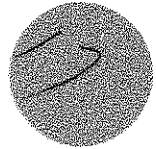


GREATER ANCHORAGE AREA BOROUGH



1965 - 1966
BUDGET



John M. Asplund - CHAIRMAN

ASSEMBLY

PRESIDENT - C. A. "Chet" Hostetler

DEP. PRES. OFF. - Walter E. Jerde

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Sewell F. Faulkner

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George H. Byer

Joe Graham

Mable H. Crawford

Clifford J. Groh

L. H. "Lu" Norene

GREATER ANCHORAGE AREA BOROUGH

1965-66

Budget

Submitted by

John M. Asplund
Borough Chairman

Approved by the Assembly

April 15, 1965

GREATER ANCHORAGE AREA BOROUGH
1230 East Seventh Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska

March 18, 1965

Mr. President and members of the Assembly
Greater Anchorage Area Borough
Anchorage, Alaska

Gentlemen:

As we approach the end of the first full budget year of operation of our new Borough government, we can look with pride at the firm and stable beginning of a type of government that may very well expand annually to proportions in the future that are inconceivable at this time. This growth will depend primarily upon the services that are demanded by our people, and secondarily by the wisdom of this and future assemblies in the provision of these necessary services at a minimum cost to the people.

During this year, we have seen our Borough government grow through the assimilation of the Anchorage Independent School District, the Spenard Public Utility District, and the Spenard Volunteer Fire Department. On October 6, 1964, the voters approved the assumption of area-wide health power by the Borough and the sewer power outside the cities. These services will be added to the Borough government on July 1, 1965, and the operational budget for these services are included herein.

Further, we are aware of preliminary steps being taken by several communities to petition the Assembly for special service area functions of varying required services. In a second class borough status, it can be expected that these service areas will mushroom over the entire suburban areas. Consequently, it can be expected that many more and new services may arise during the 1965-66 year - the second year of the Greater Anchorage Area Borough.

In compliance with Section 07.25.030 (3), herewith is submitted the operating budget proposal for your consideration.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

This department is charged with the responsibility of current tax collections, delinquent tax collections assessed by the former Anchorage Independent School District, and Spenard Public Utility District, and special sewer and road improvement assessments both current and delinquent. This office provides the accounting for the funds collected and initiates the distribution of the funds collected to the entities who made the assessment. The 1965-66 budget year will require an expansion of personnel in this department due to the added accounting, auditing and distribution of funds collected for the City of Anchorage.

This department also maintains the accounts receivable, accounts payable, payrolls, and controls spending of appropriated budgetary funds, prepares financial statements, quarterly departmental budget recaps, prepares the annual budget in conformance with the Chairman's recommendations, maintains bank balances, and any other unforeseen accounting requirements.

Procedures have been developed, for 1965-66, to process 50,000 tax account billings and collections automatically on data processing equipment. This procedure is intended to speed up the handling of the largest volume of collections ever handled in this area by one agency. As an aid to the collection office and to provide a public service, all banks and their branches will collect current full payment of 1965 taxes assessed by the Borough. As experience dictates, all accounting functions and statistical data will be added to the data processing output.

ASSESSMENT DEPARTMENT

Since its conception on February 1, 1964, the Assessment Department has completed the evaluation of the entire Borough Area. This includes covering all of the area outside the old School District boundaries twice and the School District and the City once. We have reviewed and equilized approximately 20% of the property within the City of Anchorage and are presently working in the outlying areas.

The first step in forming and improving property valuations involves a more equitable assessment of the underlying values. The records of the City, School District and the Borough have been combined. This project was completed on a temporary basis only and will have to be completely revised this year due to the non-compatibility of the data processing systems. This entails a complete renumbering of the account numbers so that the various areas can be identified for proper assessment and money distributions.

Another important project has been undertaken, that of indicating the present use of each parcel of land and the use of the improvements located thereon. It is our intention to process this information so that it will be available to all interested persons including planning and zoning. We feel that the future benefits derived will far outweigh the additional time it takes to secure the information. It is intended to complete the project this year.

The most important function that the office has undertaken one that has not been done in the past, is the initiation of a land valuation section. For the past several years both the City and the District have had to rely on a land valuation board to supply them with land values. Even though the Board made a serious attempt to do a good job they could not, in the short time allowed, adequately cover the entire area and apply proper land values. Their knowledge of values in the area was limited. The assessment office has a section of three men whose sole job is to secure sales information, analyze it and apply the information gained to the assessed values. This section has proven to be very satisfactory.

At the present time the question is on the budget. What is not open to question is that the incident of property taxation, at no less than its full and true value, is important in the overall development of the cities and outlying areas. The truth is that decisions made now will have a great deal of effect on the future. For, in one way or another, the Borough and the cities within it will be raising more and more money for local services and to repeat the mistakes made in the past will place a tremendous burden on the taxpayers in the future. Thus the reformation and updating of the local tax structure should deserve more attention for ALL citizens.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The Planning Department began operations in December, 1964, with the assumption of platting duties formerly carried out by the Greater Anchorage Platting Board. In February, 1965, the planning coordinator and secretary were added to guide development of the planning program and supervise a federal 701 planning grant and staff when approved by the Housing and Home Finance Agency. The grant has not been approved yet but the department has been completely engaged in responding to requests for interim zoning controls, developing a proposed subdivision ordinance, issuing house numbers, staffing the borough's land use information and contacts with citizen groups.

The proposed budget assumes assumption of the City of Anchorage planning department, including zoning administration and enforcement now handled by the city building official. Liason with the city departments and other agencies is to be maintained as before but extension effort will be made to simplify application processing in the interest of convenience, economy and speed.

The budget also assumed the approval of a federal 701 grant of \$37,500 for the fiscal year to carry out the borough-wide planning program and develop a zoning ordinance. The program will be founded upon extensive contacts with citizen groups in order to develop short-range plans for each part of the borough and appropriate development controls which meet the needs and wishes of the majority of affected property owners as directly as possible.

The staff is proposed to be organized in two divisions - one concerned exclusively with zoning and subdivision work and the other with planning and related matters. It is hoped that this amount of staff specialization will increase production per staff member sufficiently for the necessary work to be accomplished with the small additional staff proposed (over that now necessary to maintain the total City of Anchorage planning and zoning operations).

Not resolved, and not included in the budget as submitted, is how the staff might be involved in urban renewal activities in the City of Anchorage, development of building codes and enforcement, extensive street name and number correction (as a basis for extension of door-to-door mail delivery).

GREATER ANCHORAGE AREA BOROUGH

Comparative Data of Departmental Operating Costs

<u>Assessment Department</u>	<u>Actual 1962-63</u>	<u>Budget 1963-64</u>	<u>Budget 1964-65</u>	<u>Proposes 1965-66</u>
City of Anchorage	\$ 82,657.	\$104,659.	\$109,030.	
Anchorage Independent School District	119,776.	140,572.	146,940.	
A.I.S.D. payment to City	<u>56,640.</u>	<u>56,055.</u>	<u>58,345.</u>	<u> </u>
Total	\$145,793.	\$189,176.	\$197,625.	\$263,244.

Collection Department

City of Anchorage (est.)	\$ 10,000.	\$ 10,000.	\$ 10,000. (est.)	
Anchorage Independent School District	28,719.	34,567.	48,696.	
Paid to City of Anchorage	<u>26,732.</u>	<u>35,600.</u>	<u>40,816.</u>	<u> </u>
Total	\$ 65,451.	\$ 80,167.	\$ 99,512.	\$ 86,434.*

*Includes Accounting Department and Data Processing Department expenditures

Planning and Zoning Department

City of Anchorage		\$ 80,544.	\$182,595.
City Building Official (zoning enforcement)		30,000.	
Less non-comparables			
Base Map Preparation			(10,500.)
Plat checking fees			(1,600.)
Data Processing			(2,000.)
Alaska Centennial Contribution			(12,500.)
Planning Comm. Fees			<u>(11,620.)</u>
Net Comparative Data		\$110,544.	\$154,375.

Comparative Manpower in man-years

Administration	1	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Planning	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Zoning and Subdivision Enforcement	<u>7$\frac{1}{2}$</u>	<u>9$\frac{1}{4}$</u>
Total Man Years	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	14

SUMMARY

Revisions

Your attention is directed to minor revisions in accounts 501,507,508,601, and 801. The Alaska Centennial contribution has been added to the Planning and Zoning budget as requested by the Assembly in October, 1964. An administrative assistant has been added to account 503 and a public works superintendent has been added to the Spenard District budget with the elimination of a sewer foreman.

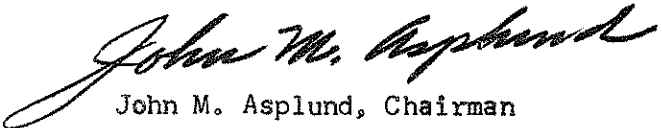
Expenditures

The proposed Borough General Fund Expenditures are increased over the 1964-65 budget by \$667,922, due largely to minor expansion of existing departments plus the addition of a fully staffed health and planning departments. Based upon the estimated real and personal property valuations of \$540,000,000. The proposed Borough General Fund will require a 1.7 mill levy.

Revenues

The proposed General Fund Revenue budget includes estimated revenues that may be subject to considerable change, as the year progresses, due to the many unknown factors that only experience can develop. Also included is \$117,108 anticipated as an underrun of revenue in the 1964-65 budget. This amount arises as the difference between budgeted expenditures (\$418,794) and actual revenue (\$301,686) of the 1964-65 budget. Since the Borough did not levy a property tax for general government purposes and did not assume the education power until October 1, 1964, all tax revenues assessed for 1964 half year by the Borough for school purposes are transmitted directly to the School District. Consequently a surplus does not exist as was proposed in the 1964-65 budget.

Respectfully submitted,


John M. Asplund, Chairman

GREATER ANCHORAGE AREA BOROUGH

1965-66 Budget

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