

Big Lake Community Council
PO Box 520931
Big Lake AK, 99652-0931
www.biglakecommunitycouncil.com
Big Lake Lions Rec Center

General Membership Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2015
7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order

Carol Kane called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. A quorum was established with board members present: Secretary – Carol Kane, Treasurer – Yvonne Ruth, At Large Board Members – Cathy Mayfield, Casey Steinau, and Darren Zimmer. Absent excused: President - Bill Kramer, Vice President - Floyd Shilanski.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion by Casey Steinau and seconded by Yvonne Ruth was approved by unanimous consent to accept the agenda as presented.

4. Approval of Minutes

A motion by Cathy Mayfield and seconded by Yvonne Ruth was approved by unanimous consent to approve the minutes as amended by Paul DuClos regarding borough owned real property to West Pac Logistics, LLC. negotiating the lease at the port to build their plant.

5. Persons to be heard 3 min max.

Bre Reintsma, Principal, Big Lake Elementary reported the current enrollment is 465 students. Due to not meeting the expected enrollment there was a reduction in 1 teacher. Additionally part of the school renovations projects included the following: new carpet in classrooms, new stairway treads, new bus turn-around area, and the new outside basketball area, spearheaded by Superintendent Deena Paramo. Bre closed her comments by inviting all to come to the Veterans Day Assembly on Nov 12th.

Ken Walch stated the Big Lake Community Council's grant awarded to the Alaska Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center for landscaping looks great. Additionally he announced there would be a fundraiser held on September 12th at the Lake Lucille - Best Western.

Carol Kane commented the Big Lake Compass Forum Incorporation meetings have been well attended. Since the first Compass Forum meeting, which are held every Thursday at the Big Lake Library, sign in sheets have indicated over 200 people have participated.

Charlene Hutton expressed appreciation to the BLCC for sponsoring Big Lake Saturday Market & Festival. A very special "thank you" was recognized for Chris Hoskinson's extra effort for making this a very successful event.

Lois Parker from the Big Lake Beautification project shared the work with the Big Lake Chamber of Commerce to complete the flowerbeds along Big Lake Road and East Lake Mall. The goal next year is to have more flowers throughout city center. Additionally, hopeful would be to have Big Lake businesses put up Christmas lights.

Jill Pock, owner of Moonshine Shop reported IGA has indicated they would be applying for a liquor license. Cathi Kramer asked if anything had come through planning & platting. Jill stated she had just learned the license would be transferred to Big Lake from another location.

6. Reports 5 min. max. None

7. Borough Assembly Report Dan Mayfield presented via email 9/8/15 - Presented by Carol Kane

Transfer Site Fees: As most of you know, for the last two months I have been involved in a project to rollback Transfer Site fees to a more affordable level. The original resolution sponsored by myself and Assembly Member Vern Halter was to rollback rates to those that existed on January 1st, 2015. That proposal met with opposition on the Assembly primarily due to loss of revenue to pay for those services. At the Assembly meeting on 9/1/15, I was able to fashion a compromise pricing structure that significantly rolled back prices. That compromise successfully passed with an effective date of 10/1/2015. The new pricing structure is as follows:

Maximum of 2 Bags of trash per day = \$2.00 per Bag which is a savings of \$1.00 per bag.

1 Cubic Yards of Trash = \$ 13.00 which is a savings of \$2.00

2 Cubic Yards of Trash = \$26.00 which is a savings of \$4.00

3 Cubic Yards of Trash (about the size of an 8 foot Pickup load) = \$32.00 which is a savings of \$13.00

4 Cubic Yards of Trash = \$45.00 which is a savings of \$15.00

5 Cubic Yards of Trash = \$60.00 which is a savings of \$15.00

Transportation: two items

The Ordinance to include route 3A in the Comprehensive Plan is held up in legal due to semantics in the wording of the Ordinance. I am currently working with the Planning Department to modify the Comp Plan and expect that to be resolved in short order so that this can move forward to the Assembly and the Planning Commission.

The final design of the Roundabout is still in negotiation pending an agreement between the residents of Rocky Lake Subdivision and the owners of Frontier Auto. A meeting is planned for this coming Friday between the interested parties to see if we can come to some resolve. Just to be clear, the work on the Roundabout has been funded and a contract has been signed based on the original design approved by DOT. The additional work here is to insure adequate access for this business while balancing the impact to the Rocky Lake neighborhood.

8. Road Service Area Report

Mokie Tew stated the status because of the very dry summer resulting in the roads being torn up and now impacted by the rain. They are working on grading and shrub trimming to get ready for winter.

9. Fire Service Area Report, Chairperson, Cathi Kramer

No report at this time. A meeting is scheduled for next week.

10. Treasurer's Report, Chairperson, Yvonne Ruth

Checking Account balance: \$23,294.64

Savings Account balance: \$280.63

11. Membership Report Chairperson, Yvonne Ruth

Current members – 75

12. Chamber Commerce Report Dan Mayfield

Cathi Kramer announced the Fall Fishing Derby sponsored by Burkeshore Marina would be held Sept. 26/27 with the tagged fish prize sponsored by Arctic Cat – Corporate. Prizes include a fully loaded \$20,000 ATV. There were 250 fishermen who participated last year.

Additionally noted was the Big Lake Chamber will be hosting Borough Mayoral debate on Sept. 14th at Big Lake Family restaurant. Put on your calendar there will be Christmas tree lighting on Saturday, Dec. 5th at the Fire Station. Bill Haller interjected the "Tree of Giving" would not be held this year by Big Lake Lions due to complications of many families receiving double gifts.

13. Parks and Trails Chairperson, Cathy Mayfield & Update from Dan Mayfield

Big Lake Trails, Inc. is gearing up for the new season. We are in receipt of both a State SnowTRAC grant and a MatSu Grooming grant that should fully fund our grooming effort this year so long as we have snow. These grants only cover the costs to groom winter trails and are only payable after the work has been completed.

As you may recall, a few years ago, Big Lake Trails secured an easement between Big Lake and Mud Lake. That easement was primarily to secure the winter trail but was widely recognized as part of the winter road that connects all area lakes. The condition of the easement was fairly horrendous last year for vehicle travel. Now, we have the opportunity to upgrade that easement for the benefit of all. The problem is that we will need about \$ 4000 to do it. There are no grant funds available for this work. The road has already been compacted for the coming season but the plan is to put about 4 inches of gravel topping on the road to make it sustainable. We need donations immediately to get this work done before the snow flies. Here's the deal, for anyone who donates \$ 50.00 or more between now and Oct 1st, Big Lake Trails will give you a free membership this year and use your money specifically for the road upgrade. We will also send you a membership sticker. Donations can be made via PayPal on our website at www.biglaketrails.org or via mail at PO Box 520705 Big Lake, AK 99652. If you know this road/trail, you know this is important work that must be done. Thank you in advance. Without your help, this project will not get done this year.

Cathi Kramer confirmed the Jordan Lake Park purchase order has been approved for paving.

Paving should be done soon. Additionally she said the Jay Nolfi Park, Big Lake Appreciation Day was very successful. The Fire Department had a booth and promoted their program installing free fire detectors. Concluding her report, she said the Big Lake Trails grant money will be greatly reduced this year.

14. School Report, Chairperson, Carol G Kane

Refer Item # 5 to Persons to be Heard – Bre Reintsma

15. Transportation Report Chairperson, Darren Zimmer

- Darren Zimmer provided an update on the Council's efforts to amend the Comprehensive Plan by adding the Community Impact Assessment on the desired route selection for the planned Port to Parks Highway. The effort currently rests with the Borough Planning Department. The Department is drafting legislation to be presented to the Borough Assembly in October. Once presented it will be sent back to the Planning Department to allow 30-90 days for comment. At the end of this period the final legislation goes back to the Assembly for approval. Pending approval, the Comp Plan will be amended.
Darren Zimmer provided an update from Assemblyman Mayfield on the Roundabout construction project. Mr. Mayfield had met with the Borough project manager to review a new design aimed at addressing local concerns. This design is to be presented to the residents and businesses the following Friday for their consideration. Darren Zimmer requested to add this as an agenda discussion item for the October 13, 2015 - Community Council meeting.
- Paul DuClos reported the \$42 million contract for the 4 lane divided highway from Wasilla to Big Lake has been awarded. Included in the design is from Pittman Road to Big Lake Road turnoff.

16. Incorporation Chairperson, Floyd Shilanski

Petitioner Jim Faiks announced there would be an historic event to unfold next month as Big Lake votes to Incorporate. City Council Candidates in attendance were introduced. Noted that there would be a Candidate Forum on September 19th from 4:00 to 5:30.

17. Community Grants, Chairperson, Yvonne Ruth

Grant applications are due October 2nd. The Grant Committee will meet on October 6th to review and make recommendations.

18. Correspondence

None

19. Land Use/Platting

None

20. New Business

None

21. Unfinished Business/Action Items

22. Announcements

Houston High School vs. Monroe Friday, September 18th.

23. Board Member Comment

Casey Steinau expressed concern that garbage is being dumped along roadside. If anyone sees this happening, please take photos and e-mail to the Mat Su Borough Assembly or to caseysteinau@gmail.com

Yvonne Ruth expressed her appreciation for wonderful people of this community.

Carol Kane also reiterated appreciation for wonderful people of this community.

24. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hoskinson

Adopted 10/13/15

Big Lake Community Council Purpose:

To provide a direct and continuing means of citizen participation in government and local affairs; to provide a method by which they can work together for expression and discussion of their opinions, needs and desires in a manner that will have an impact on our community's development and service; to provide to governmental agencies a method for receiving opinions, needs, desires and recommendations of residents and groups, and to give local governing bodies an improved basis for decision-making and assignment of priorities for all capital improvements and governmental programs affecting community development and individual well-being.