

# 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



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

WILLOW COMMUNITY CENTER  
MILE 69 PARKS HIGHWAY, WILLOW

ASSEMBLY SPECIAL MEETING

6:00 PM

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022

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### **Budget Public Hearing**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Thursday, April 28, 2022, at the Willow Area Community Center, Mile 69 Parks Highway, Willow, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. by Mayor Edna DeVries.

#### **II. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 4 - Assemblymember Stephanie Nowers, Assemblymember Robert Yundt, Assemblymember Jesse Sumner, and Assemblymember Ron Bernier

**Excused:** 3 - Assemblymember Tim Hale, Assemblymember Dee McKee, and Assemblymember Mokie Tew

#### **III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

#### **IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The pledge of allegiance was led by former Mayor Vern Halter.

## V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

The following persons spoke to the dedicated and hard work of Road Supervisor Mike Lachelt and wished him a good retirement: Tam Boeve, Tom Phillips, D.J. McBride, Dan Tucker, Linda Oxley,

The following persons thanked the body for supporting the development of the log cabin and the new Willow Community Center: Melinda Dale, Bernadette Frost, Madeline Goeke, Brenda McCain, Vern Halter, and Jim Huston.

The following person spoke to her love of the Willow community, the need to provide activities for youth, the need for the community to have access to recycling, and to concerns with emergency response times: Elizabeth (did not provide a last name).

## VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

### A. PUBLIC HEARING

**OR 22-022** 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, 2022, And Ending June 30, 2023; And Setting The Surcharge Rate For The Wireline And Wireless Enhanced 911 Systems For The Period Of July 1, 2022, Through June 30, 2023.

Lonnie McKechnie, Borough Clerk, read the legislation into the record.

Mayor DeVries reopened the public hearing.

The following persons spoke in support of 3-Year sustainable funding for the Mat-Su Convention and Visitor's Bureau: Rick Peterson and Israel Mahay.

The following person spoke to how she was selected as the Queen of Willow: Her Royal Highness Jo Pendleton.

**Assemblymember Sumner moved to continue the public hearing to May 2, 2022. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Yundt, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Bernier

## **VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENT**

Assemblymember Bernier spoke to his appreciation of conducting the meeting in Willow. Thanked the public for their testimony.

Assemblymember Yundt spoke in support of tourism. Noted the importance of fish passage projects in the Borough. Thanked the Willow community for their hospitality.

Assemblymember Sumner thanked the public for their participation. Stated that it is always a pleasure to hold meetings in Willow. Commented how nice the new Library area is.

Lonnie McKechnie, Borough Clerk, thanked the community for their hospitality.

Mike Brown, Borough Manager, spoke to his appreciation of the hospitality of the Willow community. Thanked the School District for providing audio support.

Nicholas Spiropoulos, Borough Attorney, thanked the community for hosting a place for the meeting. Stated that he is glad to be back, after not having the budget public hearing in the community center last year.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.



Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

April 28, 2022, Special Meeting Minutes

(3 pages)

  
EDNA DEVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 06/07/22