

KIB Assembly Meets in Regular Session

Friday, 22 January 2010

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Diana Gish/KMXT

It didn't take long for the subject of trash to surface at last night's regular meeting of the Kodiak Island Borough Assembly. Several public comments were made by citizens who are worried about the proposed plan to adopt curbside trash pick-up in Kodiak. Because the trash pick-up issue was not on the agenda, the assembly members listened to the public comments but no action was taken on the plan. The curbside trash pick-up plan was unveiled last week at the assembly's work session.

A public hearing was held for an ordinance that would amend the borough budget to reflect changes such as: projects that came in over budget, new projects, the acceptance of grant funds and the movement of funds between projects. During the hearing there were no comments made about the changes.

The borough manager's report included several items including a new population count for Kodiak as explained by manager Rick Gifford.

-- (Assembly 1 "The
Alaska Dept.
... different things.")

Another topic in the manager's report was an update on the new pool which has now been open for four months.

-- (Assembly 2 "and
its proved ... final completion.")

Gifford
said that the pool project is still under budget.

Another
topic that was not on the agenda, but was on the minds of the assembly members
was the earthquake in Haiti.
Mayor Jerome Selby put the tragedy into perspective by comparing the number of
people who died in Haiti to
the number of people that live in Alaska.

-- (Assembly 3 "I
appreciate I ... to do that.")

Under new business, the assembly
voted in favor of awarding a contract to the MacDowell Group to carry out an
island-wide transportation feasibility study. The study will look at the
possibility of a small local inter-island ferry system for Kodiak. The
MacDowell Group is headquartered in Juneau.

The
assembly also passed a resolution to adopt the Kodiak Island Borough Strategic
Plan for the years 2010 to 2014 and to support Senior Citizens of Kodiak in its
effort to secure state funds for capital improvements.

At the end
of last night's meeting the subject of trash surfaced again during assembly
member comments. Mayor Selby indicated that he too had concerns about how some
aspects of curbside will work out but felt confident that Alaska Waste will
work closely with the community through the process.

- (Assembly 4 "One
of the things... that's the challenge.")

There will
be no work session on January 28th. The members of the assembly are
preparing to attend the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference early next month.