

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

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



MEETING MINUTES

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

ASSEMBLY SPECIAL MEETING

6:00 PM

TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, June 18, 2019, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Mayor Vern Halter.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Assemblymember Jim Sykes, Assemblymember Matthew Beck, Assemblymember George McKee, Assemblymember Ted Leonard, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, Assemblymember Jesse Sumner, and Assemblymember Tam Boeve

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Halter queried if there were any changes to the agenda.

Assemblymember Sumner moved to pull Ordinance Serial Nos. 19-092 and 19-093 from introduction. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, and Assemblymember Sumner

No: 4 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Boeve

Mayor Halter queried if there were any other changes to the agenda.

The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Todd Smolden, Executive Director of Governor Dunleavy's Mat-Su Office.

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

The following person spoke in opposition to any possible sales tax and spoke to concerns that any taxes collected would not be applied to property tax relief: Mr. Brian Endle.

The following person spoke in opposition to any possible sales tax and to the need to make other cuts to the budget: Mr. Dave Jenkins.

The following person reported on the activities of the State Legislature concerning the budget: Mr. Todd Smolden, Executive Director of Governor Dunleavy's Mat-Su Office.

VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Introductions (For Public Hearing on 08/06/19, Assembly Chambers)

[OR 19-091](#) An Ordinance Amending MSB 2.08.060, Compensation And Reimbursement For The Mayor.

[OR 19-092](#) An Ordinance Adopting MSB 3.35, Two Percent Areawide Sales Tax For Property Tax Relief, To Adopt A Two Percent Sales Tax Within The Entire Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

OR 19-093: An Ordinance Authorizing The Borough To Enact MSB 1.10.170, Two Percent Areawide Sales Tax For Property Tax Relief, To Grant The Borough The Power To Enact A Tax Not To Exceed Two Percent On Sales, Services, And Rentals Within The Entire Matanuska-Susitna Borough; And Submitting The Question To The Qualified Areawide Voters At The November 5, 2019, Regular Borough Election.

Sponsors: Sykes

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Assemblymember Beck moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk and to set the public hearings for August 6, 2019. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Boeve

B. Executive Session (For Subjects That Tend To Prejudice The Reputation And Character Of Any Person Provided The Person May Request A Public Discussion.)

1. Annual Evaluation of the Borough Clerk

Mayor Halter queried if Ms. McKechnie would like to conduct her evaluation in public or in executive session.

Ms. McKechnie requested that it be conducted in executive session.

Assemblymember Beck moved to enter into executive session for subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any persons, provided the person may request a public discussion, in particular, to conduct the annual evaluation of the Borough Clerk. Those present during the executive session were the Mayor, the members of the Assembly, and the Borough Clerk.

The motion passed without objection and the Assembly entered into executive session at 6:19 p.m.

Assemblymember Beck moved to exit executive session.

The motion passed without objection and the Assembly exited executive session at 7 p.m.

Assemblymember Beck advised that during the executive session, the Assembly called the Borough Attorney into the session for advice.

Assemblymember Beck moved to renew the contract of the Borough Clerk and to set the annual salary at \$132,500 and to continue the monthly car allowance of \$300. The motion passed by the following vote.

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Boeve

C. Executive Session (For Subjects That Tend To Prejudice The Reputation And Character Of Any Person Provided The Person May Request A Public Discussion.)

The meeting recessed at 7:01 p.m. and reconvened at 7:06 p.m.

1. Annual Evaluation of the Borough Manager

Mayor Halter queried if Mr. Moosey would like his evaluation in public or in executive session.

Mr. Moosey requested it be in executive session.

Assemblymember Beck moved to enter into executive session for subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any persons, provided the person may request a public discussion, in particular, to conduct the annual evaluation of the Borough Manager. Those present during the executive session were the Mayor, the members of the Assembly, and the Borough Manager.

The motion passed without objection and the Assembly entered into executive session at 7:08 p.m.

Assemblymember Beck moved to exit executive session.

The motion passed without objection and the Assembly exited executive session at 8:26 p.m.

Assemblymember Beck moved to renew the contract of the Borough Manager and to set the annual salary at 1.8 percent higher than the previous fiscal year. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Sumner

No: 3 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, and Assemblymember Boeve

VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENT

Assemblymember Mayfield exited the meeting.

Mr. Spiropoulos stated that he is looking forward to the break in Assembly meetings. Noted that he will be out of town for the August 6 meeting and that Mr. Aschenbrenner will be attending in his place.

Ms. McKechnie thanked the Assembly for the evaluation. Stated that the Assembly providing input is valuable to her. Advised that should the body have any questions regarding the election, to please bring them to her.

Assemblymember Leonard moved to direct the Manager to ensure the School District has adequate cash flow based on School Board Resolution Serial No. 19-009. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Boeve

Assemblymember Sykes thanked the Manager and the Clerk for their insight and guidance.

Assemblymember Beck stated that he is grateful to work with the body to do the business of the public.

Mayor Halter congratulated the Manager and the Clerk on renewal of their contracts. Stated that he looks forward to working with Mr. Moosey for another year. Opined that it has been a tough year for the Borough with the cyber-attack, the earthquake, and the unusual budget cycle. Noted that the Borough still does not know what budget will come out of Juneau. Spoke to the potential lawsuit against Governor Dunleavy regarding education funding. Opined that the State is more out of sync than the Borough. Spoke in support of the budget the Assembly adopted. Noted that no matter what happens that the Borough should keep it simple and stick to core services for its residents.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.