

Ward 5 Update November 5th

Approximately two dozen residents attended a Ward 5 meeting on November 5th at Dino's at the plaza at Homestead and 202 from 6-8PM.

We were honored to have Mayor Elaine Pluta attend our meeting. She addressed the group for a few minutes and answered questions. She then remained at the meeting with our group. Councilor Kevin Jourdain was also in attendance.

The parking issue at McMahon School was addressed with one member in attendance from the immediate neighborhood. Brief discussion included banning parking on the school side of the street from one school driveway to the other.

Geriatric Authority: It was noted that approximately \$465,000.00 must now be paid by the taxpayers due to the failure of the GA to pay its bills. It was also noted that over 300,000 is currently owed to the sewer department, causing problems with the rate, because others have to cover the bills. It was asked whether their sewer could be shut off, but it was explained that it is not possible to "shut off" sewer.

HCC Road: Jeff Hayden Director of the HCC Kittredge Center has let Linda know that there is a requirement by the State that certain actions be taken regarding the use of the land for the road project to go forward. This has been referred to the Public Service Committee to address and will be coming before the City Council soon. The current understanding is that the road will go forward. Residents were encouraged to attend any public meeting on this to express opinions and learn information about the possibility of a traffic light at the new road and discuss the effect it will have on traffic back-ups, people cutting through side streets, etc. HCC folks hope to receive approval this fall and begin construction in the spring of 2012. It is believed that this will relieve traffic congestion taking a left on to Homestead from 202. A neighborhood meeting will be held once the funding is definite and one remaining permit is received. It was noted that some neighbors on Sunset want to try the new road without a light to see how it will function. Jeff stated that safety concerns and traffic counts would need to be considered as part of the decision.

Big Y: A meeting for an official update is confirmed and will be held at Mrs. Mitchell's on Wednesday, November 16th at 7PM. Big Y will be investing approximately 12M in the site and they plan to begin construction in 2012 and open in late 2012 or early 2013.

Charter Commission Report Review: Questions were asked and answered. Councilor Kevin Jourdain made his points in opposition, while Linda Vacon made points in favor. All were encouraged to read it over and vote on the matter on Tuesday.

Linda thanked Mayor Pluta for attending and residents of the ward for their participation. Attendees were asked to provide email contact information and to spread the word to neighbors when the forums are set.

Linda Vacon, Your Ward 5 City Councilor

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