

# McGrath City News

## City Council

### Meeting Highlights

REGULAR MEETING – December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007

(Rescheduled due to holidays)

▪ **Appointment of City Council Member**

**MOTION:** To appoint Howard Correll to the vacant McGrath City Council Seat (Seat E).

**VOTE:** 4/4 yea votes

Unanimous, motion carried

• **Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the November 27, 2007.Regular Meeting.

**VOTE:** 3/5 yea votes – 2 abstained – not at meeting

▪ **Ordinance 08-03 - to amend the FY08 Water and Sewer Utility Budgets for FY08 – first reading**

**MOTION:** Moved to send Ordinance 08-03 to public hearing at the January 22, 2008 City Council meeting.

**VOTE:** 5/5 yea votes, Unanimous, motion carried

▪ **Resolution 08-08 – Seeking relief from rising fossil fuel costs**

**MOTION:** Moved to approve Resolution 08-08

**VOTE:** 5/5 yea votes Unanimous, motion carried

*Old Business: October Advisory Vote Questions -*

▪ **Fluoride in the drinking water**

**MOTION:** Moved to discontinue the use of fluoride in the drinking water on McGrath on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**VOTE:** 5/5 yea votes, Unanimous, motion carried

The decision to discontinue fluoride in the City of McGrath water will be put into the next City News letter. This will alert parents and if there are concerns, they are welcome to come to the next council meeting and express those concerns.

~ Continued on next page

## Coming and Going!



**Howard Correll** was appointed and sworn in to serve as the 7<sup>th</sup> City Council member for the remainder of the year. We welcome Howard as he begins his new arena of service to the community and takes this active role in the decision-making process. Welcome, Howard!

**Sue Parker** has been greeting customers with a big smile when they come to the city office to do business for the past year and a half. Before that, she served nearly a year as a VISTA volunteer, working with us at the city and serving the community.

Sue will be leaving the city for employment at the Innoko Wildlife Refuge offices at the end of January. She will be greatly missed by staff and customers alike.



McGrath Sunrise on January 2, 2008

from the Borealis Broadband ([www.mcgrathalska.net](http://www.mcgrathalska.net)) webcam, high atop the M.T.N.T. building with Hotel McGrath B&B and PenAir station in the foreground. The colors were reminiscent of a watercolor! Be sure to view this in fill color on the online version at the McGrathAlaska.net website, by clicking on the City News tab.



## City of McGrath

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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

**Public Works Comm.**  
**Tuesday January 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:00pm**

**Planning Commission**  
**Wednesday January 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:00pm**

**Public Safety Comm.**  
**Thursday January 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:00pm**

**Administration & Finance**  
**(Rescheduled)**  
**Monday January 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:00pm**

**Community Collaboration**  
**Tuesday January 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:00pm McGrath School**

**Volunteer Fire Dept. and**  
**KVRS Joint meeting**  
**Wed. January 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:00pm**

**Holiday Closure**  
**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**  
**Monday January 21<sup>st</sup>**

**City Council Meeting**  
**Tuesday January 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**7:00pm**

### *December Minutes – continued Advisory Vote Questions*

#### ▪ **Competing with private enterprise**

**MOTION:** Moved to go forward with continuing the rental of office space, buildings and land, and hold off on the heavy equipment until the liability issue is resolved

**VOTE:** 5/5 yea votes Unanimous, motion carried

There was further clarification when asked whether the rental of buildings included the rental of the shop space for working on equipment. The council stated that it does include the rental of shop space, if available. City use always takes precedence.



### *Community Collaboration*

**The Community Collaboration MOA** has been distributed to the following collaboration participants: McGrath Native Village Council, City of McGrath, Iditarod Area School District, M.T.N.T. Limited, Southcentral Foundation, University of Alaska Fairbanks-McGrath Center, National Weather Service, KSKO Radio and the Tochak Historical Society. This statement of collaboration will show potential grant funders, state and federal agencies and recipients of various reports that McGrath agencies support one another and are working together to maximize their efforts for the benefit of McGrath.

**A greater McGrath “web presence”** is another goal that had recent activity, through additions to a Message Board established for that purpose. The original listing featured **Job Openings**, with **Entrepreneurial Ideas and Opportunities** as well as a listing for **Housing and Land** (sales, rentals, leases, etc.) being added. Please contribute your offerings, respond to listings and keep checking back. In addition to local use, this is a location where people currently living outside McGrath and who are thinking about moving here will be able to do a “search” for McGrath, Alaska and see what opportunities are available. A link is available on the [www.mcgrathalaska.net](http://www.mcgrathalaska.net) home page to the web address below. The message board has 3 tabs, one for each of the categories.

<http://members.boardhost.com/CityofMcGrath/>

### *Water and Sewer Services Cold Weather Reminder*

As the temperatures drop, and people are traveling away from home, it's a good idea to arrange for someone to regularly check on your house and plumbing while you are away. Should there be an electric power “hit” or outage, furnaces don't always come back on without someone manually resetting them. When the heat goes out, even for a short time, the water and drain-pipes can freeze quickly when it's really cold out. If you are going to be gone for a few days or longer, make sure someone has a key to your house and that you notify the city as to who that is in case of emergency. Thank you for your attention to this detail. It can save you and the city a big headache in the event of an unforeseen problem.



### *2007 Snowmachine & Vehicle Safety Inspections*



You can still get your snowmachine or vehicle safety inspection completed. Call and arrange for VPSO Parker to have this done.

**Congratulations** to Brett Gibbons, the winner of 10 gallons of gasoline in a drawing held December 28<sup>th</sup>. Brett's name was drawn from amongst those getting their safety inspections completed during the month of December. The next drawing will be for those completed during the month of June.

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