

Call Number: 02-00-62-04 Pt. 2

Interview with Morrie Smith and Mayor Darell Brewington in November, 1962, No Location

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Notes: Original on 5 inch reel, copy on CD

Mayor Darrel Bloomington from 02-00-62-04 Morrie Smith Pt. 1 is continuing speech. He is discussing budget for the city of Fairbanks. He discusses having meetings every Wednesday at the Model Café. He says there are no secret meetings on budgets. The meetings are open to everyone. Tax data of 1962 is discussed. HE says next Sunday the meeting will deal with assessment of property. The General Government Fund is discussed. Appropriations requested by the administration are discussed. He says the budget is getting cut down and he will go through the budget categorically next Tuesday. He thanks the people in the crowd and encourages people to ask questions about the budget call the station Globe 23656 or Globe 22468. He says don't call about there being a dozen trucks at Joe's Café because those are administration problems. A voice states that this concludes the first in a series of public service programs on the discussion on city affairs. KDVB Channel 11 presented Mayor Darrel Bloomington from its studios.

A new voice is giving news updates at 8:00 of the recording. Stanley Samuelson was refused a building permit. Gregory Schumiff [?] appeared before the city council last night regarding condemnation of his house. A unanimous decision was necessary from the council and Red Boucher rejected the idea. Robert Crow [?] told the city council the annexation of island homes in the Grael area.

Bill Wally speaks at 9:45 of the recording say that the previous discussion was a November 26th, Monday Evening council meeting report. The recording continues with commercials and the man doing the promotions shoots it over to Morrie Smith. Morrie thanks Bill Wally. Morrie discusses a fire that destroyed portions of the Interior Airways Hanger at Fairbanks International Airport. The Fairbanks Fire Department and Ft. Wainwright's Fire Department responded to the fire. There were no planes in the old hanger. Jim McGoughin [?], the owner of the hanger was on route from Fairbanks from an annual pheasant hunting expedition in South Dakota. Benny Ranier of 703 23rd Avenue was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital when he was found in the yard of his house possibly overcome by smoke. An important Local Boundary meeting will be held on Thursday at 8 o'clock in the chamber of commerce log cabin on First Avenue. Barry Jackson says the meeting will be concerned primarily with island homes and Grael only. Block 143 subdivisions between Lathrop and Seward Streets are discussed. Targenson Brothers Plumbing and Heating is discussed. Robert D. Hartwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Hartwell, completed recruit training October 26th at the Navy Training Center at Great Lakes, Illinois. 24 4H club leaders were awarded college scholarships. Winner were announced from the 4H Club Congress in Chicago. Cathy Harris was awarded for her dress review, 16 years old. Three inspectors responsible for

Alaska are making progress reports of three ferries being constructed in the Seattle shipyard, Public Works Commissioner Richard A. Downing said in Juneau. The three men are working out of the office of Philip Spaulding.

The recording skips at 14:50 and Morrie is discussing a local show called "The Dobie Gillis Show." On the show the dean of a small coach and the football coach were in discussion of a quarterback they used when along came a great big husky fellow with a piano on his back. They thought he might make a good quarterback so they gave him an entrance examination. The dean asked the fellow what two plus two equals and the fellow says seven. The dean says that allowing the fellow on the team would be a stretch and the coach told the dean that he only missed it by one. That's about it from Morrie Smith. There will be more news throughout the morning from KFBR. The recording stops and starts again at 15:57. More news about city council meeting is discussed. Millard Ingraham, local attorney, came forward on behalf of the Targenson Plumbing and Heating firm asking for an extension on the ordinance forcing them to move the location of their business.

The recording stops and a man begins talking at 18:15 of the recording. He says he is quoting from Dorris Lenning. The topic of discussion is the 1962 real estate tax disclosure for Fairbanks. A fluctuating economy is discussed and the problems with paying taxes for Fairbanks residents. The man says Dick is due and Dick responds by saying he is ready. The recording skips and Dick says he would like to introduce the members of a panel that he has beside him and who will participate in the program. First is Mrs. Janet Baird, Secretary of a study group. Dr. Ed Boggin, member of state legislature and will be going back to Juneau in January. Mrs. James Dalton, a member of the study group and chairman of several committees and one who has participated in the Borough question and study from the beginning of the consideration by the State Legislature four years ago. Jim Doogan, raised in Southeastern Alaska with Dick and Jim was a member of the constitutional convention in 1955. He is the only member in the Fairbanks area who served on the local government committee. The program for the evening is well organized but not many of the members have worked out any of the details. In the first thirty minutes the presentations will attempt to answer questions in people's minds. The last thirty minutes of the program will be a question and answer period. He encourages people to phone the station, Globe2468 or Globe3636. James Doogan is the first to discuss the constitutional concept of Barrow government. Doogan says it's been almost seven years since the constitutional convention met. He says he approached the problem of local government with a great deal of awe, a great deal of indecisiveness as to know what form of government would be good for Alaska. He says as the group got together they came to an agreement on what they didn't want. Doogan says they derived the name borough because it represents an area of land inhabited by a group of people who decided to set up a form of government between a level of state government and city government. He said the people in Alaska were in distress because they were a territory and they had no choice of the laws that were imposed. He said the people should be given the right and power to say what kind of government they want; this is what a borough is. Doogan discusses the borough assembly that would have all the responsibility of assessment and taxing and collect it all. He says there are functions of taxing entities with their particular powers of collection mainly the city and school district. The city has a final say on the school district budget. He says the only reason the law was provided the way it was done was to possibly

prevent school districts from bankrupting municipalities. Hamilton Acres Public Utility District is discussed. Borough bonds are discussed. He says under the present law the law spells out that there will be a borough chairman and manager and a few other officials. He says he thinks in time that probably that law will change back to the original concept that was thought of at the constitutional convention. He thanks Morrie and Morrie thanks him.

Mrs. Mike Dalton is next. She has a chart prepared. The first chart is discussed briefly and then she says she will skip over the preliminaries and go into the problems of the borough law. She says in the law there is a schedule of population that will give Fairbanks an 11 man assembly. North Pole being considered a first class city is discussed. She says there will be two first class cities and they are assured at least one borough assemblyman. The city of Fairbanks probably will have four members on their assembly. The area outside of North Pole and Fairbanks will probably have 6. She discusses borough law and how a borough can be established. The borough law has four standards that a borough must meet. First is population, second is population standard, third is economy, and fourth is transportation. Fairbanks is a natural public transportation. There are two classes of boroughs that can be formed in Alaska, first class and second class boroughs. Fairbanks is a first class borough. A second class borough can have the same number of powers as a first class borough if the people want those powers. The mandatory powers under each class of borough are education, planning and zoning, and tax collection. These rare three mandatory laws are what a borough requires. The difference between a first and a second class borough depends upon the people originally. A first class borough can sit as an assembly and legislate every time they meet. In a second class borough the assembly is limited. The borough study group in Fairbanks is seeking a second class borough. She shows a last chart which covers the service areas of a borough. Hamilton Acres is a public utilities district, in other words a service area. The entire borough will have the three mandatory powers. The city of Fairbanks will remain the city of Fairbanks, the city of North Pole will remain the city of North Pole but in Hamilton Acres people decided perhaps that they want road maintenance, lighting, and sewers. They would go to the borough assembly and ask them to make Hamilton Acres a public utilities district and asked to be taxed for the services. The people in College have no fire protection. They could draw boundaries within any area and go to the borough assembly and asked to be taxed for fire protection services. Only the people in the district would be taxed for the services. Mrs. Dalton's presentation ends at 51:15.

One of the most important functions of a borough government is the responsibility that the borough has for the schools. Dr. Boggin is going to present. Dr. Boggin has served many years on the Fairbanks School Board and has served on the local affairs committee for the House of Representatives. Dr. Boggin is going to give a report on the relationship between boroughs and schools.

Dr. Boggin begins his presentation at 52:20 of the recording. Dr. Boggin was on the local government committee and he says the bill before it became an act went through considerable study and research. It was presented to his term of the legislature after the first term didn't take any action on it because they felt more study was needed. He said he believes his bill passed the house and went to the Senate. The bill came back and was amended. There is still belief that it is still too complicated. Dr. Boggin believes if it is explained it's not too complicated. As far as the schools are concerned the section of the borough law pertaining to schools is very short. It stats that each borough constitutes a borough school

district and it tells how the school board should be elected at large. There is a provision for school boards to be elected by zones which will be determined by the borough assembly. The relationship of taxing will be done by the borough assembly. The present law will be the law used by the borough assembly until it is changed. The borough assembly after the borough is formed will take the position of the council and will approve or disapprove the budget. The only thing that will affect the school board as far as finance goes is the power to bond and purchase land for schools. Much of the capital investment will be done by borough assembly. There will have to be communication between the two groups to make sure everything is done properly. He says he is not a member of the study group but he does read the paper. He says some schools in areas that don't pay property taxes get school dollars from hard working people's tax dollars without having to pay any real property taxes. He says that boroughs would take care of that problem. He says personal property tax is to be assessed and chapter 164 was passed by the legislature last year and it's called the foundation plan for school finance. He says it simplifies the matter of financing schools. He says the law provides that the amount raised locally should be equaled to a certain millage assessed on real and personal property. This does not mean that personal property has to be taxed. There's another bill in the hopper that will come up in the next session of the legislature and it has to do with local organization of schools. The borough doesn't provide very much. The state board of education calls each school district an administrative unit and he says that is just a simple name. He tells Frank that is all he has to say right now. Dr. Boggin presentation ends at 1:00:15 into the recording.

Frank says when the time bar was given from KTVF station he appointed a committee and subcommittee to arrange for the program little thinking that he would be placed on the program too. He says he has to make a presentation. He says he will do what he can. He has before him a manual that is produced by a local affairs agency by the state in a position within the governor's office. It deals with the borough incorporation procedure. There are eight steps that must be taken in the process to promote the establishment of a borough before the final incorporation takes place. First is the formal and informal discussions, second is to contact the local affairs agency, third is the organization of a borough study group. He said the Fairbanks area is very fortunate of having a great deal of discussion and formation of organizations. He says reports are available and have been used by members of the present committee. This committee has ceased to function however and last summer the informal talks and discussion began once again. Several people brought up again the formation of the borough brought up by the fact that...the recording ends.