

Borough patience misplaced

Victor Trygstad says he wants to develop a destination resort in the Butte, including a lodge, an 18-hole golf course and a residential subdivision. He has been trying for several weeks to get the Mat-Su Borough's Planning Commission to vote to recommend that the borough assembly reclassify 320 acres of land for sale to his Homestead Properties Inc. for that purpose.

For just as many weeks or longer, the Planning Commission members have, patiently at first, asked Mr. Trygstad to supply them with a conceptual drawing of his proposed resort, together with some basic statements of financial stability. He has repeatedly assured the commissioners and the Planning Department that he will do that, each time giving a specific date.

The most recent promise was by Tuesday, Jan. 28 at 5 p.m. A call to the borough conveyed the news that the deadline couldn't be met. The Planning Department gave Mr. Trygstad one final extension — 5 p.m. Wednesday.

But he didn't show with the things he said he would.

Planning Director John Duffy informed him that in this case he was recommending that the Planning Commission, which meets at 6 p.m. Monday, object to both proposed reclassification of the borough and Trygstad's application to purchase it in particular.

We scratch our heads in wonderment at Mr. Trygstad's reluctance to meet such simple requests.

We are equally amazed at the extensions he was given time after time by the Planning Department.

This is something that should end once and for all Monday night, with perhaps no need for the assembly to even go through the formality of considering the measure.

In the wake of the Hatcher Pass fiasco, Valley residents are in no mood for will-o'-the-wisp developers, and we can only wonder why borough officials are so eager to part with public lands that they will give such consideration to developers who seem to offer little substance behind their proposals.

— *Frontiersman*