

# MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

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

BOROUGH MAYOR  
Vern Halter

BOROUGH CLERK  
Lonnie R. McKechnie, CMC

BOROUGH MANAGER  
John Moosey

BOROUGH ATTORNEY  
Nicholas Spiropoulos



BOROUGH ASSEMBLY  
Jim Sykes, District 1  
Matthew Beck, District 2  
George McKee, District 3  
Ted Leonard, District 4  
Dan Mayfield, District 5  
Barbara J. Doty, District 6  
Randall Kowalke, District 7

## MEETING MINUTES

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS  
350 E. DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

ASSEMBLY SPECIAL MEETING

6:00 PM

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2018

---

### Budget Public Hearing

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Thursday, April 26, 2018, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Mayor Vern Halter.

#### II. ROLL CALL

**Present** 4 - Assemblymember Jim Sykes, Assemblymember Ted Leonard, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, and Assemblymember Randall Kowalke

**Telephonic** 1 - Assemblymember Barbara J. Doty (arrived at 6:02 p.m.)

**Excused** 2 - Assemblymember Beck and Assemblymember McKee

#### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

#### IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Bonnie Quill, Mat-Su Convention and Visitors Bureau Director.

#### V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

The following person spoke to activities of the City of Wasilla: Mayor Bert Cottle, City of Wasilla

The following person spoke to concerns with the public process: Mr. Eugene Haberman

The following person asked for consideration by the Assembly to fund operational expenses for Meadow Lakes civil patrol officers: Ms. Karen Kirkpatrick

## **VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

### **A. PUBLIC HEARING**

**OR 18-018** An Ordinance Appropriating Monies From The Central Treasury For The Borough Operating Funds, Enterprise Funds, Education Operating Fund And Capital Funds, Establishing The Rate Of Levy For All Borough Functions For The Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2018 And Ending June 30, 2019; And Setting The Surcharge Rate For The Wireline And Wireless Enhanced 911 Systems For The Period Of July 1, 2018 Through June 30, 2019.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Mayor Halter opened public hearing.

The following person expressed appreciation for the partnerships between the City of Wasilla and the Borough, and asked for continued funding for City/Borough programs: Mr. Stu Graham, Wasilla City Councilman

The following person spoke to extending video/audio capabilities to the Borough boards: Mr. Eugene Haberman

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

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved to continue the public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 18-018 to Monday, April 30, at 6 p.m. at the Willow Community Center. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (For Matters, Which The Immediate Public Knowledge Of Which Would Clearly Have An Adverse Effect Upon The Finances Of The Borough; And Matters Which By Law, Municipal Charter, Or Ordinance Are Required To Be Kept Confidential; And To Discuss Matters Involving Consideration Of Borough Records That By Law Are Not Subject To Public Disclosure; And Discussion Of Matters Subject To The Attorney/Client Privilege.)**

**A. Willow Cabin Litigation, 3PA-16-2183CI**

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved to enter executive session for matters, of which the immediate public knowledge would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the Borough; and matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be kept confidential; and to discuss matters involving consideration of Borough records that by law are not subject to public disclosure; and discussion of matters subject to the attorney/client privilege regarding Willow Cabin Litigation, 3PA-16-2183CI. Those present during the executive session were the Mayor, the members of the Assembly, the Clerk, the Attorney, and the Manager. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

The Assembly entered into executive session at 6:50 p.m.

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved to exit executive session. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

The Assembly exited executive session at 7:10 p.m.

*Assemblymember Doty exited the meeting at 7:09 p.m.*

**VIII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENT**

*Clerk's Note: Mayor, Assembly and Staff Comments were taken prior to the executive session.*

Mr. Spiropoulos spoke to the road maintenance agreements between the Borough and the Department of Transportation and recourse options available to the Borough.

Ms. McKechnie reminded the Assembly of the budget public hearing scheduled on Monday, April 30 at 6 p.m. in Willow.

Mr. Moosey spoke to a draft letter to the Borough Lobbyist regarding the Borough's priority projects to be included on the State General Obligation Bonds ballot measure. The letter was read into the record by the Manager.

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved to direct the Manager to send a letter requesting that the following projects be included in the State General Obligation Bonds: 1) Road and Bridge Infrastructure - \$50 million, 2) Septic and Leachate Facility - \$25 million, and 3) Rail Spur and Port Maintenance. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Doty

**No:** 1 - Assemblymember Kowalke

Assemblymember Mayfield noted he had amendments to the budget. He thanked Ms. Kirkpatrick for her testimony and the efforts of the Meadow Lakes Civil Patrol to protect the neighborhood.

Assemblymember Kowalke spoke to the pet blood drive event scheduled in Wasilla.

Assemblymember Sykes thanked everyone for the testimony given, asked for the organizational chart to be distributed to Assembly, and spoke to scheduling a discussion of the Assembly on the wetland mitigation report.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.



Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

April 26, 2018, Special Meeting Minutes (4 pages)

  
VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 06/05/18