Municipality of Anchorage

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

GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Briana Sullivan & Jennifer Wingard, Co-Chairs
Mike Edgington, Amanda Sassi, Guy Wade

July 17, 2023
GBOS Regular Meeting
Minutes Final
7:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams & Girdwood Community Room

This hybrid meeting is taking place via Microsoft Teams & at the Girdwood Community Room, 250 Egloff Rd:

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.

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors operates under the Girdwood Public Meetings Standards of Conduct.
Call to Order 7:00 p.m. Jennifer Wingard, Co-Chair
Roll Call: Attending are Jennifer Wingard (JW), Briana Sullivan (BS), Guy Wade (GW), Amanda Sassi (AS)
Mike Edgington is excused
Disclosures: None

Agenda Revisions and Approval

July 17 2023 meeting agenda approval		BS/JW	Assent vote
Revision to move Enstar item from Public Comment to Old Business due to time constraint on public comment		BS/AS	Assent Vote
June 19 2023 meeting minutes approved	BS/AS		
July 3 2023 GBOS LUC Joint special meeting minutes approved		BS/AS	
July 10 2023 GBOS LUC Joint special meeting minutes approved	BS/AS		Assent vote in one motion

Announcements:

- GBOS is working on 2024 budgets. Budget meetings are scheduled as follows:
  Work Session 1 WED Aug 2 at 4PM; Work Session 2 MON Aug 21 at 5PM
  Proposed budget will be provided to the Assembly in September.
- GVSA Non-Profit Recreation Grant applications will be available Aug 1-Sept 14. Application will be posted at the Library, Community Center and Post Office as well as on line.

Introductions, Presentations and Reports:

1. Legislative Report – Sen. Cathy Giessel, Rep. Laddie Shaw No report

   Assembly members – R. Sulte, Z. Johnson
   Assembly Member Sulte reports that Assembly is meeting on Port funding, tariff and design items through various work sessions. Other activities include an upcoming Town Hall re: clean slate program and AO 2023-67 re scofflaw changes. AO2023-66 is related to residential zoning change and would apply to Girdwood. This AO basically classifies homes with city water/sewer and those without. Member Sulte encourages public to provide comment on this.

   Anchorage School Board Liaison – Andy Holleman
   ASB is quiet currently over summer break. Governor veto of budget with BSA rate increase will impact school staffing in ASD. Start time adjustment on Mondays starting in fall of 2023, school will reach out to area parents and students to confirm start times Girdwood School.

GBOS Meeting Agendas and minutes are available on line: http://www.muni.org/gbos

2. Supervisor Reports:
   Sassi: Public Safety will discuss public concern about use of airport land for parties at their meeting August 7.

3. Committee updates to GBOS: 3 min each; items not on the agenda but items of interest to the community
   Housing and Economic Committee: Brett Wilbanks. HEC is meeting the last WED of each month. Working on setting up task list and priorities.

4. Status of Proposed Girdwood Developments: See meeting packet for spreadsheet of projects and resources.

5. Service Provider Reports (5 mins each)
   Fire – Chief Weston: Girdwood meeting to review Tsunami mapping is scheduled for Sept 12 at 6PM
   Concern regarding flooding of Glacier Creek over the weekend. Monitored by CERT.
   Gas station fire handled well by station, CERT member and GFD.
   Woodlots on WED and SAT

   Police – Chief Achee: recap of Forest Fair activity pending. Busy weekend. Citations for parking, towing. Non-Forest Fair parking violation was challenged in court and state court said WPD didn't have authority to ticket in Girdwood. Staff has provided information on change in city code that allows WPD to enforce AMC. Court decision is being reconsidered based on this information. Ability of WPD to enforce more clear municipal parking and traffic rules is key to enforcement in Girdwood.

   Roads/Parks & Rec – Kyle Kelley: See monthly report in the packet. Thank you to volunteers for many projects being completed. Parks caretakers are working in the Skate Park now on new ramp with John Gallup. Culvert project has begun. Budgets are in line with mid-year.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
   Laurie Tryck: Concern regarding level of Glacier Creek. Creek has filled with debris, sediment and gravel and cannot handle the volume of runoff and debris is causing bank erosion. Recommend that something is done to remove debris before flooding on Mt. Hood and additional damage to embankment and Glacier Creek Bridge/Pedestrian Bridge abutment.

   Brian Burnett: Concern about increase in items that pass through GBOS without new/old business cycle in recent years. No specific item is cited, general comment. It is noted that GBOS moved ENSTAR topic today into old business to address it within the established comment period, over which GBOS has no control.

   Larry Holmes: Also concerned regarding expediting items through GBOS. This lacks transparency.

   US Army Corps of Engineers Comment period open now thru July 24 for project:
   https://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/Public-Notices/Article/3437767/poa-2023-00206-glacier-creek-pn/

OLD BUSINESS:

7. Enstar Public Comment period open re: Section Line easement. Comments due July 20.
   https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/View.aspx?id=211721 (Sterling Lopez, Enstar)
   **Item moved from Public Comment to Old Business due to short comment period deadline.
   Project follows process established through State of Alaska Dept of Natural Resources for section line easement. Purpose of the project is to ensure reliability of the gas line and improve low flow of gas to some parts of the valley. Project is to be constructed later this summer with 15-20' clearing width and boring under creeks. Trees will be chipped on site and area re-seeded. Line will be inspected annually, probably on foot.

   Public comments focus on the lack of need, future sustainability and lack of public engagement on this project. Community members request that GBOS write letter of objection to the project. DNR will review comments, mainly seeking comments that address conflicting uses or conflicting future uses of the area.

   Need: 2nd line will ensure gas to customers if one part of the system fails. Example of this is a contractor dig some years ago that cut the gas line. No other example given. This was basic failure of contractor in due diligence. There seems to be no pressing need to complete this project in 2023, unclear why the project is being pushed through with a sense of urgency now.

   Sustainability: Recent article in newspapers cites that Cook Inlet Natural Gas sources are in decline. Funds spent on this line would be better spent on using gas and other energy sources more efficiently.

   Public Engagement:

Short comment period during summer with limited engagement with community as a whole is unprecedented in Girdwood. It is unclear how/if public comments will be incorporated into Enstar's plans.

Longer public engagement and planning of this item could create good relationship with community to address other needs/goals, including 2nd access to the Girdwood valley, Emergency access, partnership on bridge replacements, trail use, etc. One member comments that Enstar was a great partner in the lower valley on the Iditarod National Historic Trail and requests that level of engagement with the community on this project.

Impact and conflicting uses: Proposed project will clear cut a straight line through an area that is zoned Open Space and has several established well-used trails running through it, including Virgin Creek Trail, Danich, Lower Iditarod. Community offers other routes for creating loop system that would benefit the community, including running along existing utility easement to Karolius and then crossing the creek nearer the Community Center.

Cost: Cost of project is not disclosed, costs will be paid by Enstar, presumably via user fees.

Motion to extend conversation for 15 minutes BS/GW Assent vote

Conversations with DNR have included discussion of low flow to some Enstar customers and ability to accommodate future expansion of service. During Holtan Hills discussions, utilities indicated that no changes to their services were needed to accommodate additional members.

Comments are required by 5PM on July 20. Only commentors will be advised of future actions or outcomes or have future opportunity to comment. Public is encouraged to provide their comments directly. Direct outreach has been made by Enstar only to those homeowners with adjacent property, it is a concern that many people are not aware.

Motion to extend for 5 minutes BS/GW Assent vote

Motion:
GBOS moves to write a Letter of Objection to the Enstar section line easement and request extension of the public comment period by 30 days.
Motion by Amanda Sassi, 2nd by Briana Sullivan
Motion passes 4-0 via roll call vote

Amanda Sassi and Jennifer Wingard to write letter to be submitted before July 20 at 5PM.

8. Review and update Resolution 2023-12: Purchase of a Pumper Truck to replace engine 41 due to interest rate increases. Resolution was written with specific restrictions on interest rate and down payment. Procurement has advised that these must be lifted in order for the order to be placed with the other AFD equipment. Amended resolution is provided in the meeting packet for GBOS to review.

Motion:
GBOS moves to amend Resolution 2023-12 as presented.
Motion by Briana Sullivan, 2nd by Guy Wade
Motion carries 4-0 by roll call vote

9. **Agenda Item LUC 2306-06**: LUC recommendation for GBOS to pursue some transportation planning. Recommendation to request help with comprehensive transportation plan was made by DOT planner, Mark Eisenman at a previous meeting, under discussion of projects that Girdwood has that could be co-funded by DOT administered grants. Community is reluctant because outcome of plans has been projects that are not accepted by the community. LUC has recommended that GBOS pursue comprehensive transportation planning.

Motion:
GBOS moves to write a resolution of support to pursue comprehensive transportation planning.
Motion by Guy Wade, 2nd by Briana Sullivan
Motion carries 4-0 by roll call vote

Amanda Sassi (roads chair) and Jennifer Wingard (LUC chair) will draft Resolution.

10. Review of remaining Holtan Hills Questions (Land Use Supervisor).
HLB now has a director, Tiffany Briggs, who is working on these items. This topic is on the MOA GBOS agenda for MON July 24. Agenda will be discussed later in this meeting.
    Copy of formal bifurcation agreement – Received and provided in meeting packet.
    Less redacted Area map – pending but anticipated soon

Response from Lance Wilber and Planning to GBOS request that CCNLUP is not allowed for use as Area Master Plan for development purposes.

11. **Agenda Item LUC 2201-06**: LUC recommendation for GBOS Resolution to address GVSA Industrial Park concerns (power, platting and others) (Land Use Supervisor)
    This item is pending draft Resolution, it is also a topic from the HLB work plan, and topic is to be added to the MOA GBOS agenda for July 24.
    No action taken at this meeting.

12. ADA-09547 Proposal to lease 11 acres of state land at Girdwood airport to Glacier Valley Lodge LLC
    Review comment provided for July 13 deadline.
    No additional information at this time regarding award of lease to Glacier Valley Lodge LLC or response to comments provided by GBOS.

13. Consider PSAC request for funding assistance for Cyber Bullying workshop to be held in October 2023 (Police Supervisor)
    No update on possible grant from the Alaska Community Foundation.
    Item is postponed to next meeting.

14. Discuss agenda topics for the MOA GBOS Quarterly meeting July 24, 2023 4PM, Anchorage City Hall
    Addition of Industrial Park topic to agenda.
    Clarification on the topic related to non-residential taxes collected in Girdwood.
    Suggestion to add special tax improvement district to the agenda.

15. **Agenda Item LUC 2306-07:** The Herbal Cache request for LUC recommendation for GBOS Letter of Non-Objection for License M19277 Renewal

    Motion:
    GBOS moves to sign the Letter of Non-Objection as presented.
    Motion by Briana Sullivan, 2nd by Guy Wade
    Motion carries 4-0 via roll call vote

Motion to extend Meeting to 10:20 Motion by BS/2nd GW Assent vote

16. GFR request for NTE $5,000 from the Girdwood Fire and Rescue 406 account for replacement of hose in 2023.
    At request of GBOS, the 2024 request has been removed from this approval. GFR BOD is not available to provide their recommendation for purchase, however this is routine maintenance and at the discretion of the chief.

    Motion:
    GBOS moves to approve the Resolution of Support for purchase of Fire Hose in 2023, as presented.
    Motion by Briana Sullivan, 2nd by Guy Wade
    Motion carries 4-0 via roll call vote

17. GBOS review comments on HLB 2023 Work Plan and 5 year Management Plan **DRAFT 2023 Annual Work Program & 2024-2028 Five-Year Management Plan,** comments due by June 9:
    Pending HLB responses to GBOS input on the HLB work plan and 5 year plan.
    Possible work Session in the future. Item is pending. HLBAC has a meeting July 23

18. Discuss GBOS goals for 2023/24.
    GBOS members to review their areas with Kyle, perhaps and with the committees that they attend in their GBOS roles.
    This topic is a likely addition to a work session including items from HLB 1 and 5 year plans.

19. GBOS Land Acknowledgement (Sullivan)
    Briana provides new language for Land Acknowledgement and provides a motion to approve the language which is 2nd by Guy Wade. However, group begins to work on editing language. Motion is withdrawn and recommendation for changes to language will be reviewed. Item will return for a vote in August.

NEW BUSINESS:

20. **Agenda Item LUC 2307-05**: LUC request for information on implementation of ballot measure in 2023 that proposed marijuana tax distribution within MOA and possible avenues for a portion to be received in Girdwood.

This will be discussed at the MOA GBOS meeting on MON July 24. Goal is to ensure that Assembly, administration, and contractor working on this on behalf of the MOA are aware that Girdwood contributes to these funds and has needs related to early childhood education that are not met by programs available in Anchorage.

21. GVSA Budgets 2024: GBOS discuss and approve budget for coming year, confirm meeting dates for work sessions:
    Work Session 1 WED Aug 2 at 4PM
    Work Session 2 MON Aug 21 at 5PM
    GVSA Grant presentations MON Oct 23 at 5PM
    3rd work session may be scheduled if needed.

22. Consider recommending property tax exemptions for volunteer fire fighters (Edgington)
    Introduction of idea to help encourage local participation in the local volunteer fire department, which needs more members, and more members from Girdwood in order to provide the service that the community needs.

REPORTS:

23. Reports (see packet)
    APL Gerrish Library Report
    Girdwood Service Area Report
    Imagine!Girdwood

Action Item Updates as assigned:
Request for GBOS/LUC Joint meeting (3 held of 2 required in 2023): January 4, January 9, April 10, July 3, July 10
Request for GBOS/GFR Joint meeting (0 held of 2 required in 2023):
Request for Executive Session:
Other:

Parliamentary procedure training for GBOS and Committees
Alyeska Interchange project status
Girdwood Cemetery re: need to clarify intent re: GVSA Cemetery powers.

Adjourn 10:20PM