Municipality of Anchorage

P.O Box 390
Girdwood, Alaska 99587
http://www.muni.org/gbos

Austin Quinn-Davidson,
Acting Mayor

GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Jerry Fox & Mike Edgington, Co-Chairs
Eryn Boone, James Glover, Jr., Briana Sullivan

February 15, 2021
GBOS Regular Meeting
Minutes Final
7:00 p.m. Teleconference Meeting

Due to the current spread COVID-19 virus GBOS meetings are held virtually and telephonically. Below is information on how to connect to the meeting. Please contact Margaret Tyler (343-8373) or Kyle Kelley (343-8374) if you need help in advance to connect to the meeting.

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors, its committees, and subcommittees are subject to the Alaska Open Meetings Act as found in Alaska Statute 44.62.310 and Anchorage Municipal Code1.25 - Public Meetings.

Call to Order 7:00 p.m. Jerry Fox Co-Chair
Roll Call: Attending are Mike Edgington (ME), Jerry Fox (JF), Eryn Boone (EB), James Glover (JG), Briana Sullivan (BS)

Disclosures:
Mike Edgington discloses that he does IT work for Z Architects, which is representing the petitioner for item #7. No substantial conflict is noted, Mike is able to vote on this item.

James Glover is noted as a Girdwood Community Land Trust board member during the meeting. It was unclear to James that he was named a board member of the organization. James Glover will abstain from voting on item #6.

Agenda Revisions and Approval

February 15, 2021 regular meeting agenda approved	ME/BS	5-0
January 18, 2021 regular meeting minutes approved	ME/EB	5-0
January 25, 2021 MOA/GBOS meeting minutes approved	EB/BS	5-0

Announcements:

- Public hearing regarding renaming the Girdwood Ball Field in memory of Sladen J. Mohl will be held on TUE Feb 23 from 6-7PM via Teams: Click here to join the meeting Or call in (audio only): +1 907-519-0237,,899007036# Phone Conference ID: 899 007 036#

Introductions, Presentations and Reports:

1. Legislative Report – Sen. Roger Holland, Rep. James Kaufman
   Mathew Harvey, staff for Rep Kaufman: Now that the Speaker of the House has been elected, the House is becoming organized and will be able to work. Lack of structure had delayed passing on-going COVID-19 disaster declaration, which is required in order to receive federal disaster funding. Senator Holland explains that the declaration will be retroactive so that Alaska should receive full funding available.

Assembly members J. Weddleton, S. LaFrance
Assembly has extended emergency proclamation for Anchorage. Assembly is working on how and when to remove special contingencies that have been extended through the COVID-19 crisis, in particular:
Pause of the plastic bag ban
Allowance of bars and restaurants to sell liquor to go
Allowance of bars and restaurants to extend their licensed premises to outdoor areas.

Crime is down citywide after influx of funding and increase in staffing. Upcoming bond proposition on the Areawide ballot includes funding for public safety items such as police body cameras, bond for EMS includes Girdwood Rescue 41. Assembly hearing on HLB 5 Year Plan is coming up.
Assembly raises have been determined by the Salaries and Emoluments Commission, separately from the Assembly. Shift in ideology of the role of the Assembly includes offices in City Hall (10) and Eagle River (2) and change to make the Anchorage Assembly a branch of government, not a department.
CARES Act 2nd round has been received, this relief package is $35M and is to be used for rental relief.
Assembly will be receiving information regarding the proposed changes to the Leash Law, however this is still being drafted by Health Dept and Animal Control.

2. Supervisor Reports:

A) Public Safety – James Glover:
5% tax on alcohol sales to fund mental health tax force, a new concept to create a response team that is better qualified to work with those with mental health issues. This is an areawide tax that Girdwood is contributing to, however mechanism for receipt of the services is not yet known. Girdwood Valley Service Area (GVSA) manager has made MOA aware that Girdwood is outside of the Anchorage Police Service Area but needs to receive benefit of the tax that they are contributing to.
Tommy O'Malley inquires about cup fee in addition to 5% tax for Girdwood Forest Fair. Kyle responds that the cup fee will be removed from Forest Fair permitting as there cannot be a double tax. John Weddleton states that there is a provision for relief from the tax for some non-profits/special events that Forest Fair may qualify for.
Recent concerns about parking on Garmisch Road, yes, parking legal on one side only, road contractor will re-deploy signs to discourage parking on other side, in addition to existing permanent signage.
Police Report – Whittier Public Safety Director Andre Achee. No report
PSAC Report – PSAC representative. No report, next PSAC meeting is March 1.

B) Roads and Utilities – Jerry Fox
Road contract going out to bid at the end of the month, as is the Arlberg repave project.

C) Parks and Recreation/Cemetery – Briana Sullivan
Briana asks about extending parking on one side of the road on Arlberg as 5K parking has been overflowing.
GTC discussed the Alaska Long Trail, an overland hiking route proposed from Seward to Fairbanks; KMTA Grant cycle, Memorandum of Understanding with Chugach State Park; extensive discussion on the Hand Tram status; and dog park. Grooming along the perimeter of Moose Meadows with the Snow Dog groomer has begun. Cemetery committee is continuing to work with Eagle River and both plan to bond for cemeteries in April 2022 municipal election.

D) Fire Department – Eryn Boone. Action items appear later in the agenda.
Update of GVFD – Chief Michelle Weston/GFR BOD President 92 calls in 42 days. February is Heart health month

E) Land Use – Mike Edgington. Information on the scoping for the Seward Highway/Alyeska Highway interchange is available to view on line here: http://www.sewardalyeskahwyintersection.com/
LUC is working toward Land Acknowledgement as a community discussion, approved the GBOS Code of Conduct, and is considering what to do with aging items on the agenda for which there have been no updates.
Update on T21 Ch9 review re: Parking requirements: Action item on the agenda this evening to support the method for review of the parking code and proposal of adjustments for Girdwood.
Update on Housing Working Group: Meeting monthly with alternating specific housing concerns with more general housing discussion. It is likely that the more general housing discussion will evolve in to work on a Housing Action Plan that would become part of the Girdwood Area Plan, similar to the Trails Master Plan currently underway.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Christina Hendrickson: Girdwood Rotary is hosting Candidate Nights on MON Feb 22 are Mayoral candidates and TUE Feb 23 are GBOS candidates. Teleconference links and more information available here: https://www.girdwoodrotary.org/

Bill Falsey, candidate for Mayor. More info: https://falseyformayor.com/
Carl Jacobs, candidate for School Board. More info: https://www.carl4anchorage.com/
Patrick Higgins, candidate for School Board
Dora Wilson, candidate for School Board. More info: https://dorawilsonforschoolboard.com/

OLD BUSINESS:

3. GBOS Updates:
   Girdwood Community Council structure
   Procedure for "Out of Service area" requests

No change in status for either of these sub-topics. Community Council topic remains at Land Use without change in status. Mike will work on this with Marco Zaccaro to address the processes and procedures to create a simpler guide for presenters to understand the community process for Conditional Use Permits as well as other items that come through Land Use and/or GBOS. He hopes to have more to review in May.

4. Girdwood Fire & Rescue Updates & Requests:

Update on MOA/GFR contract for EMS: Moving forward slowly. MOA has received budget amounts for staffed Advanced Life Support qualified staff for ambulance 24/7/365 and a second one for weekends/holidays. AFD is to submit a proposal by Friday Feb 19. Feb 26 is the deadline for First Quarter Revisions. Once identified, revision will go to City Manager and then to Office of Management and Budget to determine where funding will come from. Assembly will approve the 1Q Revisions after April election is certified. If MOA does not increase funding for EMS, GBOS will need to discuss how to handle budget shortfall.

Update on Areawide bond to replace Rescue 41: Rescue 41 is included in the April Ballot as a bond proposition with other EMS items.

Discuss and vote to approve funding option to replace Engine 41. Engine 41 is responsibility of the GVSA to pay for as it responds within the GVSA only. Current engine is 20 years old and is in need of replacement, manufacture takes about 2 years. Options for purchase include loan from Key Bank, which is low interest and available on 5 or 7 year terms. Staff recommendation is to use $400,000 from Fire Dept capital fund and borrow the remainder. GBOS discusses whether to pay for remainder by setting aside funds specifically for this item in the budget process or to use the existing capital fund for this. Concern is that the capital fund has been used to pay for EMS budget shortfall in recent years so it is not as robust as it would be and there will be other capital expenses in the future that need to be saved and planned for. Fire Department is currently reviewing specs for the apparatus, it will take several months to complete the order, however approval to move forward is needed. There is time to work out specifics of budgeting in the regular GBOS budget cycle.

Motion:
GBOS moves to approve replacement of Engine 41 with a down payment of $400,000 from the Fire Dept Capital fund and a 7 year Apparatus Loan from Key Bank, with specifics regarding budgeting for repayment of the loan to be determined in the upcoming budget meetings.
Motion by ME/2nd by EB
Motion carries 5-0 in roll call vote.

5. Discuss first Quarter Revisions

Fire Dept 2021 Budget – unknown until discussions continue with Anchorage Fire Dept and MOA regarding EMS budget.

Parks and Rec summer staffing – no change. Funding for extra staffing for trail work is coming from $80,000 in CARES Act funding. These funds dropped to the Undesignated Fund at the beginning of the year, Assembly is taking action to re-designate them.

Whittier Police Contract Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment – No change to CPI, contracted rate previously budgeted is sufficient.

6. **Agenda Item LUC 2012-06:** Review updated request for GBOS Resolution of Support for text amendment to allow use of recycling drop off on land designated gI-1 (Ruane Road Industrial and gC-10 (Upper Alyeska Highway Commercial). (Brittney Blackledge/Krystal Hoke)

This item relates only to recycling drop-off in two locations, adjacent to the brewery temporarily and the land adjacent to the transfer station in the Girdwood Industrial Park permanently.

Motion: Mike Edgington reads draft resolution.
Motion to approve the Resolution as presented: ME/EB

Christina Hendrickson questions if full disclosure has been made as James Glover is a member of the Girdwood Community Land Trust Board. Group reviews and it is determined that James will abstain from voting on this item.
Group discusses if the Resolution should include the UAA student work, or if that is over-specific. Group opts to leave it in as the student will complete this for graduation in Dec 2021 and her research is key to the project's success.

Mike Edgington mentions that usually GBOS would require the petitioner to show the table and the amendment needed. In this case the item is very simple and GBOS can forego this as it is understood what change is being requested. There will be code amendments needed to complete the effort to manufacture from recycled materials.

Motion to Amend the Resolution draft:
Remove this statement: Whereas, Girdwood Board of Supervisors Rules and Procedures constitute the 5 member board to function in the manner described in this chapter [AMC, Chapter 27.20] in the exercise of solid waste services.
Amendment by ME/2nd by EB
Amendment approved 4-0 via roll call vote
Motion to approve the amended Resolution
Motion by ME/2nd EB
Amended resolution approved 4-0 via roll call vote

7. **Agenda Item LUC 2101-07**: Carolyn Hawes Request for GBOS Resolution of Support for Dimensional variance from AMC 21.09.060B.1. Table 21.09-5 (Dimensional Standards) at 1051 Timberline, Connor Scher, presenting

Presentation materials included in the meeting packet. Increase in home size is based on building a garage with indoor stairs to access from the home and home interior improvements to make the space more comfortable for the aging owner, including a bathroom in the upstairs adjacent to the bedroom. Zoning Board of Appeals meeting is scheduled for March 11 at 6:30PM

Motion: Mike Edgington reads the draft resolution.
Motion to approve the resolution as presented: ME/EB
Motion approved 5-0 via roll call vote

8. **Agenda Item LUC 2101-08**: Request for GBOS Resolution of Support for the T21C9 Subcommittee approach to adjusting the commercial parking standards for Girdwood.

This item is only regarding the method and process to propose changes to the commercial parking code, namely that there is not an existing parking problem in most of the town, most existing parking is under the amount required by code. This statement has been requested by the Traffic Engineer to show community support for the action to change code. Usually parking code would be changed through a series of parking studies, in this case parking study is historical and present parking situation.

Motion: Mike Edgington reads the draft resolution.
Motion to approve the resolution as presented: ME/BS
Motion to amend the resolution by adding a Whereas statement that states that current parking is adequate except at the base area adjacent to Olympic Mountain Loop.
Motion to approve amendment to the resolution: ME/EB
Motion approved 5-0 via roll call vote
Motion to approve amended resolution: ME/EB
Motion carries 5-0 via roll call vote

NEW BUSINESS:

9. **Agenda Item LUC 2102-04:** Discuss retiring of Agenda items over 12 meetings in pending status.

LUC is considering retiring items that have sat on the pending list for over 12 meetings without update. Christina Hendrickson notes that not all items coming before LUC are seeking action. She advocates for items to stay on the agenda under Pending Business.

10. **Agenda Item LUC 2102-06:** Dog Park on HLB land

GVSA manager and HLB are reviewing location for a fenced dog park at the end of Karolius. This area also is being considered for expanded parking through the Trails Plan. Allowable under code but there are plat notes that need to be worked on, including paved parking and road improvements.

11. Girdwood Trails Committee request for GBOS Resolution of Support for KMTA 50/50 matching grant for research, writing, fabrication and installation of interpretive signage for Stumpy's Early Winter Trail. Grant application is due March 12.

GTC is considering this grant application and will vote on whether to request a resolution of support to accompany the application at their meeting on March 2. Location of the proposed sign is under consideration. Ideas are Moose Meadows Parking or near the 5K parking area. Application is due March 12, if GTC recommends the project for grant writing, action from GBOS will need to be handled before the next regular GBOS meeting.

12. Girdwood Forest Fair 2021 (Karen Zaccaro and Tileigh Bell, presenting)

Kyle Kelley updates that Forest Fair Committee is initiating permit process, as it is lengthy. It is unknown what restrictions to gatherings there may be in July 2021. No fees for alcohol sales expected if Forest Fair alcohol sales fall under the new liquor tax. John Weddleton mentions that there are special provisions for non-profits and special events, so Forest Fair may be exempt. Tommy O'Malley states that Forest Fair Committee will decide on April 1 if they will proceed with the event this summer.

13. Girdwood Bear Aware (Alyana DuPont)

Update on GBA activities: Getting ready for 2021 season. 2020 was very active. Received grant from KMTA and other funding for educational materials, unwelcome mat. GBA may hire staff for summer. Defective cans create a problem not easily solved.

Recommendation for changes to Secure Trash Regulation Zone ordinance language – GBA has noted areas of the ordinance that they recommend review and possible redrafting. Likely that code enforcement has changes they would recommend as well.

Group agrees to provide recommendations for rewrite to John Weddleton to take for Legal review.

GBOS moves to extend meeting past 10PM. Motion by ME/BS. Motion carries by consent vote

Defective Bear Resistant cans. Defective can latch has been redesigned and is scheduled to be tested this spring, however Alaska Waste is taking a reactive approach to replacing cans with the defective latch. Customers must complain to get a new can, once they're available, if they pass certification.

Fee structure for Girdwood Transfer Station has changed so that the cost of curbside service is about the same as the cost to use the transfer station. This may encourage people to store trash for curbside pick-up and increase demand for bear-resistant cans.

14. GTC recommendation for GBOS vote to approve Memorandum of Understanding with Alaska State Parks/Chugach State Park (Kyle Kelley)

MOU is presented to GBOS for review. GTC will make recommendation at their next meeting and approval will be requested in March. GVSA can't use tax funds to work on trails outside of the service area, but they can and do use other funds for that purpose. HLB has reviewed the MOU.

WRITTEN REPORTS: (updates are requested in writing during COVID-19 procedures)

15. GBOS Committee and Subcommittee Reports: GTC, LUC, Trails Master Plan, T21C9, Housing Working Group Imagine! Girdwood (Girdwood Area Plan) Report, APL Gerrish Library Report, GVSA Manager Report, Cemetery update

Action Item Updates as assigned:
Request for GBOS/LUC Joint meeting (0 scheduled of 2 required in 2021):
Request for GBOS/GFR Joint meeting (0 scheduled in 2021):
Request for Executive Session:
Other:
Adjourn 10:10PM