

Valdez Sets Port Vote For April 10

Special To The Times
VALDEZ — The Valdez City Council Tuesday unanimously approved April 10 as the date for voters to decide the fate of a \$48 million port bond proposition.

City Manager Mark Lewis said this morning the scheduled election on the proposed bond sale is the result of nearly four years of work on the project.

"I think the citizens of Valdez are pretty strong behind port development," Lewis said.

Before the devastating 1964 earthquake, the Valdez port was a major center for materials shipped from the Lower 48 to Interior Alaska.

"Hopefully we will be able to reestablish those channels to Fairbanks and the North Slope," Lewis said.

"Also, the proposed port development dovetails with the Alpetco project."

Alpetco — Alaska Petroleum Co. — has selected Valdez for the site of its refinery to handle royalty oil purchased from the state.

Lewis said if voters approve the bond sale, port construction could start this year and could be completed by 1981 — the year the Alpetco project is scheduled to begin.

"I think it is significant that we are looking to diversify the economy of Valdez," Lewis said. "And, this could be a major economic project in the state."

Lewis said the proposed location of the new port is on the eastern edge of the small boat harbor.

Several studies, including geological, marketing and preliminary engineering, have already been completed.

The proposed facility would take advantage of Valdez's year-round accessibility, deep water and its ability to expand.

A combination roll on, roll off, break bulk dock capable of handling ships up to 1,100-foot-long is planned,

Lewis said. "It is designed to be as efficient and technically modern as any new port."

Marketing studies have indicated goods shipped through Valdez could reach Interior destinations three days quicker, and 5 percent to 10 percent cheaper than goods shipped through Anchorage, Lewis said.

The proposed general obligation bonds would be backed by the "full faith and credit" of Valdez, Lewis said.

"We think these bonds would be extremely marketable. Valdez has a tax base of \$1.6 billion to \$1.7 billion, and virtually no bonded indebtedness."

Lewis said the city is looking for a AA rating for the bonds which would probably be a 25-year issue.

Anchorage Daily News Thursday, April 12, 1979

Valdez approves port bonds

By JEANNE ABBOTT
Daily News reporter

Valdez voters Tuesday threw their muscle behind a plan to build a large-scale port that would compete with Anchorage for cargo going to Fairbanks and the Interior.

In a special election, they voted overwhelmingly — nearly 5-to-1 — to issue bonds in the amount of \$48 million for spanning new ocean dock facility on Valdez Arm.

Anchorage port director Bill McKinney said he wished the community well as it embarked on the project which he called "a significant financial venture."

McKinney said that if Valdez

was successful in capturing a significant amount of Interior-bound traffic, it could cut into operations at both Whittier and Anchorage ports.

But McKinney said he was not apprehensive about the future of the Anchorage port.

"Actually, I would need to get a comparison of rates to get any idea whether we would have serious competition," he said. "And I don't have that information."

It will be the biggest project undertaken by the city of Valdez since the effort to rebuild the town after the 1964 earthquake. When finished in 1982 it should be the second largest in the state, ranking behind the one in Anchorage Interior.

Valdez port director Jerry Zoet said Wednesday, "the administration is pleased with the voter turnout and their faith in the city."

Some 570 voters cast ballots in favor of the project in Tuesday's special election, and 122 voted against it. About 50 absentee ballots were left to be counted, but they could hardly make a difference in the results.

Preliminary feasibility, engineering and marketing studies have all been done and were presented to voters to indicate the value of the project. The \$48 million package will be used to acquire property for the port, construct the facility and equip it.

"It will provide Valdez with a complete, modern ocean dock facility," said Zoet.

He estimated that materials moving through a Valdez port to Fairbanks and nearby points could arrive at least one day faster than if routed through Anchorage.

Cargo would be sent overland after reaching Valdez by ship. Much of the tonnage that reaches Anchorage is sent by rail connections.

Final engineering permits and plans will be arranged by Dec. 1, allowing construction to proceed by March, 1980. Zoet said it would require three building seasons to develop the port.

The Valdez port will ultimately have one berth and be able to handle ships up to 900 feet in length, which includes most of the container vessels now in use. It will also be able to accommodate any size barge at any stage of the tide, the port director said.

One reason a relatively small community like Valdez (pop. 7,483) can float such a large bond issue is that the property tax generated by the city includes a considerable amount of revenue from the Alyeska pipeline terminal located there.

Zoet seemed pleased by the activity going on in the town. "We're going in the right direction," he said. "A lot of projects are being knitted together in one scarf of success."

16 The Anchorage Times, Friday, April 20, 1979



THE PORT OF ANCHORAGE IS CROWDED

For the first time since last fall, the Port of Anchorage was full this week and ships were waiting at anchor. Here the Long Beach, a 500-foot Japanese freighter of Panamanian

registry, is being unloaded. The ship, which was to leave this morning, carried a cargo of steel, building materials and new cars from Japan.

Spring's Arrival Opens Port For Another Busy Season

Spring is here, the ice is out of Cook Inlet, and the first barge of the season — one belonging to Pacific Western Lines — arrived here about two weeks ago.

With winter over, the Port of Anchorage dock was full this week, with a vessel waiting at anchor, for the first time since last fall.

Monday traffic included Sea-Land's Aleutian Developer, the oil tanker Paola, the container ship Westward Venture and the 500-foot-plus Long Beach.

At that point, Alaska Puget United Transportation Co.'s Barge 101, under military charter, had just left.

The Long Beach, a Japanese-owned, Panama-registered vessel with a Filipino crew, is under charter to Alaska National Corp., bringing between 3,000 and 4,000 tons of steel and building materials to Anchorage.

It has been discharging freight since Tuesday and was due to leave early this morning.

This vessel also carried a consignment of new cars from Japan.

Employees of Alaska National Corp., one of the group of Alaska Brick Co.'s subsidiaries, handled longshoring of the supplies at the city dock. Ordinarily this corporation is involved solely in cargo operations at the Pacific Western Lines' dock on the Anchorage waterfront.

Jed Holley, president of Alaska Brick's group of companies, said that Alaska National brings one load

of building materials from Japan each year.

The Long Beach was loaded in Osaka Harbor, with materials being lightered to its side in smaller boats.

Company representative Max Fuhrer was in Osaka to supervise loading of cargo.

The Aleutian Developer, customarily used in the Kodiak-Aleutian Chain freight haul, was diverted to the Anchorage-Kodiak run until the Seattle mechanics' union strike against Sea-Land was settled this week.

The Anchorage Times, Saturday, July 1, 1978

Visiting Ship To Be Open To Public

The USS Carpenter, a destroyer, will arrive at the Port of Anchorage at 3 p.m. Sunday and be open for public visiting from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and Tuesday.

A dockside welcome, with the Air Force band performing, has been planned by the local sea services volunteers. Roger Graves, of the Armed Services YMCA, has suggested that participants gather about 2:30 p.m. Signs will direct traffic to designated parking areas.

The ship's captain, Cmdr. Robert R. Denis, is a native of Green Bay, Wis., and a 1961 graduate of the Naval Academy. He has also served on the USS Bashaw at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, after submarine training in New London, Conn. He was on the staff of Submarine Squadron 3 in San Diego Calif., before being assigned to the Navy's deep submergence program with the bathyscaphe Trieste II.

A recipient of the Navy commendation and achievement medals, Cmdr. Denis also served on the USS Razorback and the USS Harder and was a company officer at the Naval Academy. He was operations officer on the USS Little Rock, the flagship of the commander of the Sixth Fleet with a home port in Gaeta, Italy, before his orders to command the Carpenter.

Married to the former Linda Hutchinson of Green Bay, Cmdr. Denis is the father of daughters Melissa and Amanda.

The Carpenter, named for Lt. Cmdr. Ronald Marshall Carpenter, a pioneer in the early days of naval aviation, was launched in 1945 and commissioned as a destroyer in 1949 seeing Korean War duty in 1952 and 1953. Extensively modernized in the mid-'60s, the Carpenter deployed five times for Vietnam duty.

Since 1972, the ship's home port has been San Francisco, Calif., where the ship participates in Naval Reserve training



CMDR. ROBERT R. DENIS
Captain Of Visiting Destroyer

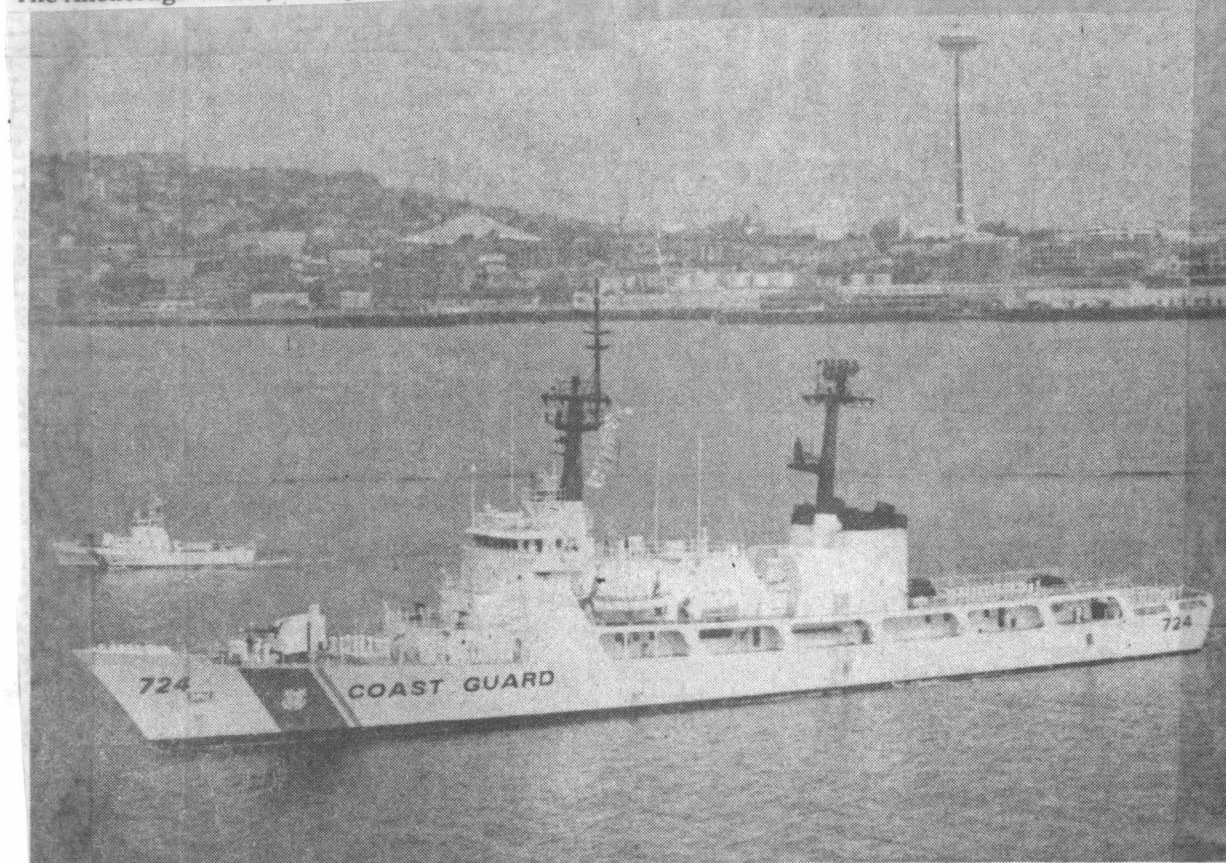
and public relations cruises on the West Coast.

While in Anchorage, the Navy League, Fleet Reserve, Sea Services Committee and Armed Services YMCA will host a reception for officers and crew.

Ship's company personnel will participate in an 11 a.m. July 4 parade and reception at the American Legion, Jack Henry Post 1 and an open house at Captain John R. Noyes Veteran of Foreign Wars Post 9978.

Prior to the ship's 9 a.m. Wednesday departure, the Alaska Sea Services Committee will host a breakfast at the Holiday Inn for commanding officer.

The Anchorage Times, Friday, July 7, 1978



COAST GUARD CUTTER TO VISIT ANCHORAGE

The U. S. Coast Guard Cutter Munro will arrive at 9:30 a.m. Saturday for a four-day visit at the Port of Anchorage. The ship will be open to visitors from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sunday and Monday. A welcome aboard picnic for officers and crew will be sponsored by the Jack Henry Post, American Legion, at 1

p.m. Saturday, and Sunday the officers and crew will be treated to sightseeing tours in the Anchorage area, organized by the Armed Services YMCA, the American Association of Retired Persons and the Anchorage Council of Senior Citizens. The vessel will leave Anchorage at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday.

Anchorage Daily News, Wednesday, July 5, 1978



Associated Press Wirephoto

Anchors aweigh

Checking out the Navy destroyer, the USS Carpenter, during Fourth of July festivities at the port on Tuesday were Erin Weller, 6, in foreground and sister Anna, 7. Hundreds of local citizens visited the vessel, while others watched the morning parade and evening fireworks display. For parade story, see Page 2.