

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
Tim Hale, District 1
Stephanie Nowers, District 2
Dee McKee, District 3
Robert Yundt, District 4
Mokie Tew, District 5
Jesse Sumner, District 6
Ron Bernier, District 7

MEETING MINUTES

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

ASSEMBLY REGULAR MEETING

6:00 PM

TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, July 19, 2022, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Mayor Edna DeVries.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Assemblymember Tim Hale, Assemblymember Stephanie Nowers, Assemblymember Dee McKee (arrived at 6:03 p.m.), Assemblymember Robert Yundt, Assemblymember Mokie Tew, Assemblymember Jesse Sumner, and Assemblymember Ron Bernier

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Amy Spargo, Arctic Winter Games Host Society Chairperson.

V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

There were no minutes of preceding meetings.

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 were no reports provided.

3. State of Alaska

There was no report provided.

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Joint Assembly/School Board Committee On School Issues

There was no report provided.

2. Assembly Public Relations

There were no reports provided.

C. MANAGER COMMENTS

1. State/Federal Legislation

2. Strategic Planning Issues

Mike Brown, Borough Manager, spoke regarding the following:

- * Bonnie Quill, Mat-Su Convention and Visitor's Bureau being awarded the Destination Organization Award;

- * the impacts the State approved budget could have on Borough projects;

- * future needs that funds from the State could be applied to;

- * his appreciation of the Mat-Su State Delegation and Governor Dunleavy's support of Borough projects;

- * his appreciation for the hard work of the Borough's State Lobbyist, Mr. John Harris; and

- * Department of Emergency Services hosting an Emergency Services Capabilities Demonstration at Station 6-2 on August 27th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

3. 2024 Arctic Winter Games Update

Ms. Amy Spargo, Arctic Winter Games Host Society Chairperson, and Ms. Kerry Quade, Arctic Winter Games General Manager, provided a detailed update regarding the Mat-Su 2024 Arctic Winter Games.

D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Nicholas Spiropoulos, Borough Attorney, noted that he hired a new attorney for his office, Ms. Hannah Steketee. Advised that Mr. Lou Sharp who was Borough Attorney 40 years ago recently passed away. Stated that he will be out of the office for the next few weeks and back for the second meeting in August.

E. CLERK COMMENTS

Lonnie McKechnie, Borough Clerk, advised that the Canvass Board has just finished canvassing the absentee ballots and will be starting the questioned ballots shortly. Stated that she hopes to have the Review Board in by Friday. Spoke to upcoming meeting schedule. Noted that Mayor DeVries suggested to reschedule the August 16 meeting to August 17 due to the fact that the State's primary election is August 16 and chambers will be divided. Queried if that was something the Assembly would like to do.

Mayor DeVries queried if there was any objection to rescheduling that meeting.

There was no objection noted.

Assemblymember Yundt moved to reschedule the September 20 meeting to September 27. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Yundt, Assemblymember Tew, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Bernier

F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

22-122

1. Animal Care and Regulation Board: 09/23/21
2. Board of Adjustment and Appeals: 04/20/22, BOAA 22-02 Final Decision
3. Historical Preservation Commission: Resolution No. 22-01
4. Knik-Fairview Community Council: 04/20/22, 05/04/22
5. Local Road Service Area Advisory Board: 05/19/22, Resolution No. 22-04
6. Meadow Lakes Community Council: 05/11/22
7. North Lakes Community Council: 04/28/22, 05/26/22
8. Platting Board: 04/21/22, 05/04/22
9. West Lakes & Central Mat-Su Joint FSA Board of Supervisors: 05/09/22

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

G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS

IM 22-153 Informing The Assembly Of The Manager's Intent To Consent To The Sublease Between Renewable IPP, LLC. And Energy 49, LLC. For The Houston Solar Farm Phase 1 Development.

IM 22-156 Reporting Manager Waivers Of Formal Bidding Procedures In Accordance With MSB 3.08.320(B) For June 2022.
The informational memorandums were presented and no comments were noted.

VII. SPECIAL ORDERS

A. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (MSB 2.12.081; Three Minutes Per Person.)

There were no persons to be heard.

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three Minutes Per Person.)

OR 22-057 An Ordinance Amending MSB 43.05.015, Purpose And Scope, To Reference The 2022 Subdivision Construction Manual.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Alex Strawn, Planning and Land Use Director, provided a staff report.

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

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

Assemblymember Sumner moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 22-057. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Yundt, Assemblymember Tew, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Bernier

OR 22-063 An Ordinance Repealing MSB 15.30, Official Streets And Highways Plan Map; Amending MSB 17.55.004, by striking the unused definition "Official Streets And Highways Plan;" And Adopting MSB 15.24.030(B) (46), Official Streets and Highway Plan 2022 Update.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Adam Bradway, Planner II, provided a staff report.

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

The following person spoke to concerns with proposed routes in the Official Streets and Highways Plan: Bill Tucker.

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

Assemblymember Sumner moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 22-063. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Yundt, Assemblymember Tew, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Bernier

OR 22-081 An Ordinance Waiving The Requirements Of MSB 19.08.020, Location Of School Buildings; Waiving The Requirements Of MSB 19.08.023, Site Approval Process For Lease Of Charter School Facilities; And Approving The Location Of Knik Charter School At 4401 Palmer-Wasilla Highway.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Adam Bradway, Planner II, provided a staff report.

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

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

Assemblymember Sumner moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 22-081. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Yundt, Assemblymember Tew, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Bernier

OR 22-063 An Ordinance Repealing MSB 15.30, Official Streets And Highways Plan Map; Amending MSB 17.55.004, by striking the unused definition "Official Streets And Highways Plan;" And Adopting MSB 15.24.030(B) (46), Official Streets and Highway Plan 2022 Update.
The meeting recessed at 7:36 p.m. and reconvened at 7:47 p.m.

C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three Minutes Per Person.)

The following persons spoke to concerns with the Burma Road Iditarod under pass: Donna Defusco, Russ Defusco, and Kelly Dickson.

The following persons spoke in opposition to Dominion voting machines and in support of hand counting ballots: Rod Shultz, Karen Lewis, Mike Bowles, Richard Stoffel, Lloyd Thurman, John Miller, Brian Endle, CJ Koan, Jackie Goforth, Father Randy Hillman, Donna Koecher, Karen Crandall, Mike Alexander, David Eastman, Dave Maxwell, Doyle Holmes, Karl Speights, Finn Rye, Steve Renner, Bev Stocker, Sally Pollen, Tim Allen, and Kathy Harris.

The following person spoke to concerns with trail development on property given to Meadow Lakes Community Council: Wade Long.

D. CONSENT AGENDA

1. RESOLUTIONS

- RS 22-067** A Resolution Amending The Scope Of Work And Title Of The Roof Replacement-Brett Memorial And Wasilla Pool Project, To Include The Willow And Talkeetna Ice Rink Repairs And Improvements.

2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS

- AM 22-094** Vacate The 50-Foot Wide Public Use Easement, Recorded At 2004-021138-0, On The Southern Boundary Of Tax Parcel A11. Located In Section 4, Township 17 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian For The Beaver Flats Master Plan.
- AM 22-095** Vacate The 50-Foot Wide Right-Of-Way To Include The Temporary Turnaround Shown As South Derby Drive Recorded On Meadowland Park Estates Plat No. 83-88. Located In Section 34, Township 17 North, Range 02 East, Seward Meridian, Alaska, Assembly District 1.
- AM 22-096** Award Of Bid No. 22-161B To OT Enterprises, LLC. In The Contract Amount Of \$167,315 For Sunset Drive Improvements.
Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.
Assemblymember Sumner moved to approve the consent agenda as read into the record by the Clerk. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Yundt, Assemblymember Tew, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Bernier

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

OR 22-015 An Ordinance Amending MSB 4.46, Historical Preservation Commission.
Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

MOTION PENDING: Assemblymember Sumner moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 22-015. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Yundt, Assemblymember Tew, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Bernier

OR 22-068 An Ordinance Approving The Sale Of Borough-Owned Land Identified As Lot 4 And Lot 5, Block 4, Matanuska Townsite, U.S. Survey 1169, To The Adjacent Property Owner, Kenneth And Myra Olson; And Repealing The Public Purpose Dedication Placed On The Borough Lot.
Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Lisa Gray, Land Management Agent, provided a staff report.

MOTION PENDING: Assemblymember McKee moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 22-068. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Yundt, Assemblymember Tew, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Bernier

IX. VETO

There were no vetoes presented.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing 08/02/22, Assembly Chambers)

- OR 22-082** An Ordinance Authorizing The Manager To Enter Into A Lease Of Borough-Owned Real Property Located Within The Meadow Lakes Community Council With QAP To Develop And Operate A Material Site.
- OR 22-084** An Ordinance Accepting and Appropriating 2019 McKinley Fire Disaster Relief Funds In The Amount Of \$99,616.79 From The Federal Emergency Management Agency And The Alaska State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Management, To Fund 445, Project No. 55022.
RS 22-064: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For 2019 McKinley Fire Disaster Relief Funds.
- OR 22-085** An Ordinance Approving The Sale Of Real Property Acquired Through Tax Foreclosure For Delinquent Real Property Tax Year 2017 And Prior, And Not Needed For Public Purpose.
- OR 22-086** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating COVID-19 Disaster Relief Funds Of \$12,140.39 From The Federal Emergency Management Agency.
RS 22-065: A Resolution Approving The Amended Scope Of Work For COVID-19 Relief Funds From The Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- OR 22-087** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$33,300 In Anticipated Project Income During Fiscal Year 2023 For The Rail Extension Project From Port MacKenzie To The Mainline.
RS 22-066: A Resolution Establishing The Scope Of Work And Budget For Anticipated Project Income During Fiscal Year 2023 For The Rail Extension Project From Port MacKenzie To The Mainline.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Assemblymember Sumner moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk and to set the public hearings for August 2, 2022. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Yundt, Assemblymember Tew, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Bernier

B. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. VACANCY REPORT

22-123

Mayoral Requests for Confirmation
Enhanced 911 Advisory
Rebecca Turney, resignation

Road Service Area Task Force 2022
Stephen Edwards, resignation
Jill Parson

West Lakes FSA No. 136
Steve Simpson, removal

Talkeetna Sewer and Water Service Area No. 36
Jennifer Crosby, resignation

Assemblymember Sumner moved to confirm the appointments and resignations requested by the Mayor. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Yundt, Assemblymember Tew, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Bernier

C. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

There was no other new business.

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

There were no referrals.

XI. RECONSIDERATION

There were no reconsiderations.

OR 22-063 An Ordinance Repealing MSB 15.30, Official Streets And Highways Plan Map; Amending MSB 17.55.004, by striking the unused definition "Official Streets And Highways Plan;" And Adopting MSB 15.24.030(B) (46), Official Streets and Highway Plan 2022 Update.

[Clerk's Note: Reconsideration of Ordinance Serial No. 22-063 occurred immediately following the conclusion of the public hearings. It was moved to this portion of the agenda for clarification that the ordinance was reconsidered.]

Assemblymember Sumner moved to reconsider Ordinance Serial No. 22-063. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Yundt,
Assemblymember Tew, Assemblymember Sumner, and
Assemblymember Bernier

Assemblymember Sumner moved a primary amendment to IM No. 22-118, page 16 of the Official Streets and Highways Plan, as follows:

- **Table 2, by striking the number “50” and inserting the number “40” in its place; and**
- **Table 2, by striking the number “150” and inserting the number “150” in its place.**

The primary amendment passed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Yundt,
Assemblymember Tew, Assemblymember Sumner, and
Assemblymember Bernier

The main motion passed as amended by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Yundt,
Assemblymember Tew, Assemblymember Sumner, and
Assemblymember Bernier

XII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Brown advised that there is a flood warning for Willow Creek. Stated that the Borough will continue to monitor flooding and provide updates.

Ms. McKechnie responded to audience participation concerns regarding Dominion voting machines.

Assemblymember Yundt expressed his condolences to the family of Andy Anderson. Noted that Andy was of great service to youth in the valley.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.s

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.



Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment
For
July 19, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes
(11 pages)


EDNA DeVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 09/06/22