the 26th, Brian, Elke, Doug and I met with Curt Wilson to discuss how to make sure the City funds are appropriately dispersed for the Mayor's Cup race since the Snow Machine Club will not be running it this year and Curt has stepped up to make sure it happens.
- The Beautification Task Force met on Monday the 29th at noon and on I had my weekly 11:30 Tuesday meeting on the 30th with Elke. Sheri joined to update me on the Senior Center fiscal situation and housing ask. Since we know the lack of housing is a major concern and we may be able to help the crunch by getting more senior apartments built.
- I met with the City Manager on Friday afternoon and will meet meet with her again on Tuesday at 11:30, before the Council meeting.
- The Health Advisory Council (HAC) will meet for strategic planning on February 9 and 10 which will be driven by the 2017 CHNA (Community Health Needs Assessment). This is the same weekend as the annual Elk's Tournament. I wish our VHS Bucs the best of luck.
- We need to schedule our City Manager's 1st annual, formal evaluation in February. Boy how time flies!

Respectfully submitted,

