

City Manager Comments
5/18/09 Regular City Council Meeting

Polson Development Code

Dave DeGrandpre and the B&P staff are making progress on the development code rewrite. You've probably seen the fliers; they've already had a couple public scoping sessions. The first-cut of the zoning map is on a link on the City's website, in the upper right hand corner. I encourage you all to keep current through that means.

Liquor License

Just for your information, the liquor license transfer application was mailed to Liquor Control last week.

Highway 93

Took a meeting just today with representatives from the Tribes and the County. It was cordial and cooperative. The subject was re-opening the question of the Highway 93 route through Polson, rather a sticky wicket. All agreed that the first step was to attempt to find funding for a transportation study. There are a number of alternatives to be examined, and a number of ancillary impacts. There'll be more to follow.

Fire Department

Several notes on this subject. The first is, that we've received back two "report cards" that the Department gives out at fires to get feedback on how well they did. On both, the ratings were top-notch. One in particular is a good story; the Department got some grants a few months ago to give away free smoke detectors and fire extinguishers. One family picked up a fire extinguisher, and in a curious series of events, ended up using it and probably saved his own home. Just love it when a plan works out.

The Department recently used an estate bequest to purchase a 2007 Kodiak brush truck. Of the total cost of about \$36K, the membership themselves kicked in \$12K. As you probably saw at the worksession with the Fire Department last week, the membership itself – the firefighters – through fundraising and so forth have purchased a lot of the equipment they use in the public interest themselves. The Tribes kindly donated the bedworks for the brush truck, a value of almost \$20K.

The Mayor sent the department, and all its members, a letter thanking them for their hard work and for the great worksession they put on for the council, showing them all the department can do. It was very instructive. They are a high-quality bunch of people.

Meridian Building

You all saw my note regarding the letter we received from B&I Holdings regarding the Meridian building out on Kerr Dam Road. I am here to get instructions; do you want me to spend any more time pursuing it, or not? There's some obvious pros and cons.