

Chevak Activity Report

General Information:

According to information provided to Leroy Seppilu, RUBA staff in Anchorage, the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) water & sewer project was delayed due to lack of state and federal funds. The funds were not going to be released until Fall, thus delaying the project. The anticipated hook-ups to the water & sewer utility system by November were not going to be realized. There are still some minor water & sewer project work activities going on in the community. The project will not fully resume until next Summer.

The City will be applying once again for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for a subdivision road in an area currently inaccessible by large vehicles. The residential buildings in that area will be hooked up and funds are needed to make it accessible for large-vehicle use. This will be the 3rd time the City will be applying for the grant. RUBA staff has offered to provide technical assistance with the application.

Observations and Recommendations:

Finances — The City was awarded another COPS grant for 1.5 VPO positions. This is significant because it helps the City release much needed funds for other purposes, such as going to water & sewer utility related workshops and training's.

Accounting Systems — The City sent the deputy City Clerk to a Quickbooks Pro workshop this Summer. The Deputy Clerk reported to the City Administrator that he was impressed with the software program. The City plans to use the program for water & sewer utility accounting.

Tax Problems — The City does not have any tax problems. RUBA staff has congratulated the City Administrator for continuing to submit quarterly tax reports in timely manner.

Personnel System — The Deputy City Clerk, who has extensive experience with computers, continues to work for the City. This is a big plus because he is our biggest hope to help set up a water & sewer billing system software in the computer. He has mentioned in the past that he wants to eventually relocate to Anchorage.

Organizational Management – The City Administrator is doing very well with his work. He has a full grasp of what he sees are the needs of his community and takes actions to get things done to reach his goals. RUBA staff is very pleased to have him.

Leadership/Governance — Five Council seats are up in the upcoming municipal elections including the former Mayor, Ignatius Chayalkun. He is currently the vice mayor. He was very active in the beginning of the water & sewer project and was instrumental in retiring the large debts to vendors the City had accumulated from previous administrations.

Operation of Utility — It is unfortunate that the water & sewer utility project was delayed one more time. It looks like there won't be any progress until next Summer. The City expected to start charging water & sewer utility customers in December.

Ranking

1 = Inadequate

4 = Adequate to meet minimum requirements

7 = Exceeds requirements

Category	1	4	7
Finances			X
Accounting Systems			X
Tax Problems			X
Personnel System			X
Organizational Management			X
Leadership/Governance		X	
Operation of Utility		X	