

## CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT September 2023 General Meeting

- Great News. We have a new City Clerk. I'm sure all of you have met Liesl Barker who will be sworn in tonight. We are very grateful to have this position filled and look forward to her being at City Hall. Welcome Liesl and family.
- Septage update – Trevor Richards from Juneau Septic will be coming over on Tuesday and Thursday to pump out two more loads from the holding tanks. Then he hopes to make one more trip to get some more households before the end of the season. He will need to bring out the big truck since the smaller one is inoperable at the moment. He is looking for another smaller tanker to purchase from down south.
- The tower project is complete and Sol reports that there is already a noticeable difference in radio communications. He will be able to provide more details when he next reports out.
- For the DRC new building CDS request – I asked Dana from Senator Murkowski's office why our D RC replacement project was in the subcommittee appropriations, but not included in the most recent press release of projects. Per Dana – "The Gustavus project got through the Interior approps subcommittee and through the full Appropriations committee. The bill has not been scheduled for the full Senate floor yet. We're doing a minibus this week with THUD, AG, and MilCon this week." I have no idea what those acronyms are other than a *minibus appropriations measure* has sometimes been used to refer to a measure including only a few regular appropriations bills. I should be able to talk to Dana tomorrow.
- As many of you are aware, the governor vetoed the PFAS bill. We are still hoping for some sort of resolution so there is a stop to the AFFF deployment at airports and also disposal methods for rural communities.
- Last week's "Infrastructure Office Hours" with Alaska Municipal League resulted in Gustavus being able to join a group of municipalities to work on an application for a USDA Community Wildfire Defense Grant. (CWDG) Applications are due by October 31, 2023. AML intends to apply for a CWPP development grant which they will manage, track, and report. The purpose of this grant is to assist with mitigating the risk created by wildfires by creating a new or revising an existing (more than 5 years old) Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Chief Martinez will be the primary contact for this process.
- Thanks again to Shelly Owens who stepped up to assist with election paperwork and processes.
- The Mayor and I have been working with Craig Tornga, the new AMHS director, on the issue of the two fees from Gustavus to Juneau. It was a technical glitch created by their web folks. Basically, anyone who called the 800 number did not get charged twice and anyone who used the on-line reservation system will be issued a 5.00 refund.
- Submitted a Cybersecurity Risk Assessment Grant via State Homeland Security and Emergency Management. AML was able to negotiate with a vendor for bundled pricing to municipalities who applied. Once the Assessment is complete, we should be able to apply for other funding to address any gaps identified in the assessment. I got them to give a discount for anyone who uses Alaska Technical Solutions as their manages services provider since they would only have to look at their system once.