

City Council

October Meeting Highlights

REGULAR MEETING – October 23, 2007

- **Letter of Interest in serving on the City Council from Joe Banghart**

MOTION: To appoint Joe Banghart to one of the vacant McGrath City Council seats.

VOTE: 4 of 4 Present **Motion passed.**

- **Oath of Office** for two new Council Members. Kathy Birkenfeld (October Election, 1-year remaining of Seat C) and Joe Banghart (Appointment, 3-year Seat D) were sworn in at this time.

- **Officer Election**

MOTION: To keep the present Administration (Mayor Dustin Parker and Vice-Mayor Karen Ladegard)

VOTE: 5 of 5 present Yes. **Motion passed**

- **Approval of Minutes**

MOTION: To approve the regular meeting minutes of September 25, the special meeting minutes of October 5, and the special meeting minutes of October 8

VOTE: 5 of 5 present Yes. **Motion passed**

- **RurAL CAP VCMP Memorandum of Agreement**

MOTION: To approve the MOA with RurAL CAP for the Village Council Management Program (VCMP) VISTA position.

VOTE: 5 of 5 present Yes. **Motion passed**



Here's your opportunity to make a difference



Outgoing 2007 City Council

The **McGrath City Council** is missing one person! Could this be *you*? If you'd like to consider serving on the council, please write a brief letter of interest telling the council why you are interested in serving and email it or bring to the city office. Meetings are held once a month on the fourth Tuesday. Rarely, there will be a Special meeting to take care of a specific item that cannot wait until the next regularly scheduled meeting. You would also be asked to serve on an advisory committee, i.e. Public Works, Public Safety, Administration & Finance. Committees typically meet once a month, as well. Currently serving on the council are Mayor Dustin Parker, Vice-Mayor Karen Ladegard, Doug Lyman, Verdene Anselment, Kathy Birkenfeld and Joe Banghart. It is hoped that at least one person will volunteer to serve and that person would be sworn in during the November meeting.

Another vacant position exists on the **Planning Commission**. The Planning Commission also meets monthly, on the second Wednesday. You will attend meetings and work sessions and make decisions about community development projects and policies. The Commission addresses three major aspects of planning; land use regulation and platting, the discipline and practice of planning and the legal contest for planning decisions. There are many resources available to the Commission to support their work. If you are interested in serving, please write a brief letter of interest to let the council know a little about yourself and why you'd like to serve.



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All city meetings are held at the Cap'n Snow Center, upstairs in the Assembly Room and are open to the public. Everyone is encouraged to attend and participate.

Public Safety Comm.
Thursday November 8th
5:00pm

Veteran's Day Holiday
City Office closed
Monday November 12th

Public Works Comm.
Tuesday November 13th
5:00pm

Planning Commission
Wednesday November 14th
7:00pm

Administration & Finance
Monday November 19th
7:00pm

**Volunteer Fire Dept. and
KVRS Joint meeting**
Wed. November 21st
7:00pm

Thanksgiving Holiday
City Council Meeting
City Office Closed
Thurs. & Fri. 22nd & 23rd

City Council Meeting
Tuesday November 27th
7:00pm

Highlights of current projects

★ A **Solid Waste (Landfill) grant** proposal has been submitted to the Denali Commission that would result in recycling of hazardous waste off-site and sorting other waste at the Landfill.

★ An application is being submitted for a **RurAL CAP VISTA** position with the city, in the **VCMP (Village Council Management Program)**. If McGrath were selected to participate, the person would be working on updating McGrath's Comprehensive Development Plan.

★ **Southcentral Foundation** recently made a **generous contribution of \$10,000** to the community, earmarked to the water and sewer system maintenance needs.

★ The **NRCS Erosion project** that will rebuild the 1,100' section of "levee" that is surfaced by Takotna Ave. is moving forward. The legal proceeding to secure land rights for construction and maintenance easements is in process in Superior Court. This process will ultimately allow the Bid Announcement to be published and a contractor hired by USDA to do the work.

★ The **Army Corps of Engineers** had **elevations** surveyed along the riverbank and has generously shared those elevations and drawings with the city and state to be used in their flood mapping project. The city will use those elevations to begin posting placards on electric utility poles to show base flood (previously known as "100 yr") levels and then the 340' elevation level that those who are building or remodeling in the McGrath flood plain need to build above to protect their buildings. See **Flood Insurance availability information** included with the November water bill mailing.

★ All agencies, government entities and interested persons in McGrath are invited to participate in a "**Community Collaboration**" meeting on November 20th from 10am through lunch, at the IASD Building. Lunch will be served, courtesy of IASD. Collaboration and partnering as a means to support and leverage funding is increasingly necessary for most development projects. A draft MOA will be reviewed & revised if necessary and then signed by those who would like to participate. Having such a document to utilize will be valuable to the future of McGrath and surrounding region.

Winter Safety & Efficiency

Streetlights: If you happen to notice that a streetlight is out, please call ML&P to let them know so that the bulb can be replaced.

Water use: Efficiency measures to save on your water (& sewer) bill. Lots of good info here. Did you know your toilet uses 30% of the water usage in your home? This article tells what to look for in buying a new, efficient "throne" & other water saving hints.

<http://www.epa.gov/watersense/news/current/winter2007.htm>

Traveling for the Holidays?

If you, a **water customer**, will be traveling during the Holiday season, PLEASE contact Sue at the city office to let her know. Let her know who will be taking care of your house while you are gone, so that emergency access can be had, if need be. If you will be gone for more than a few days and do not plan to have someone actually staying in your home, please call the city office to arrange to have your water service "looped" & winterized.

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