

MANAGERS REPORT
January 10, 2011

TO: MAYOR HORNADAY / HOMER CITY COUNCIL

FROM: WALT WREDE

UPDATES / FOLLOW-UP

1. Fire Training Facility: The fire training facility is constructed and on its way to Homer for final assembly. At this time, we expect it to arrive here on January 26. Chief Painter is planning an open house and dedication. We will be sure to keep you informed.
2. Thanks to the HVFD Volunteers!: Attached is a memorandum prepared by Chief Painter that discusses the monetary value of the volunteers who serve the Homer Volunteer Fire Department. As you can see, the budget impact is tremendous. Not only do the volunteers put their lives on the line and provide a tremendous service to the community, they also save the taxpayers a great deal of money. If you get the opportunity, please take the time to thank the volunteers at HVFD.
3. Staff Turnover: The management team at the City of Homer is about to experience a significant turnover. Personnel Director Sheri Hobbs has submitted her resignation and will be retiring at the end of April. This was not unexpected and we are in the process of planning for life without Sheri. We will be advertising for that position shortly. Sheri is ready for the next chapter in her life and has a long list of projects and trips planned. She will be greatly missed and we wish her the best. Library Director Helen Hill is also on the move. Helen is planning to move to Nevada to be closer to family and pursue other interests. She is also a huge loss and will be difficult to replace. Helen has been with the City for 10 years and Sheri was here for 20. It is hard to replace that kind of experience and institutional knowledge but we wish them both well and I cannot thank them enough for their service.
4. Mr. Hogan goes to DC: Council Member Hogan will be in the DC area next month and has expressed a willingness to do some lobbying for the City if the Council wishes. He requested that this be placed in the Manager's report so that the Council could discuss it if it wishes.
5. City Hall Expansion / Renovation: The Committee appointed by the Council has completed its work regarding selection of a contractor. A recommendation and resolution awarding a contract appears on this meeting agenda. It is recommended that the Committee stay in place and act as a review board during the design and architectural phase of the project.
6. Lobbyist: The committee formed to evaluate proposals from potential lobbyists has completed its work. This agenda contains a recommendation and resolution awarding a contract for City lobbying services.
7. Energy Efficiency: This agenda contains a substitute ordinance which incorporates the changes Carey discussed at the last meeting. The total

- recommended cost is now slightly less but the estimated savings are still close to \$100,000 per year with a seven year pay- back period. Could will want to take a close look at the recommendation and make sure it is comfortable spending all of the available money at once, spending money from the enterprise reserves, and how the costs are allocated.
8. TORA Agreements: Work is proceeding on all three of the TORA Agreements we discussed at the last meeting. We hope to have the one regarding Spit parking back before you soon.
 9. Bridge Creek Fire Mitigation Project: The Planning Commission is scheduled to take this issue up (the CUP Application) on January 19. We anticipate that this application will generate some good debate within the community and we have heard some of it already, both pro and con. Regardless of how this goes at the PC level, I think it was a good discussion to have and an opportunity that needed to be explored fully.
 10. Travel: I am planning to spend much of the week of January 31 working in Anchorage. During that time I will be visiting with DOT/PF to talk about the multiple projects we have going on with them and with other agencies and state officials. I will also plan to attend AML on February 8-10 since you have all expressed support for that. In addition to participating in the legislative conference, I will use the time to meet with the City's new lobbyist to make sure he/she thoroughly understands the City's projects and policies positions. We will also work on lobbying strategies and set up visits with key legislators and the administration.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Memorandum from Chief Painter re: Volunteers