E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Right-of-Way Vacation; KPB File 2024-002V

Petitioner: Owens (No Surveyor)

Request: Vacates the easternmost approximately 30' by 660'

portion of Glacier Avenue West ROW

Sterling Area





KPB File 2024-002V T 05N R 09W SEC 14 Sterling

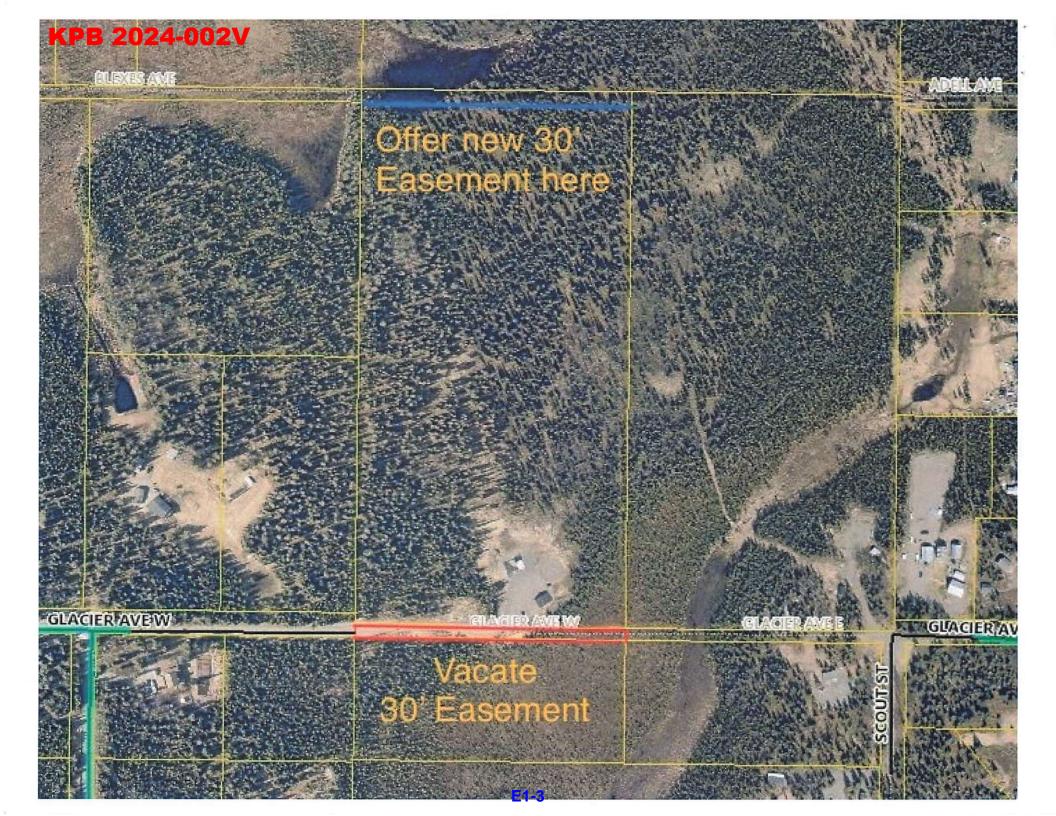
1/2/2024
500 1,000 Feet



KPB 2024-002V 1/2/2024







AGENDA ITEM E. NEW BUSINESS

ITEM #1 - RIGHT OF WAY VACATION

Vacate the Easternmost approximately 30-foot by 660-foot portion of Glacier Avenue West Right-of-way

KPB File No.	2024-KPB 002V
Planning Commission Meeting:	January 22, 2024
Applicant / Owner:	Chris & Simone Owens / Sterling Alaska
Surveyor:	None
General Location:	Sterling Area
	Glacier Rd between Lot 1A Jimmee Lake Subdivision #2 KN 2017-79
Legal Description:	and
	W1/2 NW1/4 NE1/4 Sec 14 T5N R9W SM AK

STAFF REPORT

Specific Request / Purpose as stated in the petition: I would like to vacate the 30' ROW that runs between my 2 lots (Parcel 06357026 and 06357059). These were the last 2 properties that did not have access or utilities to them. All properties around mine are developed so I paid to have Glacier Avenue extended 850' from the corner of Longview so that I could build. I also had to pay for power and gas to be extended from Longview totaling over \$50,000 in development. I am the only one maintaining this road year-round as well. (Full request is in packet)

Notification: The public hearing notice was published in the January 18th issue of the Peninsula Clarion as part of the Commission's tentative agenda.

The public notice was posted on the Planning Commission bulletin board at the Kenai Peninsula Borough George A. Navarre Administration building. Additional notices were mailed to the following with the request to be posted for public viewing.

Library of Soldotna

Post Office of Soldotna

Twelve certified mailings were sent to owners of property within 300 feet of the proposed vacation. Zero receipts had been returned when the staff report was prepared.

Public hearing notices were sent by regular mail to three owners within 600 feet of the proposed vacation.

Seventeen public hearing notices were emailed to agencies and interested parties as shown below;

State of Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game

State of Alaska DNR State of Alaska DOT

State of Alaska DOT
State of Alaska DNR Forestry
Central Emergency Services

Alaska Communication Systems (ACS)

ENSTAR Natural Gas

General Communications Inc, (GCI) Homer Electric Association (HEA)

Legal Access (existing and proposed):

Current access to the property is by Glacier Avenue, from Diane Street coming from Scout Lake Loop Road from Sterling Highway at mile marker 85.8. Sterling Highway and Scout Lake Loop Road are both state maintained dedications. Glacier Avenue is Borough maintained until the intersection of Longview Street and then is privately maintained.

To the east end of Glacier Avenue is a wetland as designated by the KPB GIS data, labeling it as drainage way. This area appears to be half way across the requested vacation area and also further to the east. This wetland appears to prohibits the development of the road economically to the east.

A new 30 foot dedication is being proposed on the north end of the requester's property. The applicant has proposed a half dedication on the north side of their property which would be an extension of Blexes Avenue from the west. This area according to KPB GIS data show a wetland designation of kettle in a portion of the proposed dedication area. **Staff recommends:** a turn around be supplied to end Glacier Avenue and provide a turnaround point to be added when the subdivision is submitted.

The proposed dedication is in the location of a 33 foot section line easement to be shown on the plat when submitted. The plat to the west Dayton Subdivision KN81-147 has a dedication of 33 feet due to the SLE. **Staff recommends:** when the subdivision is submitted, the dedication matched the subdivision to the west at 33 feet in width.

Block length is not compliant, the block is longer than allowed by code. Since Borough maintenance of Glacier Avenue ends a Longview Street to the west, request of a north / south street dedication would not be feasible from this property and request a on adjacent properties is not in line with this application.

KPB Roads Dept. comments	Out of Jurisdiction: No Roads Director: Griebel, Scott - Comments: No RSA comments
SOA DOT Comments	No comments

Site Investigation:

There are steep areas located at the end of the constructed Glacier Avenue and along the edge of the wetlands. These should be shown on the subdivision when submitted.

KPB data indicates there are wetlands on the property as stated above. **Staff recommendation**: place a note on the subdivision submittal indicating any person developing the property is responsible for obtaining all required local, state, and federal permits, including a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wetland determination if applicable.

KPB River Center Review	A. Floodplain Reviewer: Hindman, Julie Floodplain Status: Not within flood hazard area Comments: No comments
	B. Habitat Protection Reviewer: Aldridge, Morgan Habitat Protection District Status: Is NOT within HPD Comments: No comments
	C. State Parks Reviewer: None Comments: None

<u>Staff Analysis:</u> The north portion of the property is an aliquot part of Section 14 Township 5 North, Range 9 West SM Alaska. It was granted a subdivision waiver by Resolution 91-3 filed in Bk 91-31W to be divided from the 40 acres NW1/4 NE1/4 as the W1/2 NW1/4 NE1/4 Sec 14 T5N R9W SM AK.

The south portion was an aliquot part known at the SW1/4 NE1/4 Sec 14 T5N R9W SM AK. Jimmee Lake Subdivision KN 76-140 subdivided the 40 acres into four lots and three 30' dedications, one being Glacier Avenue. Jimmee Lake Subdivision #2 KN2017-79 subdivided Lot 1 of KN 76-140 in Tracts 1A and 1B, 1A lying south of the current vacation request.

Lands to the east, south and west have all been subdivided and are of residential designation. To the north is a 40 acres unsubdivided parcel. The only parcel with a residence on it is the parcel directly to the west on Glacier Avenue.

The only utility provider requesting an easement has been HEA requesting a 30 foot easement along the overhead power line. This should cover any easement locate close to the power line. **Staff recommends:** with submittal of the subdivision, the HEA request and any other utility request received be fulfilled to satisfaction.

The applicant proposed to finalize the vacation with a subdivision that combines the vacated land and their two parcels into one large tract with a dedication on the north for road purposes. The dedication with be an equal or superior access as the location will allow for a better location to construct a road.

20.65.050 - Action on vacation application

- D. The planning commission shall consider the merits of each vacation request and in all cases the planning commission shall deem the area being vacated to be of value to the public. It shall be incumbent upon the applicant to show that the area proposed for vacation is no longer practical for the uses or purposes authorized, or that other provisions have been made which are more beneficial to the public. In evaluating the merits of the proposed vacation, the planning commission shall consider whether:
 - The right-of-way or public easement to be vacated is being used;
 Staff comments: The current ROW is not in use other than my driveway portion to access my home, (from applicant).
 - 2. A road is impossible or impractical to construct, and alternative access has been provided; **Staff comments:** The road would be very costly, and I have offered a better alternative route, (per applicant).
 - 3. The surrounding area is fully developed and all planned or needed rights-of-way and utilities are constructed:

Staff comments: All parcels in the area are developed and all utilities are in place, (per applicant).

4. The vacation of a public right-of-way provides access to a lake, river, or other area with public interest or value, and if so, whether equal or superior access is provided;

Staff comments: There are no lake or river interest, just marsh and swamp, (per applicant).

5 The proposed vacation would limit opportunities for interconnectivity with adjacent parcels, whether developed or undeveloped:

Staff comments: All parcels are accessed and developed, (per applicant).

- 6. Other public access, other than general road use, exist or are feasible for the right-of-way; **Staff comments:** No other public access exist, (per applicant).
- 7. All existing and future utility requirements are met. Rights-of-way which are utilized by a utility, or which logically would be required by a utility, shall not be vacated, unless it can be demonstrated that equal or superior access is or will be available. Where an easement would satisfactorily serve the utility interests, and no other public need for the right-of-way exists, the commission may approve the vacation and require that a utility easement be granted in place of the right-of-way.

Staff comments: I have offered to allow a private property utility easement, (per applicant).

8. Any other factors that are relevant to the vacation application or the area proposed to be vacated. **Staff comments:** Unaware of any other factors, (per applicant).

A KPB Planning Commission decision denying a vacation application is final. A KPB Planning Commission decision to approve the vacation application is subject to consent or veto by the KPB Assembly, or City Council if located within City boundaries. The KPB Assembly, or City Council must hear the vacation within thirty days of the Planning Commission decision.

The Assembly will hear the vacation at their scheduled February 6, ,2024 meeting.

If approved, a to be submitted subdivision will finalize the proposed right of way vacations.

KPB department / agency review:

KPB department / agency review:	
Addressing	Reviewer: Leavitt, Rhealyn Affected Addresses: 35480 GLACIER AVE W
	Existing Street Names are Correct: Yes
	List of Correct Street Names: GLACIER AVE W, GLACIER AVE E, BLEXES AVE
	Existing Street Name Corrections Needed: No
	All New Street Names are Approved: No
	List of Approved Street Names: None
	List of Street Names Denied: None
	Comments: ADDRESS WILL NOT BE AFFECTED.
Code Compliance	Reviewer: Ogren, Eric Comments: No comments
Planner	Reviewer: Raidmae, Ryan There are not any Local Option Zoning District issues with this proposed plat.
	Material Site Comments: There are not any material site issues with this proposed plat.
Assessing	Reviewer: Windsor, Heather Comments: No comment
Advisory Planning Commission	No APC

Utility provider review:

	Ctility provider reviews		
	HEA	Depict and label the overhead power line. (Comment in packet)	
Γ	ENSTAR	No comments or recommendations	
Γ	ACS	No Comment	
	GCI	Approved as shown	

RECOMMENDATION:

Based on consideration of the merits as per KPB 20.65.050(D) as outlined by Staff comments, Staff recommends <u>APPROVAL</u> as petitioned, subject to:

- 1. Consent by KPB Assembly.
- 2. Compliance with the requirements for preliminary plats per Chapter 20 of the KPB Code.
- 3. Grant utility easements requested by the Planning Commission and utility providers.
- 4. Submittal of a final plat within a timeframe such that the plat can be recorded within one year of vacation consent (KPB 20.70.130).

KPB 20.65.050 – Action on vacation application

- H. A planning commission decision to approve a vacation is not effective without the consent of the city council, if the vacated area to be vacated is within a city, or by the assembly in all other cases. The council or assembly shall have 30 days from the date of the planning commission approval to either consent to or veto the vacation. Notice of veto of the vacation shall be immediately given to the planning commission. Failure to act on the vacation within 30 days shall be considered to be consent to the vacation. This provision does not apply to alterations of utility easements under KPB 20.65.070 which do not require the consent of the assembly or city council unless city code specifically provides otherwise.
- I. Upon approval of the vacation request by the planning commission and no veto by the city council or assembly, where applicable, the applicant shall have a surveyor prepare and submit a plat including the entire area approved for vacation in conformance with KPB 20.10.080. Only the area approved for vacation by the assembly or council may be included on the plat. The final plat must be recorded within one year of the vacation consent.
- J. A planning commission decision denying a vacation application is final. No reapplication or petition concerning the same vacation may be filed within one calendar year of the date of the final denial action except in the case where new evidence or circumstances exist that were not available or present when the original petition was filed.
- K. An appeal of the planning commission, city council or assembly vacation action under this chapter must be filed in the superior court in accordance with the Alaska Rules of Appellate Procedure.

The 2019 Kenai Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan adopted November, 2019 by Ordinance No. 2019-25. The relevant objectives are listed.

Goal 3. Preserve and improve quality of life on the Kenai Peninsula Borough through increased access to local and regional facilities, activities, programs and services.

- Focus Area: Energy and Utilities
 - Objective A Encourage coordination or residential, commercial, and industrial development with extension of utilities and other infrastructure.
 - Strategy 1. Near Term: Maintain existing easements (especially section line easements) in addition to establishing adequate utility rights of way or easements to serve existing and future utility needs.
 - Strategy 2. Near Term: Maintain regular contact with utility operators to coordinate and review utility easement requests that are part of subdivision plat approval.
 - Strategy 3. Near Term: Identify potential utility routes on Borough lands.
- Housing

Page 5 of 6

- Objective D. Encourage efficient use of land, infrastructure and services outside incorporated cities by prioritizing future growth in the most suitable areas.
 - Strategy 1. Near Term: Collaborate with the AK Department of Transportation, incorporated cities within the borough, utility providers, other agencies overseeing local services, and existing communities located adjacent to the undeveloped areas that are appropriate for future growth, to align plans for future expansion of services to serve future residential development and manage growth.

Goal 4. Improve access to, from and connectivity within the Kenai Peninsula Borough

- Focus Area: Transportation
 - Objective B. Ensure new roads are developed in alignment with existing and planned growth and development.
 - Strategy 2. Near Term: Establish subdivision codes that dictate road construction standards to accommodate future interconnectivity and/or public safety.
 - Strategy 3. Near Term: Identify areas of anticipated growth to determine future access needs.

END OF STAFF REPORT

Request to Vacate ROW

I would like to vacate the 30' ROW that runs between my 2 lots (Parcel: 06357026 and 06357059). These were the last 2 properties that did not have access or utilities to them. All properties around mine are developed so I paid to have Glacier Avenue extended 850' from the corner of Longview so that I could build. I also had to pay for power and gas to be extended from Longview totaling over \$50,000 in development. I am the only one maintaining this road year-round as well.

What I am requesting is since I am at the end of this road extension, I would like to unsubdivided my 2 properties to make it 1 large parcel so that I can build a mother-in-law cabin on the 4.5-acre lot. That lot has very little buildable land so, by eliminating the 30' ROW this would allow me a lot more area for building and make use of my current driveway for access.

Having the borough put a road through would be extremely costly since most of this is swamp/marsh that is part of the natural drainage in the area that eventually drains to the Kenai River. There are even small fish in pockets of this drainage so again this would be very expensive and not very practical for the borough to build a road through properly.

I have spoken to HEA (email correspondence attached), and they are fine with the road vacation but would like for there to be a private property utility easement left in place for any future extensions that may or may not be needed. The natural gas line follows the power poles as well so this would satisfy both utility company's needs.

What I would like to offer in exchange for the vacation of the ROW is an exact equal 30' ROW on the North end of my 20-acre lot. This stretch of my property is all solid ground that is superior to the current swamp section on the current South end. This would be an equal exchange minus the quality of the land types, but I am fine with this so that I can improve my use of the 4.5-acre lot.

I believe that all my points have covered your section D 1-8 check list:

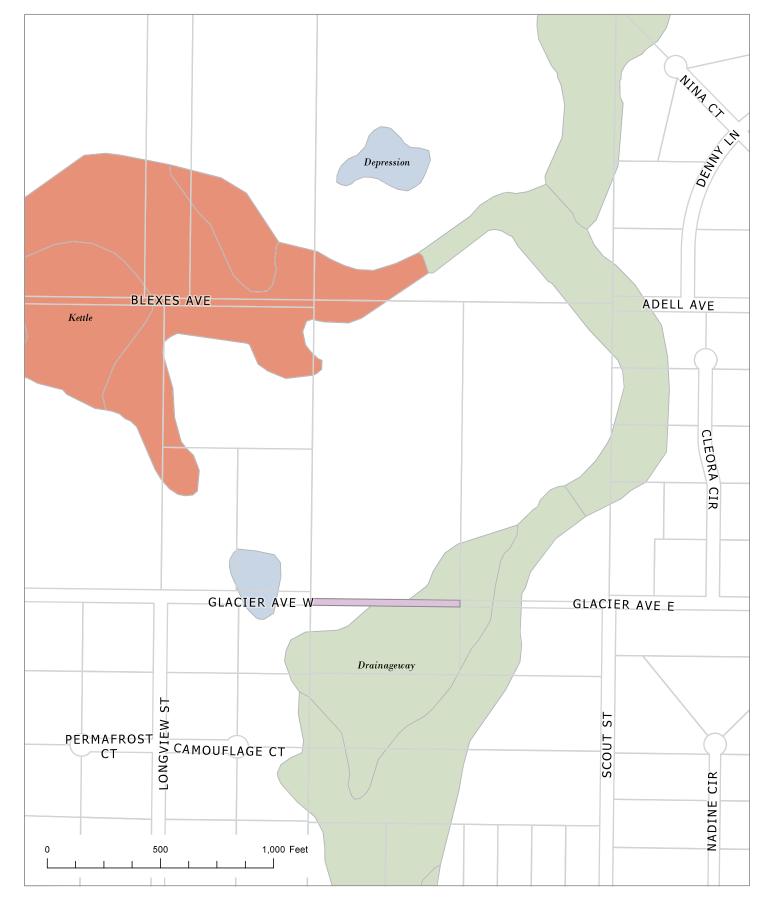
- D1) The current ROW is not in use other than my driveway portion to access my home.
- D2) The road would be very costly, and I have offered a better alternative route.
- D3) All parcels in the area are developed and all utilities are in place.
- D4) There are no lake or river interests, just marsh and swamp.
- D5) All parcels are accessed and developed.
- D6) No other public access exist.
- D7) I have offered to allow a private property utility easement.
- D8) Unaware of any other factors.

Thank you for your consideration,

Chris Owens

35480 Glacier Ave. W., Sterling, AK 99672 (907)953-5926



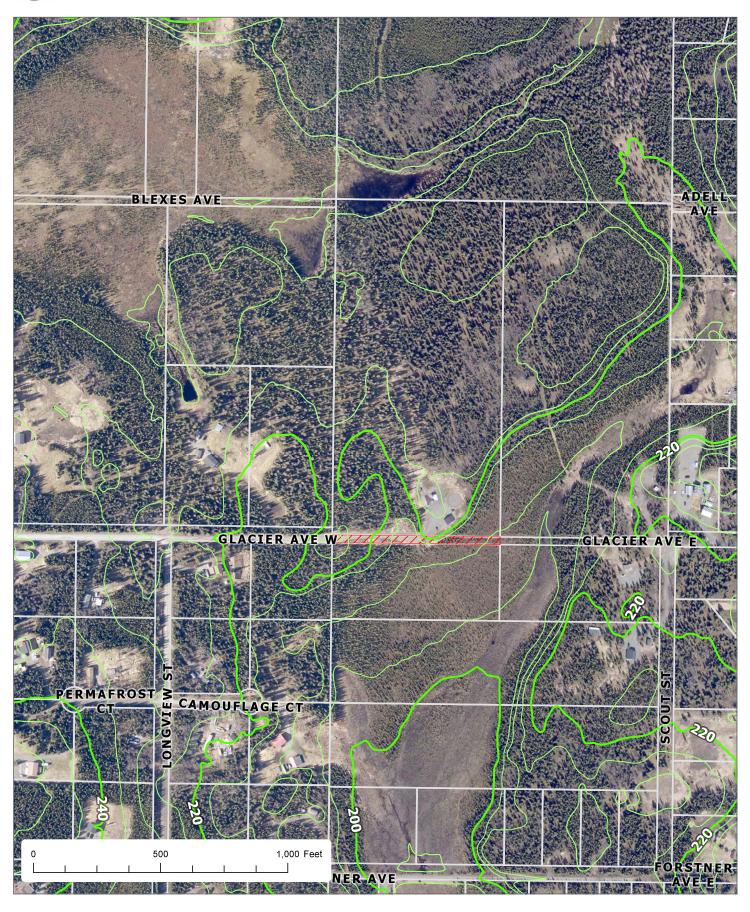


Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Department

Aerial with 5-foot Contours

KPB File 2024-002V 1/2/2024







2017-79 Plat, # Keron 12 28 2017 TIME 11:10 AM

JIMMEE LAKE SUBDIVISION #2

A Subdivision of Tract 1 Jimmee Lake Subd., KRD 76-140. Located in the NE 1/4 Section 14, T5N R9W, SM, Sterling, Alaska. Kenai Recording District Kenai Peninsula Borough File 2017-102

Prepared for

David A Justus P.O. Box 649 Sterling, AK 99672 Prepared by Johnson Surveying Box 27 Clam Gulch, Ak 99568

SCALE 1'' = 100'Area = 8.879 acres 1 July, 2017

• GERARD L. JOHNSON • .7328 - S. 12/22/17

LEGEND

 \oplus - 2½" brass cap monument, 3815-S, 1977, found.

← 3½" alcap monument, 610-S, 1977, found.

→ 2½"x 30" aluminum monument, set.

O - 1/2" rebar lot corner, found.

● - 1/2"x 4' rebar with plastic cap, set.

NOTES

1. A building setback of 20' from all street ROWs is required unless a lesser standard is approved by a resolution of the appropriate planning commission. Front 15' of building setback is also a utility easement, as is the entire setback within 5' of side lot lines.

2. No permanent structure shall be constructed or placed within a utility easement which

No permanent structure shall be constructed or placed within a Utility descentering would interfere with the ability of a utility to use the easement.
 An exception to KPB 20.30.170, Black Length, was granted by the KPB Planning Commission at the meeting of 14 August, 2017.
 Any person develoing this property is responsible for obtaining all required local; state, and federal permits, including a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wellands determination if applicable.

A electrical utility easement affecting this property was granted to Homer Electric Association by Kenai Recards Book 5 Page 99. This is a general easement, no definite location given.

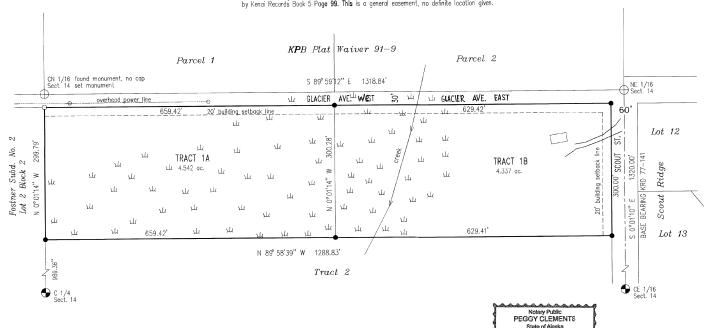
PLAT APPROVAL

This plat was app**roved** by the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission at the meeting of 14 August, 2017.

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

BY: May Bes

Dec. 27, 2017



OWNERSHIP CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that I am the owner of the real property shown and described hereon; and that I hereby adopt this plan of subdivision and by my free consent grant all easements to the use shown.

Vais David A. Justus P.O. Box 649 Sterling, AK 99672 For: David A. Justus Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22nc

NOTARY'S JURAT

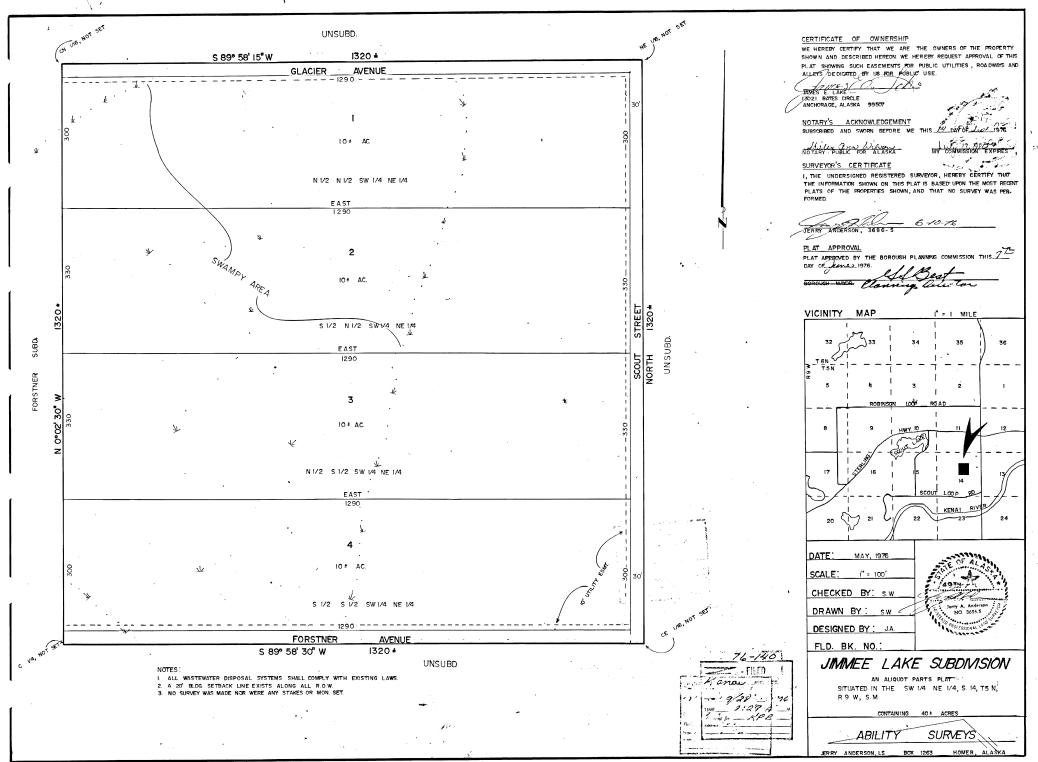
My Commission Expires July 31, 2018

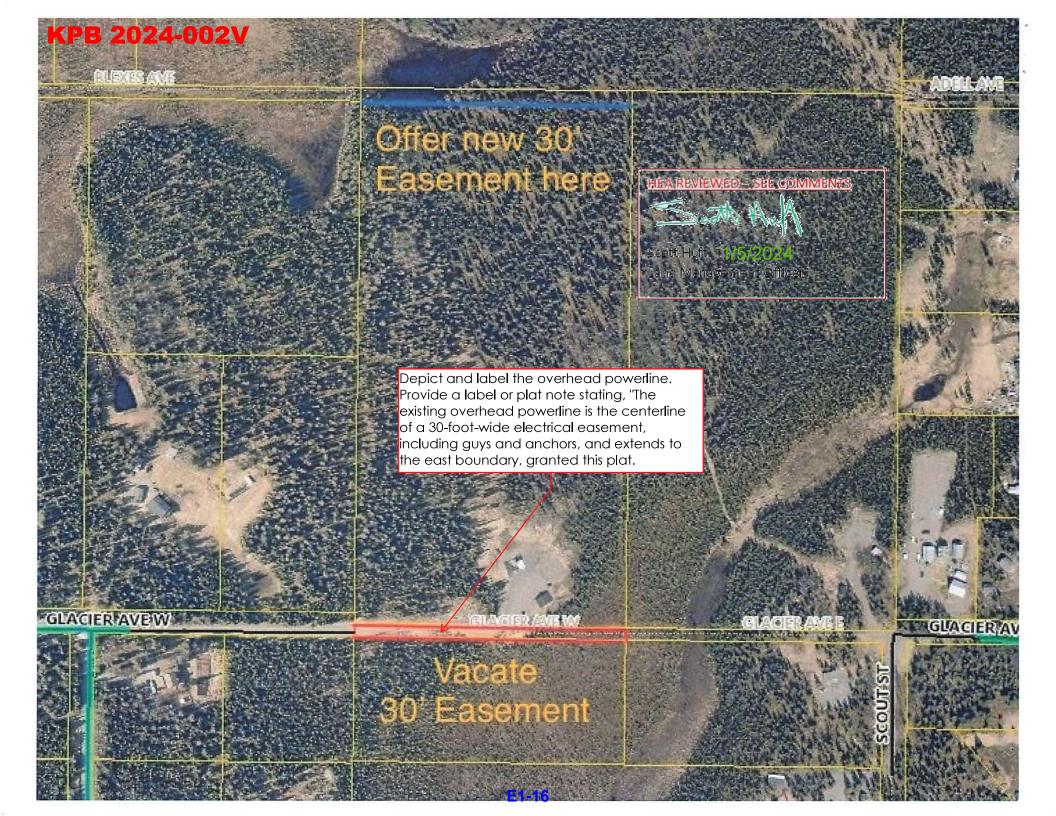
Public for Alaska

My commission expires 7.31.2018

WASTEWATER DISPOSAL

20.40.030
These Tracts are at least 200,000 square feet or nominal 5 acres in size and conditions may not be suitable for onsite wastewater treatment disposal. Any wastewater treatment and disposal systems must meet the regulatory requirements of the Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation.







Plat, #

12 28 2017

TIME 11:10 AM

Keran

LAKE SUBDIVISION #2

A Subdivision of Tract 1 Jimmee Lake Subd., KRD 76-140. Located in the NE 1/4 Section 14, T5N R9W, SM, Sterling, Alaska. Kenai Recording District Kenai Pen'nsula Borough File 2017-102

Prepared for David A Justus P.O. Box 649 Sterling, AK 99672

Prepared by Johnson Surveying Box 27 Clam Gulch, Ak 99568

SCALE 1'' = 100'Area = 8.879 acres 1 July, 2017



LEGEND

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→ 2½"x 30" aluminum monument, set

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NOTES

1. A building setback of 20' from all street ROWs is required unless a lesser standard is approved by a resolution of the appropriate planning commission. Front 15' of building setback is also a utility easement, as is the entire setback within 5' of side lot lines.

2. No permanent structure shall be constructed or placed within a utility easement which would interfere with the ability of a utility to use the easement.

3. An exception to KPB 20,30.170, Block Length, was granted by the KPB Planning

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4. Any person developing this property is responsible for obtaining all required lood, state, and federal permits, including a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wellands determination if opplicable. S. A electrical utility ecsement affecting this property was granted to Homer Electric Association by Kenai Records Book 5 Page 99. This is a general easement, no definite location given.

BY: Max 1 Ger Authorized Official

PLAT APPROVAL

KENAL PENINSULA BOROUGH

This plat was approved by the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission at the meeting of 14 August, 2017.

Dec. 27, 2017

KPB Plat Waiver 91-9 Parcel 2 Parcel 1 CN 1/16 found monument, no cap Sect. 14 set monument S 89° 59' 2" E 1318.84' NE 1/16 Sect. 14 AVE! WEST EAST 30, LA GLACIER AVE. Ш Lot 12 VL. 299.79 No. 1320.00° TRACT 1A TRACT 1B 11 Ш Fostner Subd. Lot 2 Block 2 20' building setback RidgeШ ₩ 4.542 ac. 4.337 oc. ≥ 14 0°01'14" N 0°01'14" М M Depict and label the overhead Ш power line. Provide a label or plat Ш 1H 629.41 $\stackrel{\perp}{=}$ note stating, "The existing Lot 13 overhead power line is the 1288.83 centerline of a 30-foot-wide Tract 2 electrical easement, includina guys and anchors, and extends to Notary Public PEGGY CLEMENTS the east boundary, granted this State of Alaska plat. My Commission Expires July 31, 2018 OWNERSHIP CERTIFICATE NOTARY'S JURAT For: David A. Justus

WASTEWATER DISPOSAL

Scott Huff 12/20/2023

Land Management Officer

HEA REVIEWED - SEE COMMENTS

20.40.030 20.40.030
These Tracts are at least 200,000 square feet or nominal 5 acres in size and conditions may not be suitable for onsite was:ewater treatment disposal. Any was:ewater treatment and disposal systems must meet the regulatory requirements of the Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation. I hereby certify that I am the owner of the real property shown and described hereon; and that I hereby adopt this plan of subdivision and by my free consent grant all easements to the use shown

Vais David A. Justus P.O. Eox 649 Sterling, AK 99672 day of December

My commission expires 7.31.2018

Subscribed and sworn to before me this **22nd**