



Haines Borough Administration
Robert Venables, Manager
(907)766-2231 Fax(907)766-2716
rvenables@haines.ak.us

Report

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Harbor Expansion Project

We just received word today that the federal Office of Management and Budget is instructing the Army Corps of Engineers to scale back work on projects next year. This will not affect this year's work on the Haines Harbor but magnifies the need for the Borough to make the trip to Washington D.C. as recommended by our lobbyist. Mayor Case and I will travel to D.C. for meetings on Feb. 28 and March 1. We will be joined by Doug Olerud who will also be traveling south at that time.

University Land Selections

The State of Alaska is proposing to make another land grant to the University of Alaska. There are 2 large tracts of land in Excursion Inlet and 4 parcels in Haines (map attached) being considered. We are doing research on the issue and will report back to the Assembly and Planning Commission as information is available.

Ferry Terminal Repairs

I met with D.O.T. officials to discuss the repairs of the dock at the terminal. They have for years planned to remove the dock face and have a sloped rubble dock face with dolphins and a walkway for tying up vessels. I stated a preference for restoring the dock face to its original condition which was supported by Deputy Commissioner Tom Briggs. The preliminary geo-tech report shows that the cost difference may not be too great and support the better project.

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Current Contractual Discussions

The **Pool MOU** is before the assembly tonight for consideration. This has been a work in progress since December with approval from the Parks & Recreation advisory board and the Government Affairs Committee. The revised **conveyance document** between the Haines Borough and Alaska Indian Arts has been submitted for their review. Also, a **draft contract for management of the Chilkat Center** is being created and will be submitted to the Government Affairs committee for their review. I have just been apprised that the State may be interested in **leasing the upstairs of the Public Safety building**. This would help underwrite the expenses of this building. If there is no objection, I will pursue this and bring an offer for your authorization.

Marine Transportation

I attended the quarterly board meeting last week in Juneau. While labor negotiations are at an impasse officially, more meetings are scheduled for this week and unofficial word is that progress is being made. Progress is being made on developing a marketing plan and a business development plan with new managers hired for each. It would be beneficial to continue pressuring the administration through letters and resolutions - there are currently 5 ferries laid up with 3 possibly available for deployment. Currently Haines is getting the same or less service than Angoon.

CFO Search

Without a consensus from the assembly on covering the cost of the executive search firm, I cancelled the request for their services. They had already worked a few hours on the project and have forwarded the candidates received from that brief effort. The position closes Friday.