



City Council

November Meeting Highlights

REGULAR MEETING – November 27, 2007

- **Approval of Minutes**

MOTION: To approve the October 23, 2007 Regular Meeting minutes.

VOTE: 4 of 5 present Yes. 1 Abstains (not present at Oct. 23rd meeting) **Motion passed**

The following topics were addressed, with agreement by consensus:

- **Council Member Committee Assignments**

Doug Lyman – Planning Commission;
Joe Banghart – Public Safety;
Verdene Anselment – Public Works;
Kathy Birkenfeld – Admin & Finance

- **Advisory Questions Vote –**

The following committees will consider each question for recommendation to the council.

1. **Fluoride in drinking water** – Public Works, Admin & Finance, Public Safety;
2. **Helmets required by children ages 5-17** Public Safety;
3. **Vehicle rental fee** – Admin & Finance;
4. **Competing with private enterprise** – Admin & Finance, Public Works
5. **Cemetery on Cranberry Ridge** – Planning Commission.

- **Capital Project Nominations –**

Senator Kookesh and Representative Salmon are asking for project requests for Capital Improvement Projects by or before January 15th. Each committee and the Planning Commission will be asked to consider submitting potential projects to the administrative staff for consideration.

- **Resolution addressing high fuel prices -**

The purpose of the Resolution is to ask the Legislature in Juneau for help in paying for rising fuel costs seen by Tribes, cities, school districts, etc. A Resolution will be provided for consideration at the December council meeting.

- **JNYO donation request –**

In the past, the city has contributed prizes for events and fundraising, but we do not contribute through cash donations. The City will respond to the JNYO to let them know that we as a government entity do not make cash donations, but that we do wholeheartedly support the JNYO team and as individual council members, personally support their fundraising efforts.

~ Continued on next page

McGrath ~ Winter's finally here!



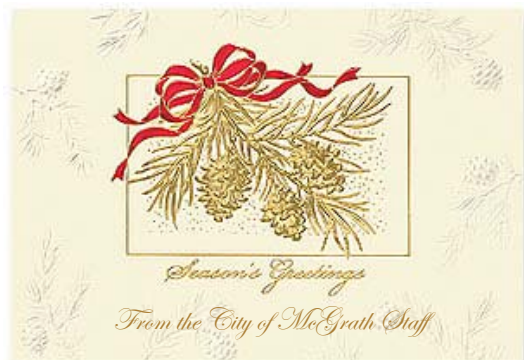
Takotna Mountain viewed from McGrath on a cold morning



Community Collaboration Gathering

The first **Community Collaboration Gathering** was quite a success, with 16 participants and a list of tasks, target dates and lead person to kick-start the “community and economic development” of the community. Initial goals include:

- **General Memorandum of Agreement** for all entities to sign pledging close collaboration in areas of mutual concern.
- **Marketing the community to the public** Quarterly community newspaper, Web presence/PR, Community Brochure
- **Economic Development Council** established, Chamber of Commerce
- **Energy – Alternative and lower cost of existing** Resolution from the community, research fossil fuel cost reduction & new technology, Biomass Project
- **Community Collaboration Gathering #2** January 15th in the McGrath School Commons.





City of McGrath

PO Box 30
McGrath, AK 99627
Phone:
(907) 524-3825
Fax:
(907) 524-3536
E-Mail:
mcgrathcityadmin@gmail.com

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 Works Comm.
Tuesday December 11th
5:00pm

Planning Commission
Wednesday December 12th
7:00pm

Public Safety Comm.
Thursday December 13th
5:00pm

Administration & Finance
Monday December 17th
7:00pm

Rescheduled due to Holidays
City Council Meeting
Tuesday December 18th

Volunteer Fire Dept. and KQRS Joint meeting
Wed. December 19th
7:00pm

Holiday Closures
Christmas Holidays
Monday & Tuesday
December 24th & 25th

&
New Year Holidays
December 31 & Jan. 1st

November Minutes - continued

- **Renewable Energy Petition –**

The Council, by consensus, gave Natalie permission to send the Renewable Energy Petition created by Bernie Karl of Chena Hot Springs to all rural communities in Alaska using her city administrator email account.



McGrath selected for VISTA program

RurAL CAP just announced that they have selected McGrath, as one of ten communities to participate in the “Village Council Management Program”. Quinn Lane will serve as the VISTA volunteer in a program that will provide “on the job training” as he works on updating McGrath’s Comprehensive Plan, Long-Range Development Plan and the most recent Strategic Plan. Each of these is an element of a greater vision and are out of date. Quinn will begin his “year of service” to the community in late January, with training provided by RurAL CAP.



Grant Writing Workshop

TCC sponsored Grant Writing Workshop

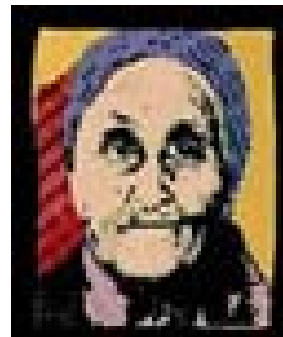
City administrator, Natalie Baumgartner attended this workshop in Fairbanks during November and found the information gained to be very valuable to the city and community. More effective proposals should result in greater development opportunities for McGrath. Becoming aware of the vast financial resources available in the form of grants, loans and innovative combinations of funding and agencies through close collaboration was a valuable benefit. It is hoped that this same workshop can be offered in McGrath this winter.

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Click on the *City Newsletter tab* in left column



Are you an Elder age 65 or older? FREE Landfill service is available



Contact Sue at the city office if you aren’t receiving this benefit or if your 65th is coming up shortly, to let her know when you will be eligible.



2007 Snowmachine & Vehicle Safety Inspections – Saturday Dec. 8th

December is *Snowmachine Safety Inspection* month. All motorized vehicles, including snowmachines, trucks, cars, motorcycles, 4-wheelers, etc. driven on McGrath roads are required to be inspected, making sure that each vehicle has functional working safety equipment. Snowmachines will be checked for headlights, taillights, brakes, cowling, noise suppression system, throttle w/automatic return, steering within safe operating conditions.

Other motorized vehicles not yet inspected and displaying the 2007 Safety Inspection sticker can be inspected at this time, as well. The inspection period for these vehicles was during the month of June. The inspection and current year sticker is **\$15.00 for each vehicle**.



Bonus! A cup of Hot Chocolate and a chance to win 10 gallons of gasoline. The name of each person whose inspection is completed during December will be entered into a drawing for the gas, which will take place on December 28th at the city office.