

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

350 East Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska 99645 - 907-861-8683

BOROUGH MAYOR
Edna DeVries

BOROUGH CLERK
Lonnie R. McKechnie, CMC

BOROUGH MANAGER
Michael Brown

BOROUGH ATTORNEY
Nicholas Spiropoulos



BOROUGH ASSEMBLY
Michael Bowles, District 1
Stephanie Nowers, District 2
Dee McKee, District 3
Maxwell Sumner, District 4
Bill Gamble, District 5
Dmitri Fonov, District 6
Ron Bernier, District 7

MEETING MINUTES

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

ASSEMBLY REGULAR MEETING

6:00 PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Mayor Edna DeVries.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Assemblymember Michael Bowles, Assemblymember Stephanie Nowers, Assemblymember Dee McKee, Assemblymember Maxwell Sumner, Assemblymember Bill Gamble, Assemblymember Dmitri Fonov, and Assemblymember Ron Bernier

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Assemblymember Fonov moved to remove Ordinance Serial No. 26-020 from the agenda.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

No: 2 - Assemblymember Nowers and Assemblymember Gamble

Assemblymember Sumner moved to remove Ordinance Serial No. 25-103 from the agenda.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

Assemblymember Fonov moved to remove Ordinance Serial No. 26-036 from the agenda.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

No: 3 - Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, and Assemblymember Gamble

Assemblymember Bowles requested to move the veto following the first audience participation and before the public hearings.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Gamble

No: 2 - Assemblymember Fonov and Assemblymember Bernier

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Shannon Bodolay, Assistant Borough Attorney.

V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

26-049

A. Assembly Special Meeting Minutes: 02/14/26

B. Assembly Regular Meeting Minutes: 02/17/26

C. Assembly Regular Meeting Minutes: 03/03/26

The minutes were approved as presented without objection.

VI. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

A. AGENCY REPORTS (MSB 2.12.082; Seven minutes per person)

1. Reports From Cities

There were no reports provided.

2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

There was no report provided.

3. State of Alaska

There was no report provided.

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Joint Assembly/School Board Committees

2. Assembly Public Relations

Mayor DeVries spoke to attending a Republican Organizational meeting. Three members of the Assembly were also present; she spoke to business unrelated to the Borough. She noted the members of the Assembly did not sit together. Spoke to making an endorsement and being transparent. Spoke to the Open Meetings Act.

Assemblymember McKee noted she was in attendance of the Republican Organizational Meeting as well. Noted she spoke to limiting weight restrictions to emergency use only.

Assemblymember Fonov spoke to attending the Republican Organizational Meeting and noted he spoke to being active in local government.

Assemblymember Bowles noted his attendance of the Republican Organizational Meeting and noted he spoke to an ordinance regarding sales tax. Noted that he did not speak to other assembly members in attendance.

C. MANAGER COMMENTS

1. State/Federal Legislation

2. Strategic Planning Issues

D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

E. CLERK COMMENTS

Ms. McKechnie spoke to the upcoming meeting schedule.

F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

26-050

1. Big Lake Community Council: 11/25/25
2. Glacier View Community Council: 12/18/25
3. Local Road Service Area Advisory Board: 01/15/26
4. Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Board: 10/27/25, 11/24/25
- Resolution No. 25-02
5. Planning Commission: 01/19/26
6. South Knik River Community Council: 11/20/25
7. South Lakes Community Council: 02/02/26, 03/02/26
8. Talkeetna Sewer & Water Board: 01/07/26, 02/04/26
9. Transportation Advisory Board: Resolution No. 26-01
10. Trapper Creek Community Council: 01/22/26
11. Water & Wastewater Advisory Board: 12/17/25
12. Willow Area Community Organization: 03/04/26

The citizen and other correspondence were presented, and no comments were noted.

G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS

IM 26-031 Informing The Assembly Of The Sale Of Borough-Owned Property Identified As Lot 247 Caswell Lakes To The Adjacent Property Owners, Armand Nyborg And Anja Dubberke.

IM 26-054 Submittal Of A Historic Preservation Fund National Alliance of Preservation Commissions Forum Travel Grant Application To The Alaska Department of Natural Resources Parks And Outdoor Recreation Office For \$2,800 To Cover Expenses For One Member Of The Historical Preservation Commission To Attend The 2026 National Alliance Of Preservation Commissions Forum.

The informational memorandums were presented, and no comments were noted.

VII. SPECIAL ORDERS

A. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (You can speak under one of the audience participations on the agenda, but not both; Three Minutes Per Person.)

The following persons spoke to potential school closures: Taft Johnson, Carrie Johnson, Courtney Downing, Roberta LaPalm, Abbey Grilliot, Fred Merrill, Lucas Merrill, Heather Merrill, Sherrie LaRue, Kelly O'Malley, Christen Hellen-Toms, Rebecca Emerson, Heather Bauman, Jennifer (Last name was indiscernible).

The following person spoke in opposition of Ordinance Serial No. 26-019 and in support of the mayoral veto: Laura Stockmeier, Elise Bucholz, Karen Lewis, Jade Tabony, Michael Hannen, Maxine Franklin, Timothy Howell, Troy (Last name was indiscernible).

The following person spoke to mayoral vetoes and Ordinance Serial No. 26-020: Terry Gorlick.

The following person spoke in opposition of Ordinance Serial No. 26-019 and the budget regarding school closures: Calista Watkins.

The following person spoke to Tews Construction and AM 26-026: George Billinger.

The following person spoke to land use permits, the school district, and in support of sales tax: Gary Wolske.

The following person spoke to data centers and in support of regional small data centers and AI: Keith Dobson.

The following person spoke to data centers: Travis Friesen.

The following person spoke to data centers and planting hemp around them: Sara Williams, Founder of Sacred Seeds Foundation.

The following persons spoke to book challenges and obscene content: Jackie Goforth and Linda Spohn.

The following person spoke to property taxes and potential sales tax: Dawson White.

The following person spoke to Talkeetna Water and Sewer Septic upgrade and the proposed location: Andrea Larson.

The following person spoke to employees of the School District, the Mat-Su Classified Employee's Association (CEA) Board, the funding

structure, and the cost of operating school increases: Rick Morgan, President of Mat-Su CEA.

The following persons spoke in opposition of OR 25-103: Roland Beyug and Samuel Shilling.

The following person spoke to schools in the Mat-Su, property taxes, and in support of the mayoral veto: Kathleen Bud.

The following person spoke to data centers, school funding, and to a grant from Mat-Su Health Foundation for school nurses: Lisa Wade.

The following person spoke in opposition of the mayoral veto, in support of a coal power plant, and to the school district and school closures: Jesse Sumner.

The following person spoke in support of the mayoral veto, to being a schoolteacher, to closures in the Anchorage School District and in support of school choice: Karen Crandall.

The following person spoke to funding for the schools and budgeting between the school district, Borough, and the state: Mary Black Green.

The following person spoke in opposition of OR 25-103 and in support of schools: Teresa Swan.

The following person spoke in support of funding schools, in support of sales tax, and smart planning, to data centers, coal plants, and zoning: Darren Markwardt.

The following person spoke to balancing the budget, tax increases, and school closures: Carter DeBock.

The following person spoke to AM 26-026 and the low bid process: Garland Morrison.

The following person spoke to Ordinance Serial No. 26-020 and in support of Ordinance Serial No. 26-036: Rhonda Stark, Road Service Area No. 16 Board Member.

The following person spoke to Ordinance Serial No. 26-020: Dan Tucker, Road Service Area No. 9 Board Member.

The meeting recessed at 8:44 p.m. and reconvened at 9:02 p.m.

IX. VETO

RS 26-019 A Resolution Supporting A Joint Marketing Effort Between The Borough And Terra Energy Center Corporation For The Promotion And Development Of Designated Borough Lands To Solicit Expressions Of Interest From Large Power Consumers For Data Center, Energy Infrastructure, Advanced Manufacturing, And Industrial Development Opportunities.

Sponsors: Bernier and Fonov

Assemblymember Fonov moved to override the Mayoral Veto.

Assemblymember Bernier moved to suspend the rules and to extend the meeting past 10 p.m. and not to exceed 10:30 p.m.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

Assemblymember Sumner called for the question (to stop debate) .

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

The main motion to override the Mayoral Veto passed by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

No: 1 - Assemblymember Nowers

Assemblymember Bowles moved to reconsider the vote to remove Ordinance Serial No. 26-036 from Introductions.

The motion passed by the following vote:

- Yes:** 4 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, and Assemblymember Gamble
- No:** 3 - Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

MOTION PENDING: Assemblymember Fonov moved to remove Ordinance Serial No. 26-036 from introductions.

The motion failed by the following vote:

- Yes:** 5 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Gamble
- No:** 2 - Assemblymember Fonov and Assemblymember Bernier

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three Minutes Per Person.)

OR 26-023 An Ordinance Approving The Sale Of Certain Borough-Owned Real Property Acquired Through Tax Foreclosure For Delinquent Real Property Tax Years 2019, 2018, And Prior; And Not Needed For A Public Purpose.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

The following person spoke to burial property and requested an extension: Angela Springer.

The following person spoke to the extension he received last year and requested another extension: Bob Galekovich.

The following persons spoke to an extension for making property tax payments: Kara Hellman, Joe Kelly, Marcellia Peterson-Finch.

There being no others present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

Assemblymember Bernier moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 26-023.

Assemblymember Bernier moved a primary amendment to strike TS0-47-17 from the 2026 spring tax foreclosure sale parcel list.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

Assemblymember Gamble moved a primary amendment to strike TS0-47-24 from the 2026 spring tax foreclosure sale parcel list.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

Assemblymember Bowles moved to suspend the rules and to extend the meeting past 10:30 p.m. and not to exceed 11:00 p.m.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

Assemblymember Bernier moved a primary amendment to strike TS0-47-14 from the 2026 spring tax foreclosure sale parcel list.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

Assemblymember Gamble moved a primary amendment to strike TS0-47-27 from the 2026 spring tax foreclosure sale parcel list.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

Assemblymember Bowles moved a primary amendment to strike TS0-47-09 and TS0-47-19 from the 2026 spring tax foreclosure sale parcel list.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, and Assemblymember Bernier

No: 1 - Assemblymember Fonov

The main motion passed as amended by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

OR 26-029 An Ordinance Approving The Purchase Of A One-Acre Parcel Adjacent To The New Gateway Visitor Center In The Amount Of \$172,000 And Classifying The Property As Reserved Use Lands.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

The following person spoke in support of Ordinance Serial No. 26-029: Casey Ressler, President & CEO of Mat-Su Convention and Visitors Bureau.

There being no others present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

Assemblymember Nowers moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 26-029.

Assemblymember Bernier moved to suspend the rules and to extend the meeting past 11 p.m. and not to exceed 11:30 p.m.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

The main motion failed by the following vote:

**No: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers,
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner,
Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and
Assemblymember Bernier**

C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (You can speak under one of the audience participations on the agenda, but not both; Three Minutes Per Person.)

There was no one present who wished to testify.

D. CONSENT AGENDA

1. RESOLUTIONS

RS 26-020 A Resolution Amending The Scope Of Work For Dorothy Swanda Jones Building (DSJ) Water Intrusion.Repair At Purchasing Project And Amending The Project Title To DSJ Environmental Systems Maintenance And Repair.

2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS

AM 26-019 Approval Of Contract Amendment No. 3 For Contract No. 24-135P With Boutet Company, Inc. For The Design Of Kepler Drive Bridge Replacement And To Extend Contract Completion Date To July 30, 2027.

AM 26-021 Award Of Bid No. 26-104B To Battleground, LLC. In The Contract Amount Of \$1,684,117.83 For Gold Trail Road Service Area No. 28 Annual Road Maintenance.

AM 26-022 Award Of Bid No. 26-105B To Smithsons In The Contract Amount Of \$3,038,010.42 For Knik Road Service Area No. 17 Annual Road Maintenance.

AM 26-024 Award Of Bid No. 26-107B To Battleground, LLC. In The Contract Amount Of \$927,760 For Fairview Road Service Area No. 14 Annual Road Maintenance.

AM 26-027 Approval Of Change Order No. 3 For Contract No. 22-090P(B) With Lounsbury & Associates, Inc. For The Design Of Hemmer Road Extension Project To Add \$62,983; And Extend The Completion Date To June 30, 2027.

AM 26-028 Acceptance Of Late Filed And Retroactive Senior Citizen And Disabled Veteran Exemption Applications For The Period Of January And February 2026.

AM 26-029 Award Proposal No. 26-096P To PND Engineers, Inc.; RESPEC Company, LLC; And R&M Consultants, Inc. For Annual Contracts Each Not To Exceed \$300,000 To Provide Structural And Hydraulic Infrastructure Engineering Services.

AM 26-030 Award Of Bid No. 26-112B To Alaskan Industries Inc. In The Contract Amount Of \$122,670 For Brett Ice Rink Rubber Flooring Replacement.

AM 26-031 Award Of Proposal No. 26-081P To Koniag Cyber Solutions, LLC. For The Three-Year Contract Amount Of \$526,833 To Provide Cyber Security Managed Detection And Response Services.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Assemblymember Bernier moved to approve the consent agenda as read into the record by the Clerk.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

RS 26-021 A Resolution Approving Unincorporated Communities For Participation In The Fiscal Year 2027 Community Assistance Program.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Assemblymember McKee moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 26-021.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, and Assemblymember Bernier

No: 2 - Assemblymember McKee and Assemblymember Fonov

AM 26-020 Award Of Bid No. 26-101B To McKenna Brothers Paving, Inc. In The Contract Amount Of \$1,233,338.93 For Bogard Road Service Area No. 25 Annual Road Maintenance.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

AM 26-023 Award Of Bid No. 26-106B To McKenna Brothers Paving, Inc. In The Contract Amount Of \$832,815.50 For Midway Road Service Area No. 9 Annual Road Maintenance.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Assemblymember Sumner declared a conflict of interest on AM Nos. 26-020 and 26-023 as he has worked with McKenna Brothers Paving, Inc.

RULING: Mayor DeVries ruled that Assemblymember Sumner had a conflict of interest and would be recused from voting.

(Assemblymember Sumner exited the meeting.)

Assemblymember Bernier moved to adopt AM 26-020 and AM 26-023.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

Recused: 1 - Assemblymember Sumner

(Assemblymember Sumner re-entered the meeting)

AM 26-026 Award Of Bid No. 26-102B To Tews, Inc. In The Contract Amount Of \$1,227,952.67 For Big Lake Road Service Area No. 21 Annual Road Maintenance.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Assemblymember Bowles moved to adopt AM 26-026.

Assemblymember Bernier moved to suspend the rules and to extend the meeting past 11:30 p.m. and not to exceed 11:45 p.m.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

Assemblymember Nowers called for the question (to stop debate)

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

The main motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

No: 4 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Gamble

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

OR 25-103 An Ordinance Repealing MSB 17.02, Mandatory Land Use Permit In Its Entirety; And Adopting MSB 17.07, Land Use Review.

Sponsors: Sumner

[Clerk's Note: Ordinance Serial No. 25-103 was removed from unfinished business at approval of the agenda.]

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing 04/07/26 Assembly Chambers)

OR 26-033 An Ordinance Extending The Time Limit For Completion Of Expiring Project Funds Through June 30, 2027.

OR 26-034 An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$281,250 From The State Of Alaska, Department Of Commerce, Community, And Economic Development, Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery Program, For The Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Project.
RS 26-022: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For A Grant In The Amount Of \$281,250 For The Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Project And Authorizing The Manager To Enter Into An Agreement With The Alaska State Department Of Commerce, Community, And Economic Development.

OR 26-035 An Ordinance Increasing The Compensation Of The Members Of The Board Of Equalization.

OR 26-036 An Ordinance Changing The Exemption To Weight Restrictions On Borough Roads For Emergencies Only.

Sponsors: Nowers and McKee

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Assemblymember Bernier moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk and set the public hearing for April 7, 2026, respectively.

Assemblymember Fonov moved to divide the question and to take Ordinance Serial No. 26-036 separately.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

No: 3 - Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, and Assemblymember Gamble

Assemblymember Bernier moved to suspend the rules and to extend the meeting past 11:45 p.m. and not to exceed 11:59 p.m.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

First segment: Assemblymember Bernier moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk and set the public hearing for April 7, 2026, with the exception of Ordinance Serial No. 26-036.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

Second segment: Assemblymember Bernier moved to introduce Ordinance Serial No. 26-036 and set the public hearing for April 7, 2026.

Assemblymember Fonov moved a primary amendment to strike April 7, 2026, and insert July 21, 2026.

The primary amendment passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

No: 2 - Assemblymember Nowers and Assemblymember Gamble

Assemblymember Nowers moved a primary amendment to strike July 21, 2026, and insert April 21, 2026.

The primary amendment failed by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Assemblymember Nowers and Assemblymember Gamble

No: 5 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

The main motion passed as amended by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

B. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Agriculture Advisory Board

Margaret Adsit

Board of Equalization

Dale Hammitt

Ashley Dittman

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Board

John Spaulding

North Colony RSA No. 23

William "Skip" Foster III

[Clerk's Note: Martha Grover requested to withdraw her application from the Board of Equalization]

1. VACANCY REPORT

Assemblymember Bernier moved to confirm the appointments requested by the Mayor.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

C. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion To Amend Something Previously Adopted

OR 26-020 An Ordinance Establishing An Exemption To Weight Restrictions On Borough Roads.
RS 26-010: A Resolution Establishing A Fee For Processing Requests For An Exemption To Weight Restrictions On Borough Roads.

Sponsors: McKee and Fonov

[Clerk's Note: Ordinance Serial No. 26-027 was removed from motion to amend something previously adopted at approval of the agenda.]

D. REFERRALS (For Referral To The Planning Commission For 90 Days Or Other Date Specified By The Assembly)

There were no reconsiderations.

XI. RECONSIDERATION

OR 26-027 An Ordinance Amending MSB 3.28 To Increase The Property Owner Ballot Threshold For Contiguous Local Improvement Districts From 54 Percent To 67 Percent, And Remove The Provisions That Only Returned Ballots Are Considered In Tabulation.

Sponsors: Nowers and Bowles

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Assemblymember Bowles moved to postpone the reconsideration of Ordinance Serial No. 26-027 to April 7, 2026.

The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, and Assemblymember Gamble

No: 3 - Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

Assemblymember Bowles moved to reconsider Ordinance Serial No. 26-027.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Gamble, and Assemblymember Bernier

No: 2 - Assemblymember Sumner and Assemblymember Fonov

Assemblymember Bowles moved to postpone Ordinance Serial No. 26-027 to April 7, 2026.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Assemblymember Bowles, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Gamble, and Assemblymember Bernier

No: 2 - Assemblymember Sumner and Assemblymember Fonov

XII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Assemblymember Fonov thanked everyone.

Assemblymember Bowles thanked everyone who came to speak, Borough staff, and fellow assemblymembers.

Assemblymember Nowers spoke to the potential school closures and road weight restrictions.

Assemblymember Bernier said a prayer.

Assemblymember Sumner spoke to tax cuts that were mentioned during audience participation.

Assemblymember McKee spoke to tax cuts.

Mayor DeVries spoke to the Joint Assembly/School Board meeting next week.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:57 p.m.



Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

March 17, 2026, Assembly Regular Meeting Minutes

(20 pages)


EDNA DeVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 05/05/26