

# 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  
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 SPECIAL MEETING

4:00 PM

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025

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### Annual Evaluation of the Borough Manager

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Mayor Edna DeVries.

#### II. ROLL CALL

**Present:** 5 - Assemblymember Stephanie Nowers (entered at 4:05 p.m.), Assemblymember Dee McKee, Assemblymember Maxwell Sumner (entered at 4:05 p.m.), Assemblymember Bill Gamble, and Assemblymember Dmitri Fonov

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember Tim Hale

**Telephonic:** 1 - 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 John Aschenbrenner, Deputy Borough Attorney.

#### V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three Minutes Per Person)

There was no one present who wished to testify.

## **VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

### **A. 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 Manager**

Mayor DeVries queried if Mr. Brown would like his evaluation to be conducted in public or in executive session.

Mr. Brown stated he would like his evaluation to be conducted in executive session.

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

**There was no objection noted and the Assembly entered into executive session at 4:06 p.m.**

**Assemblymember Bernier moved to exit executive session. There was no objection noted and the Assembly exited executive session at 5:24 p.m.**

**Assemblymember Nowers moved to continue the Manager's contract with a 4.5 percent for cost of living increase and 2 percent for a step increase.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember Hale

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

Assemblymember Nowers spoke to the Borough Manager and thanked him for his work.

Assemblymember Sumner agreed with Assemblymember Nowers' comments.

Assemblymember Gamble agreed with Assemblymember Nowers' comments.

Assemblymember Bernier thanked the Borough Manager for all that he does.

Mayor DeVries spoke to the work of the Borough Manager and thanked him.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

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BOROUGH ASSEMBLY  
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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, MAY 20, 2025

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

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, 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:** 5 - Assemblymember Stephanie Nowers, Assemblymember Dee McKee, Assemblymember Maxwell Sumner, Assemblymember Bill Gamble, and Assemblymember Dmitri Fonov

**Telephonic:** 2 - Assemblymember Tim Hale (arrived telephonically at 6:03 p.m.) 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 Mr. Brown.

Mr. Brown led a moment of silence for the passing of Gene Stone and briefly spoke to his work in the community.

### **V. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY**

#### **A. Mayoral Proclamation In Recognition Of Older Americans Month**

**25-088**

Mayoral Proclamation

Mayor DeVries read the proclamation recognizing Older Americans Month into the record.

## **VI. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS**

**25-085**

- A. Special Meeting Minutes: 04/09/25
- B. Regular Meeting Minutes: 04/15/25
- C. Budget Public Hearing: 04/22/25
- D. Budget Public Hearing: 04/24/25
- E. Budget Public Hearing: 04/29/25
- F. Special Meeting Minutes: 05/01/25
- G. Budget Deliberation: 05/01/25

The minutes were approved as presented without objection.

## **VII. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE**

### **A. AGENCY REPORTS (MSB 2.12.082; Seven Minutes Per Person)**

#### **1. Reports From Cities**

Josh Tudor, Deputy Mayor from City of Palmer, spoke to events happening in Palmer, upcoming road construction, the new City Manager, Palmer Library, and a resolution in support of a Japanese language program.

#### **2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District**

There was no report provided.

#### **3. State of Alaska**

Todd Smoldon, Executive Director of Governor Dunleavy's Mat-Su Office, provided an update on the budget, the legislative session, and spoke to House Bill 57.

### **B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **1. Joint Assembly/School Board Committee On School Issues**

There was no report provided.

#### **2. Assembly Public Relations**

There was no report provided.

### **C. MANAGER COMMENTS**

## **1. State/Federal Legislation**

There was no comment provided.

## **2. Strategic Planning Issues**

There was no comment provided.

## **D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

There was no comment provided.

## **E. CLERK COMMENTS**

Ms. McKechnie spoke to the upcoming meeting schedule.

## **F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**

### **25-086**

1. Abbreviated Plat: 05/07/25
2. Animal Care And Regulation Board: 08/13/24, 09/17/24, 02/19/25, 04/02/25, Case No. 25-01
3. Big Lake RSA Board of Supervisors: Resolution No. 25-01
4. Board of Adjustment And Appeals: Case No. 24-03
5. Glacier View Community Council: 03/27/25
6. Greater Palmer Consolidated FSA Board of Supervisors: 04/30/25
7. Greater Talkeetna RSA Board of Supervisors: 04/10/25, Resolution Nos. 25-01, 25-02
8. Library Board: 02/11/23
9. North Lakes Community Council: Resolution No. 24-03
10. Planning Commission: 03/18/24, 04/15/24, 05/06/24, 05/20/24, 06/03/24 (2), 03/17/25, 04/21/25, Resolution No. 25-06
11. Platting Board: 04/17/25
12. South Lakes Community Council: 05/05/25
13. Susitna Community Council: 04/03/25
14. Transportation Advisory Board: Resolution No. 25-03

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

## **G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS**

There were no informational memorandums presented.

## **VIII. 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 person spoke to concerns with the project changing the access to Shaw Elementary School: Rod Hanson, Chair of North Lakes Community Council.

The following person spoke in opposition to Resolution Serial No. 25-020: Garland Morrison, Big Lake RSA Board of Supervisors member.

The following person spoke to communism, libraries, the Library Board, and the Library Citizens' Advisory Committee: Jackie Goforth.

The following person spoke to Ordinance Serial No. 25-054: Ed Powell.

The following person thanked Assemblymember McKee and Assemblymember Fonov for their views and spoke to local schools and testing and to purchasing the Big Lake Lions' Club: Linda Spohn.

**B. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three Minutes Per Person.)**

**RS 25-020** A Resolution Removing All Board Members From The Big Lake Road Service Area 21 Board Of Supervisors.

**Sponsors:** DeVries and Gamble

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

There was no staff report provided.

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

The following person spoke in opposition to Resolution Serial No. 25-020: Pat Daniels, Big Lake RSA Board of Supervisors member.

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

[Clerk's Note: Assemblymember McKee exited the meeting at 6:45 p.m.)

**Assemblymember Gamble moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 25-020.**

**Assemblymember Gamble moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 25-020 as follows:**

**\*By striking the words "all board members" from the title and replacing them with "Pat Daniels"; and**

**\*by inserting the following whereas clauses after the final whereas clause in the resolution, "WHEREAS, since the 90 day period has elapsed, four of the five board members have stopped engaging in activities and tactics which were outlined in this resolution and information memorandum as being the basis for removal; and WHEREAS, one member, Pat Daniels, has continued to erode trust in government, put his self interests above others, and refuses to stop engaging in the activities outlined in this resolution and information memorandum; and**

**WHEREAS, at the meeting of the RSA 21 Board of Supervisors in April 2025, members of the public presented concerns and questions about upgrading a road for maintenance; and**

**WHEREAS, thereafter instead of responding to the members of the public, Pat Daniels brought up discussions of budget and mill rates and voiced his displeasure about them; and**

**WHEREAS, Pat Daniels attitude and conduct during his**

discussions was so disruptive that members of the public left the meeting; and

**WHEREAS, after members of the public left, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Road Maintenance Supervisor commented to the Board and everyone in the room, that it was the disruptive conduct that prompted members of the public to leave and it should not be that way; and**

**WHEREAS, Pat Daniels continues to sow discord, disrupt the business of the meetings, and lash out at others to the point where the public leaves meeting rather than participate."; and**

**\*by striking all 3 resolved clauses and replace them with,"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly finds that, for the reasons contained in the recitals of this resolution and the reasons in Information Memorandum No. 25-051, when taken as a whole, good cause exists to remove Pat Daniels from the Big Lake RSA 21 Board of Supervisors. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly finds that the good cause to be stated with this resolution is the inordinate amount of Borough staff time consumed by Mr. Daniels with issues unrelated to the advice the board is to give, the corresponding lack of any better advice from the board, the repeated bickering and infighting by Mr. Daniels, the practice of Mr. Daniels advocating for positions or changes on an individual basis and not with board concurrence, the refusal of Mr. Daniels to stop these practices, complaints from the public about the board's functioning, all of the issues and discussions contained in the recitals of this resolution and the reasons in Information Memorandum No. 25-051, and the fact that since this resolution was introduced 90 days ago Mr. Daniels has not stopped his disruptive practices, has continued to erode trust in government, put his self interests above others, and refuses to stop engaging in the activities recited in this resolution and information memorandum to the point that members of the public do not attend, and/or leave meetings because of Mr. Daniels' conduct. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly removes Pat Daniels from the Big Lake RSA 21 Board of Supervisors and declares that seat immediately vacant."**

**The primary amendment passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Gamble

**No:** 2 - Assemblymember Fonov and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**The main motion passed as amended by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Gamble

**No:** 2 - Assemblymember Fonov and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**OR 25-023** An Ordinance Conveying And Merging The Borough's Development Rights Interest With The Agricultural Rights Title For Fee Simple Title With Agricultural Covenants For Tax Id No. 19N05W13C002, To Tory And Cynthia Oleck.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Joe Metzger, Land & Resource Management Division Manager, provided the 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. 25-023.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble,  
Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

- OR 25-031** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The North Curt Circle Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 650, Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments, And Making Refunds To Property Owners.  
OR 25-032: An Ordinance Providing For The Financing Not To Exceed \$91,490 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Internal Service Funds For The North Curt Circle Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 650; And Fixing Details Of Said Financing.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Mayor DeVries requested to take Ordinance Serial No. 25-031, Ordinance Serial No. 25-032, Ordinance Serial No. 25-033, Ordinance Serial No. 25-034, Ordinance Serial No. 25-035, Ordinance Serial No. 25-036, Ordinance Serial No. 25-037, and Ordinance Serial No. 25-038 together.

There was no objection noted.

- OR 25-033** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The Easy Street And Cozy Circle Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 658, Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments, And Making Refunds To Property Owners.  
OR 25-034: An Ordinance Providing For The Financing Not To Exceed \$66,625 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Internal Service Funds For The Easy Street And Cozy Circle Natural Gas Local Improvement District No.658; And Fixing Details Of Said Financing.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

- OR 25-035** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The Echo Lake Drive And Necrason Drive Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 663, Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments, And Making Refunds To Property Owners.  
OR 25-036: An Ordinance Providing For The Financing Not To Exceed \$231,239 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Internal Service Funds For The Echo Lake Drive And Necrason Drive Natural Gas Local Improvement District No.663; And Fixing Details Of Said Financing.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

**OR 25-037** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The Homestead Drive Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 667, Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments, And Making Refunds To Property Owners.

OR 25-038: An Ordinance Providing For The Financing Not To Exceed \$68,456 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Internal Service Funds For The Homestead Drive Natural Gas Local Improvement District No.667; And Fixing Details Of Said Financing.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Cheyenne Heindel, Finance Director, provided the 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. 25-031, Ordinance Serial No. 25-032, Ordinance Serial No. 25-033, Ordinance Serial No. 25-034, Ordinance Serial No. 25-035, Ordinance Serial No. 25-036, Ordinance Serial No. 25-037, and Ordinance Serial No. 25-038.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**OR 25-039** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating A Grant In The Amount Of \$113,500 From The Alaska State Department Of Environmental Conservation To Conduct Education and Outreach To Reduce Nonpoint Source Pollution In Riparian Areas Adjacent To Impacted Waterbodies.  
RS 25-030: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Healthy Mat-Su Riparian Areas: Education And Outreach Project To Reduce Nonpoint Source Pollution In Riparian Areas Adjacent To Impacted Waterbodies.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Maggie Brown, Long Range Planner, 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. 25-039 and Resolution Serial No. 25-030.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**OR 25-048** An Ordinance Approving The Purchase Of The Big Lake Lions' Club Recreation Center And Adjacent Parking Lot At 2942 And 2863 South Lions Circle, Big Lake, Alaska For \$400,000, Subject To Appropriation In The Fiscal Year 2026 Budget; And Upon Such Terms And Conditions Within The Agreement.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Joe Metzger, Land & Resource Department Manager, provided the 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 Gamble moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 25-048.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Gamble

**No:** 2 - Assemblymember Fonov and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**OR 25-053** An Ordinance Reappropriating \$90,000 From The Animal Care And Regulation Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget To The Animal Care Project For The Cremator Purchase Subproject.

RS 25-039: A Resolution Renaming And Amending The Scope Of Work For The Cremator Refurbishment Subproject And Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For Cremator Purchase.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Vanessa Forbes, Animal Care and Regulation 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 Nowers moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 25-053 and Resolution Serial No. 25-039.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble,  
Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**OR 25-056** An Ordinance Extending The Time Limit For Completion Of Expiring Project Funds Through June 30, 2026.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Cheyenne Heindel, Finance Director, provided a staff report.

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

The following person questioned the meaning of OR 25-056: Andy Rotelle.

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

**Assemblymember Sumner moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 25-056. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**OR 25-057** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating A Grant For \$2,000 From The State Of Alaska For Reimbursement Of Travel Expensed To Attend The Association Of State Floodplain Managers Training Conference.  
RS 25-045: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For Reimbursement Of Travel Expenses To Attend The Association Of State Floodplain Managers Training Conference.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Wade Long, Development Services Manager, provided the 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. 25-057 and Resolution Serial No. 25-045.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**OR 25-058** An Ordinance Amending MSB 5.25.142, Annexing Three Parcels Off Of The Glenn Highway Into The Greater Palmer Consolidated Fire Service Area Without The Placement Of The Question On The Ballot; And Finding That It Serves The Public Interest.  
RS 25-049: A Resolution Finding The Annexation Of Three Parcels Located On The Glenn Highway Into The Greater Palmer Consolidated Fire Service Area Serves The Public Interest.

**Sponsors:** Hale

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Ms. McKechnie provided the staff report.

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

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

**Assemblymember Sumner moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 25-058 and Resolution Serial No. 25-049.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**OR 25-059** An Ordinance Amending MSB 4.80, Agriculture Advisory Board, To Remove Term Limits For The Board.

**Sponsors:** Sumner

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

No staff report was provided.

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

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

**Assemblymember Sumner moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 25-059.**

**Assemblymember Nowers moved to postpone Ordinance Serial No. 25-059 to June 3, 2025.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, and Assemblymember Bernier

**No:** 1 - Assemblymember Fonov

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**OR 25-060** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$2,064,750 From The City Of Houston For The King Arthur Drive Reconstruction Project.  
RS 25-050: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget And Authorizing The Manager To Enter Into A Memorandum Of Agreement With The City Of Houston For The King Arthur Drive Reconstruction Project.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Cheyenne Heindel, Finance Director, provided the staff provided.

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. 25-060 and Resolution Serial No. 25-050.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble,  
Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**OR 25-062** An Ordinance Extending The Time Limit For The Emergency Services  
Station 12-9 Building Project To June 30, 2029.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Ken Barkley, Emergency Services Director, provided the 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 Gamble moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No.  
25-062.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble,  
Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**OR 25-063** An Ordinance Appropriating The 2025 Series B General Obligation  
School Refunding Bonds And The 2025 Series C General Obligation  
Transportation System Refunding Bonds Proceeds For Issuance Costs.  
Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Cheyenne Heindel, Finance Director, provided the 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.  
25-063.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble,  
Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**OR 25-064** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating 2025 Series A General Obligation School Bonds And Series D Taxable General Obligation Transportation System Bonds Proceeds, Including Issuance Costs And Additional Premium To Debt Service.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Cheyenne Heindel, Finance Director, provided the staff report.

Mayor DeVries opened the public hearing.

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

**Assemblymember Sumner moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 25-064.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

The meeting recessed at 7:47 p.m. and reconvened at 8:02 p.m.

**C. 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 Ordinance Serial No. 25-054: Renee Blake and Doug (Last name was indiscernible).

The following person spoke to the public process, postponement of Ordinance Serial No. 25-059, and Ordinance Serial No. 25-054: Andy Rotelle.

**D. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. RESOLUTIONS**

**RS 25-051** A Resolution Approving The Amended Scope Of Work For South Colony Street Light.

**2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS**

**AM 25-053** Authorization Of A Cost Increase To The 3-Year Enterprise Mapping Software Agreement With Environmental Systems Research Institute Inc.

**AM 25-054** Approval Of Utility Relocation Cost Of \$117,550 To ENSTAR Natural Gas, For The Snowcrest Drive And Trapline Drive Improvements, Drainage, And Surfacing Project In Fairview Road Service Area No. 14.

**AM 25-055** Approving The Fiscal Year 2026 Payment To The City Of Palmer In The Amount Of \$1,269,827.65 For The Fire Services Agreement.

**AM 25-056** Acceptance Of Late Filed And Retroactive Senior Citizen And Disabled Veteran Exemption Applications For The Period Of March And April 2025.

**AM 25-057** Award Of Bid No. 25-155B To Construction Machinery Industrial, LLC, For The Contract Amount Of \$1,163,390 To Purchase A Rough Terrain Cargo Crane.

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:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**RS 25-057** A Resolution Directing The Manager To Rebid The Road Maintenance Contract For Gold Trail Road Service Area No. 28.

**Sponsors:** Bernier and Fonov

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

**Assemblymember Gamble moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 25-057.**

**The motion failed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 2 - Assemblymember Fonov and Assemblymember Bernier

**No:** 4 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Gamble

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**Assemblymember Sumner moved to reconsider Resolution Serial No. 25-057.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**Assemblymember Sumner moved a primary amendment as followings:**

**\*In the title by insert the words "in the spring of 2026" to read: "directing the Manager to rebid the road maintenance contract for service area (RSA) 28, Gold Trail in the spring of 2026."; and**  
**\*in the therefore, be it resolved clause insert the words "in the spring of 2026" to read: "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT, RESOLVED, the Assembly directs the Manager to rebid the RSA 28 road maintenance contract in the spring of 2026."**

**Assemblymember Bernier moved a secondary amendment as follows:**

**\*In the title striking the words "road service area (RSA) 28, Gold Trail" and insert the words "all Raod Service Areas"**  
**\*in the therefore, be it resolved clause strike the words "the RSA 28 road maintenance contract" and insert the words "all of the road maintenance contracts" to read "the Assembly directs the Manager to rebid all of the road maintenance contracts in the spring of 2026."**

**Mayor DeVries ruled the secondary amendment out of order.**

**Assemblymember Hale called for the question (to stop debate)**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble,  
Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**The primary amendment passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble,  
Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**The main motion passed as amended by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble,  
Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**RS 25-058** A Resolution Directing The Manager To Rebid The Road Maintenance  
Contract For Meadow Lakes Road Service Area No. 27.

**Sponsors:** Bernier

**Assemblymember Gamble moved to adopt Resolution Serial No.  
25-058.**

**Assemblymember Sumner moved a primary amendment as  
followings:**

**\*In the title by insert the words "in the spring of 2026" to read:  
"directing the Manager to rebid the road maintenance contract  
for service area (RSA) 27, Meadow Lakes in the spring of 2026."; and**

**\*in the therefore, be it resolved clause insert the words "in the  
spring of 2026" to read: "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT,  
RESOLVED, the Assembly directs the Manager to rebid the RSA  
27 road maintenance contract in the spring of 2026."**

**The primary amendment passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble,  
Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**The main motion passed as amended by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble,  
Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**RS 25-059** A Resolution Directing The Manager To Rebid The Road Maintenance Contract For Bogard Road Service Area No. 25.

**Sponsors:** Fonov

**Assemblymember Gamble moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 25-059.**

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Assemblymember Sumner spoke to previously stating a conflict of interest as he has done business with a company that could be impacted by the legislation in the past, but noted he was not legally required to do so and asked to not be recused from voting on Resolution Serial No. 25-059 because Bogard Road Service Area No. 25 is partially within his district.

**RULING:** Mayor DeVries ruled that Assemblymember Sumner had no conflict of interest and would not be recused from voting.

**Assemblymember Sumner moved a primary amendment as followings:**

**\*In the title by insert the words "in the spring of 2026" to read: "directing the Manager to rebid the road maintenance contract for service area (RSA) 25, Bogard in the spring of 2026."; and**  
**\*in the therefore, be it resolved clause insert the words "in the spring of 2026" to read: "NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT, RESOLVED, the Assembly directs the Manager to rebid the RSA 25 road maintenance contract in the spring of 2026."**

**The primary amendment passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble,  
Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**The main motion passed as amended by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,  
Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble,  
Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**X. VETO**

**A. Motion to Override Any Possible Mayoral Veto On Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Items  
(Ordinance Serial No. 25-025)**

**OR 25-025** 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, 2025, And Ending June 30, 2026; And Setting The Surcharge Rate For The Wireline And Wireless Enhanced 911 Systems For The Period Of July 1, 2025, Through June 30, 2026.

There were no vetoes presented.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing 06/03/25 Assembly Chambers)**

**OR 25-044** An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$1,718,174.66 From The Enhanced 911 Fund Balance To A Project To Allow The City Of Wasilla To Obtain Reimbursement From The Enhanced 911 Surcharge Funding For A Vesta 911 Telephone System.  
RS 25-036: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For A Project To Allow The City Of Wasilla To Obtain Reimbursement From The Enhanced 911 Surcharge Funding For A Vesta 911 Telephone System.

**OR 25-046** An Ordinance Amending MSB 17.60, Conditional Uses, To Include Permit Requirements And Standards For Homeless Shelters.

**Sponsors:** Sumner and Gamble

**OR 25-054** An Ordinance Adopting MSB 15.24.030(B)(48) Bogard-Seldon Corridor Access Management Plan.

**OR 25-065** An Ordinance Approving Land Classification Of A Borough-Owned Property As Reserved Use Land For The Purpose Of An Emergency Services Facility In The Core Area.

**OR 25-067** An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$250,000 From The Enhanced 911 Fund Balance To A Project To Allow The Aerial Imagery Acquisition Program To Collect Data To Support 911 Call Taking And Addressing.  
RS 25-052: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For A Project To Allow The Aerial Imagery Acquisition Program To Collect Data To Support 911 Call Taking And Addressing.

**OR 25-069** An Ordinance Approving A Reappropriation Of \$75,000 From The Land And Resource Division 2025 Operating Budget To Project No. 47031.  
RS 25-053: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Material Site Development/Reclamation.

**OR 25-070** An Ordinance Extending The Time Of Completion On Expiring Community Transportation Grant Match Funds Through June 30, 2035.

**OR 25-071** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$25,000 From Revenue Replacement Funding For 2022 Windstorm Disaster Funding Shortfalls.  
RS 25-054: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For 2022 Windstorm Disaster Funding Shortfalls.

**OR 25-072** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$36,294.33 From Guardian Asset Management For Community Cleanup And Abatement Of Junk And Trash Issues.  
RS 25-055: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Amending The Budget For The Cleanup And Abatement Project.

## **B. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing 07/15/25 Assembly Chambers)**

**OR 25-061** An Ordinance Creating Yarrow Road Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 664, Approving The Improvement Plan For The District, Authorizing The Manager To Proceed With The Improvement, And Assessing Equally Among The Properties Within The District The Costs Of The Improvement.

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 June 3, 2025 and July 15, 2025.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

## **C. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

### **1. VACANCY REPORT**

**25-087** Mayoral Requests for Confirmation  
Agriculture Advisory Board  
Melissa Lytwyn  
Board of Ethics  
Genevieve Owens  
Planning Commission  
Brendan Carpenter

**Assemblymember Sumner moved to confirm the appointments requested by the Mayor.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

## **D. OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

There was no other new business.

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

**OR 25-073** An Ordinance Amending MSB 17.02 Mandatory Land Use Permit, MSB 17.55 - Setback And Screening Easements, MSB 17.65 Variances, MSB 17.80 Nonconforming Structures And MSB 17.125 Definitions.

**Sponsors:** Hale

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

**Assemblymember Hale moved to refer Ordinance Serial No. 25-073 to the Planning Commission and MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission for 120 days.**

**Assemblymember Sumner moved a primary amendment to refer Ordinance Serial No. 25-073 to the Parks, Recreation & Trails Advisory Board, Water and Wastewater Advisory Board, Transportation Advisory Board, and Agriculture Advisory Board for 90 days and then refer to the Planning Commission and MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission for the 120 days, in consecutive order.**

**Assemblymember Hale moved a secondary amendment to strike "120" and insert "90" for referral to the Planning Commission and MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission.**

**The secondary amendment passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Gamble

**No:** 2 - Assemblymember Fonov and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**Assemblymember Nowers moved a secondary amendment to strike "Water and Wastewater Advisory Board" from the referral list.**

**The secondary amendment failed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 2 - Assemblymember Nowers and Assemblymember Fonov

**No:** 4 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**Assemblymember Hale moved a secondary amendment to strike the word "consecutive" and insert the word "congruent".**

**The secondary amendment failed (tie vote).:**

**Yes:** 3 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, and Assemblymember Bernier

**No:** 3 - Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, and Assemblymember Fonov

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**The secondary amendment passed with Mayor DeVries exercising her voting rights and breaking the tie with an affirmative vote.**

**Assemblymember Fonov moved a secondary amendment to strike "90" and insert "120" for all boards.**

**The secondary amendment passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**The primary amendment passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**The main motion passed as amended by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

## **XII. RECONSIDERATION**

There were no reconsiderations.

## **XIII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS**

Assemblymember Hale spoke to the amendments made to Ordinance Serial No. 25-073.

Assemblymember Bernier spoke to Ordinance Serial No. 25-073, directed staff to rebid road maintenance contract for the next season, and said a prayer.

Assemblymember Nowers spoke to Ordinance Serial No. 25-073 and the actions taken during the meeting.

Mr. Brown spoke to his evaluation and Ordinance Serial No. 25-054.

Assemblymember Sumner directed the Manager to collect comments from Community Councils regarding Ordinance Serial No. 25-073.

Assemblymember Fonov thanked the public who came to testify from his district, spoke to Ordinance Serial No. 25-073.

Mayor DeVries thanked John Aschbrenner, Deputy Borough Attorney.

## **XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

## **XV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

# 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  
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 SPECIAL MEETING

4:00 PM

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025

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### Annual Evaluation of the Borough Attorney

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by Mayor Edna DeVries.

#### II. ROLL CALL

**Present:** 3 - Assemblymember Maxwell Sumner, Assemblymember Bill Gamble, and Assemblymember Dmitri Fonov

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember Dee McKee

**Telephonic:** 3 - Assemblymember Tim Hale, Assemblymember Stephanie Nowers, 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 Nicholas Spiropoulos, Borough Attorney.

#### V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three Minutes Per Person.)

There was no one present who wished to testify.

## **VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

### **A. 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 Attorney**

Mayor DeVries queried if Mr. Spiropoulos would like his evaluation in public or in executive session.

Mr. Spiropoulos stated that he would like to have his evaluation in private and introduced the Law Department's new summer legal intern, Raegan Visker.

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

**There was no objection noted and the Assembly entered into executive session at 4:05 p.m.**

**Assemblymember Hale entered during executive session at 4:15 pm.**

**Assemblymembers Nowers and Bernier entered during executive session at 5 p.m.**

**Assemblymember Gamble moved to exit executive session.**

**There was no objection noted and the Assembly exited executive session at 5:15 p.m.**

**Assemblymember Gamble moved to give the Attorney a two percent longevity increase and a four and one-half percent cost of living increase.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

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

Mayor DeVries noted that she appreciates the support of Mr. Spiropoulos and commented that he provides solid advice.

Assemblymember Sumner stated that Mr. Spiropoulos is the best municipal attorney he has ever met.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

# 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  
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, JUNE 3, 2025

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

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, 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:** 6 - Assemblymember Tim Hale, Assemblymember Stephanie Nowers, Assemblymember Maxwell Sumner, Assemblymember Bill Gamble, Assemblymember Dmitri Fonov, and Assemblymember Ron Bernier

**Telephonic:** 1 - Assemblymember Dee McKee

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

The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Nicholas Spiropoulos, Borough Attorney.

#### **V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS**

**25-091**

A. Assembly Regular Meeting Minutes: 05/06/25

B. Budget Deliberations Minutes: 05/08/25

C. Budget Deliberations Minutes: 05/13/25

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**

Crystal Nygard, Wasilla City Deputy Administrator, invited the body to groundbreaking ceremony for the coming of the newest hotel in the valley, Home2 Suites by Hilton, which will occur on June 4; and reported on the activities of the City.

#### **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 Committee On School Issues**

There was no report provided.

#### **2. Assembly Public Relations**

Mayor DeVries related that the Palmer Boys Soccer team won the state title for first time in 30 years. Noted that interestingly enough, that the current coach, Blake Livingston, was on that winning team 30 years ago as a player.

### **C. MANAGER COMMENTS**

#### **1. State/Federal Legislation**

#### **2. Strategic Planning Issues**

**25-099**

Fuel Excise Tax Proposal

Mike Brown, Borough Manager, reported on the fuel excise tax proposal.

### **3. Deshka Land Classification Presentation**

Mike Brown, Borough Manager reported that the Deshka Land Presentation has been postponed to August 5, when the presenter is available to attend in person.

### **D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

Mr. Spiropoulos thanked the body for his evaluation.

### **E. CLERK COMMENTS**

Ms. McKechnie spoke to the upcoming meeting schedule. Noted that she will be out of the office June 18 through June 25.

### **F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **25-094**

1. Abbreviated Plat: 05/14/25, 05/21/25
2. Board of Equalization: 05/20/25
3. Butte Community Council: 04/09/25
4. Central Mat-Su FSA Board of Supervisors: 04/14/25
5. Fairview RSA Board of Supervisors: 01/21/25
6. Willow RSA Board of Supervisors: 10/09/24, 02/12/25
7. Library Board: 03/14/23, 04/11/23, 05/09/23, 08/08/23, 09/12/23, 10/10/23, 04/08/25
8. Library Citizens' Advisory Committee: 03/10/25, 04/14/25
9. Local Road Service Area Advisory Board: 03/20/25
10. Midway RSA Board of Supervisors: 01/08/25
11. Planning Commission: 05/05/25, Resolution No. 25-04
12. South Knik River Community Council: 10/20/22, 11/17/22, 02/15/24, 04/18/24, 06/20/24, 10/17/24, 01/27/25, 02/20/25, 03/20/25, 04/17/25
13. Talkeetna Sewer And Water Board: 04/02/25
14. West Lakes FSA Board of Supervisors: 04/14/25
15. Willow Area Community Organization: 04/02/25

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

### **G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS**

- IM 25-132** Informing The Assembly Of A Grant Amendment For Time Extension Only To Be Presented To The Borough Manager For Signature, For Neklason Lake and Birch Creek Fish Passage Improvements.

**IM 25-134** Informing The Assembly Of The Intent Of Administration To Sign An Amendment To The Alaska State Forestry Grant To Extend The Time For The Borough Crew Of Sawyers To Construct Shaded Fuel Breaks On Borough-Owned Land.

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 person reported on the activities of the Willow Library and spoke to the importance of libraries to their communities: Miriam Charles, Melinda Drake, Jeannie Troshynski.

The following person spoke to property that is located near the Wolf Lake Airport that would be perfect for a community park and requested that the Assembly direct the Manager to look at the feasibility of developing it as such: Rod Hanson, North Lakes Community Council.

The following person spoke to concerns with restrictions on development on private property and opined that the Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge should be turned into agriculture land: Travis Friesen.

The following person spoke to concerns with vacancies on the Library Board and the Library Citizen's Advisory Board: Mary Robinson.

The following person opined that voting precincts should not be located at schools: Tom Roberson.

The following person spoke to concerns with pornographic books in Borough libraries: Jackie Goforth

The following person spoke in opposition to Ordinance Serial No. 25-076 regarding the proposed excise fuel tax and in support of Ordinance Serial No. 25-046 regarding homeless shelters: Michael Bowles.

The following person spoke in opposition of banning books: Helen Vincent.

The following person related that he developed an addiction to pornography that started with a cover on Sports Illustrated and spoke to the need to keep racy magazine covers out of the reach of children: Arty Fonov.

The following persons spoke in support of Borough Libraries: Ruth Wood, John Strasenbourg, and Andrew Drake.

**B. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three Minutes Per Person.)**

**OR 25-044** An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$1,718,174.66 From The Enhanced 911 Fund Balance To A Project To Allow The City Of Wasilla To Obtain Reimbursement From The Enhanced 911 Surcharge Funding For A Vesta 911 Telephone System.  
RS 25-036: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For A Project To Allow The City Of Wasilla To Obtain Reimbursement From The Enhanced 911 Surcharge Funding For A Vesta 911 Telephone System.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Mike Brown, Borough Manager, 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. 25-044 and Resolution Serial No. 25-036.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

**OR 25-046** An Ordinance Amending MSB 17.60, Conditional Uses, To Include Permit Requirements And Standards For Homeless Shelters.

**Sponsors:** Sumner and Gamble

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.

The following person spoke in support of Ordinance Serial No. 25-046:  
Rod Hanson.

The following person noted that homeless shelters do not work and that what does work is having exit strategies that include work and other opportunities. Related that having fences around drug and alcohol rehabilitation facilities contribute to the stigma surrounding getting sober: Michelle Overstreet, Chief Executive Officer of My House.

(Assemblymember McKee lost phone connection and was not telephonic.)

The following person opined that wherever homeless shelters are, there is always trouble: Jackie Goforth.

**Assemblymember Sumner moved a primary amendment to Ordinance Serial No. 25-046, as follows:**

**\* MSB 17.60.125(B)(2)(a)(iv), by inserting the word "retail" at the beginning of the sentence, to read: "retail uses regulated under MSB 17.70.020; and**

**\* MSB 1.60.125(B), by inserting the following: "(11) Runoff mitigation measures shall comply with the drainage plan and standards outlined in MSB 17.73, Multifamily Development Design Standards."**

**(Assemblymember McKee rejoined the meeting telephonically.)**

**The primary amendment passed by the following vote:**

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

**Assemblymember Gamble moved a primary amendment to Ordinance Serial No. 25-046, as follows:**

**\* Section 2. by inserting the following definition: "Outpatient opioid treatment facility" means a healthcare facility whose primary service is providing outpatient medication-assisted treatment for individuals with opioid use disorder;"**

**\* Section 3. Subsection (A) by inserting the following language: "(7) outpatient opioid treatment facility;"**

**\* Section 4. Amend section (d) by inserting the words "or outpatient opioid treatment facility" after the words "homeless shelter" to read: "Upon acceptance of a complete application for a homeless shelter or outpatient opioid treatment facility conditional use permit, the department shall notify surrounding property owners in accordance with MSB 17.03 Public Notification, except that the notification area shall be one-half mile from the exterior of the boundary of the property that is the subject of the application;"**

**\* Section 5. MSB 17.60.125, Standards for Homeless Shelters, by inserting the words "and outpatient opioid treatment facilities" to read: Standards for Homeless Shelters and Outpatient Opioid Treatment Facilities;"**

**\*Section 5. Subsection (B), by amending paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 as follows:**

**\*(B)(1) and (2) by striking "Homeless Shelter" and inserting "conditional use" in its place.**

**\*(B)(2)(A) by inserting the words "and outpatient opioid treatment facilities" after the words "Homeless shelters" to read: "2) At the time the permit is issued, the conditional use shall meet the following requirements:**

**(a) Homeless shelters and outpatient opioid treatment facilities shall not be located within one thousand feet of:**

**(i) school grounds;**

**(ii) recreation or youth centers;**

**(iii) childcare facilities; and**

**(iv) uses regulated under MSB 17.70.020;"**

**\*(B)(2)(b), by striking the words "Homeless Shelters" and inserting "conditional use it its place;**

**\* (B)(3) by striking the words "Homeless Shelters" and inserting "The conditional use" in its place;**

**\*(B)(4) by inserting the words "and outpatient opioid treatment facilities" after the words "homeless shelters" to read: (4) The minimum number of parking spaces for homeless shelters and outpatient opioid treatment facilities shall be one**

space per 350 square feet of net floor area. Each parking space shall be at least: 20 feet in length, ten feet wide, and have a vertical clearance of at least seven feet. Parking spaces shall be provided to comply with current Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines;" and

\*(B)(6), by striking the words "Homeless Shelter" and inserting "conditional use" in its place to read: "The homeless shelter shall be screened by a continuous solid fence to reduce negative effects on adjacent properties."

Assemblymember Gamble moved a secondary amendment by striking from the amendment "(B)(6), by striking the words "Homeless Shelter" and inserting "conditional use" in its place to read: "The homeless shelter shall be screened by a continuous solid fence to reduce negative effects on adjacent properties" from the primary amendment and be left in the ordinance.

**The secondary amendment passed by the following vote:**

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

**The primary amendment passed as amended by the following vote:**

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

**No:** 1 - Assemblymember Hale

**Assemblymember Nowers moved a primary amendment to Ordinance Serial No. 25-046, by striking MSB 17.60.125(B)(5) in its entirety and inserting the following in its place: "(5) The applicant shall provide a written operational plan detailing security, maintenance and neighborhood coordination strategies. The plan shall include, at a minimum, the following elements:**

**(a) A security plan that includes education for employees on security and the provision of on-site or on-call security personnel during all hours of operation.**

**(b) Clear internal and external rules for client and visitor conduct, including behavioral expectations and consequences for violations.**

**(c) Strategies for managing client or visitor loitering to avoid disruption to nearby properties, including signage, staff presence, or other proactive measures.**

**(d) Posting of visible, outdoor signage on the facility property that summarizes conduct expectations for clients and visitors, including a prohibition on loud gatherings, littering, and trespassing.**

**(e) Designation of a staff member as the facility's community contact, responsible for addressing neighborhood concerns. The liaison's name and contact information shall be provided to the Borough and made publicly visible on signage located near the main facility entrance.**

**(f) A maintenance and trash management plan ensuring that the facility grounds and adjacent areas are regularly cleaned and maintained to protect the quality and appearance of the surrounding neighborhood."**

**The primary amendment passed by the following vote:**

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

**Assemblymember Nowers moved a primary amendment to Ordinance Serial No. 25-046, MSB 17.60.125, by inserting the following: "(D) Expiration of Conditional Use Permit. (1) A conditional use permit issued under this section shall expire 10 years from the date of issuance. (2) Continuation of the use beyond the expiration date shall require submission and approval of a new conditional use permit application in accordance with this chapter.(3) The Planning Department shall notify the permit holder in writing no later than 12 months prior to the permit expiration date to inform them of the upcoming expiration and application requirements."**

**Assemblymember Fonov moved a secondary amendment by striking "10 years" and inserting " 7 years" in its place.**

**The secondary amendment failed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 1 - Assemblymember Fonov

**No:** 6 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, and Assemblymember Bernier

**The primary amendment passed as amended by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**No:** 2 - Assemblymember Hale, and Assemblymember McKee

**Assemblymember Sumner moved a primary amendment to Ordinance Serial No. 25-046, MSB 17.60.125, by striking all references to earthen berms in:**

**\*MSB 17.60.125(A)(6);**

**\*MSB 17.60.125(A)(6)(d) in its entirety; and**

**\*MSB 17.60.125(C)(2)(b) in its entirety.**

**The primary amendment passed by the following vote:**

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

**The main motion passed as amended by the following vote:**

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

The meeting recessed at 7:53 p.m. and reconvened at 8:07 p.m.

**OR 25-054** An Ordinance Adopting MSB 15.24.030(B)(48) Bogard-Seldon Corridor Access Management Plan.

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.

The following person spoke to concerns with the proposed access at East Porcupine Trail: Renee Blake.

The following person spoke in support of a majority of the plan and to concerns that some portions are under designed: Rod Hanson.

The following person spoke to concerns with the plan proposing to move access to his storage facility and requested that it be allowed to stay where it is: Arty Fonov.

The following person spoke in support of Ordinance Serial No. 25-054: Adam Bradway, Transportation Planner with the state of Alaska.

The following person spoke in opposition to proposed Segment D on page 41 of the proposed plan: Anthony Rotelli.

The following person opined that the proposed plan is more than just a plan, opined that it is a mistake to move private driveways: Jake Laughlin.

The following person spoke to concerns that the proposed plan is under designed in the East Serendipity Loop area: Kristina Rathbun.

**Assemblymember Fonov moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 25-054.**

**Assemblymember Fonov moved a primary amendment to Ordinance Serial No. 25-054, as follows:**

**• Segment C.**

**1. By striking the following language from Section 4.4.4.10, page 30: Cul-de-sac East Ashmore Avenue connection to East Bogard Road. Access to be maintained via Ashmore Avenue and North Green Forest Drive;**

**2. By striking map symbols (figure 4, page 33) for Cul-de-sac at East Ashmore Avenue (Section 4.4.4.10, page 30). Insert**

closure symbol on the map for the closure of the current entrance to the Finger Lakes State Park road (figure 4, page 33);

3. Insert map symbols (figure 5, page 35) to indicate new roadway connection from East Birch Acres to North Bear Street and North Grayling Street, from East Birch to East Chinook.

4. Strike the following language from Section 4.4.4.7:

\* Improve East Pike Avenue and East King Salmon Drive to meet Borough road standards from North Bear Street to North Lois Way. (a) Challenges improving East Pike Avenue to East King Salmon Drive may arise due to nonconforming parcels in this subdivision; and

\* map symbols for road connection/improvement from East King Salmon Drive to East Pike Avenue (figure 5, page 35).

• Segment D.

1. Striking the recommendation and map symbols for Tax ID. 75920001001, driveway access realignment with Tait Drive (section 4.5.4.5, page 38)

• Segment E.

1. Striking the following:

\* language from section 4.6.4.2, page 44, North Jacksnipe Drive: Access to/from Seldon is maintained off East Schrock Road;

\* map symbols (figure 7 page 47) for cul-de-sac of Jacksnipe Drive.

2. Striking the following language from section 4.6.4.2, page 45:

\* North Old Squaw Loop: (a) access to/from Old Squaw Loop will be maintained via new roadway connection between North Old Squaw Loop and Pintail Drive.

\* Roadway connections connect East Pintail Drive to North Old Squaw Loop. Proposed alignment will be determined during the environmental and design phase of the project;

\* Striking map symbols (figure 7, page 47) for cul-de-sac at Old Squaw Loop.

3. Striking the following language from Section (4.6.4.6, page 45)

\* Preferred alignment – realign North Snow Goose Drive to align with North Hematite Drive. This will require grading to reduce the hill to provide adequate intersection sight distance

**on East Seldon Road. This will impact four parcels in the northwest quadrant of North Snow Goose Drive;**

**\* striking the first “alternative option” and inserting in its place, preferred alignment – realign North Hematite Drive to align with the existing Snow Goose Drive intersection;**

**\* Striking the sentence, This will impact two parcels in the southeast quadrant of Hematite Drive.**

**\* Striking map symbols (figure 7, page 47) and inserting in its place the new preferred realignment of North Hematite Drive with North Snow Goose Drive.**

**• Segment F.**

**1. Striking the following from section 4.7.4.3, page 51:**

**\* Roadway Realignment. To further improve unsignalized intersection spacing, North Eureka Circle should be realigned to the west to align with Mountain Crest Drive. This will impact two parcels.**

**\* Striking map symbols (figure 8, page 53) for realignment of North Eureka Circle with Mountain Crest Drive.**

**Assemblymember Nowers moved to divide the question to take up Segment D. separately.**

**Assemblymember Sumner moved to postpone Ordinance Serial No. 25-054 to June 17, 2025.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

**OR 25-065** An Ordinance Approving Land Classification Of A Borough-Owned Property As Reserved Use Land For The Purpose Of An Emergency Services Facility In The Core Area.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Ken Barkley, Emergency Service 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 Fonov moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 25-065.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

**OR 25-067** An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$250,000 From The Enhanced 911 Fund Balance To A Project To Allow The Aerial Imagery Acquisition Program To Collect Data To Support 911 Call Taking And Addressing.

RS 25-052: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For A Project To Allow The Aerial Imagery Acquisition Program To Collect Data To Support 911 Call Taking And Addressing.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Leah Jones, Information and Technology 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 Bernier moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 25-067 and Resolution Serial No. 25-052.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

**OR 25-069** An Ordinance Approving A Reappropriation Of \$75,000 From The Land And Resource Division 2025 Operating Budget To Project No. 47031.  
RS 25-053: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Material Site Development/Reclamation.  
Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Emerson Krueger, Resource Manager, 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 Bernier moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 25-069 and Resolution Serial No. 25-053.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

**OR 25-070** An Ordinance Extending The Time Of Completion On Expiring Community Transportation Grant Match Funds Through June 30, 2035.  
Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Cheyenne Heindel, Finance 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 Bernier moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 25-070.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

**OR 25-071** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$25,000 From Revenue Replacement Funding For 2022 Windstorm Disaster Funding Shortfalls.  
RS 25-054: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For 2022 Windstorm Disaster Funding Shortfalls.  
Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Cheyenne Heindel, Finance 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 Bernier moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 25-071 and Resolution Serial No. 25-054.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

**OR 25-072** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$36,294.33 From Guardian Asset Management For Community Cleanup And Abatement Of Junk And Trash Issues.  
RS 25-055: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Amending The Budget For The Cleanup And Abatement Project.  
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.

The following person thanked the Borough for their community cleanup efforts and spoke in support of Ordinance Serial No. 25-072.

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. 25-072 and Resolution Serial No. 25-055.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Hale, 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.)**

The following person invited the body to the annual Mat-Su Health Foundation board meeting.

**D. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. RESOLUTIONS**

**2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS**

**AM 25-058** Award Of Bid No. 25-160B To Valley General Construction, LLC. In The Contract Amount Of \$678,971 For North Helen Lane Reconstruction.

**AM 25-059** Award Of Proposal No. 25-140P To PND Engineers, Inc. In The Contract Amount Of \$264,572 To Design A Bridge Replacement On Bradley Road.

**AM 25-060** Approval Of Change Order No. 1 For Contract No. 24-114B With Ahtna Construction And Primary Products Company, LLC. For The Lakes Boulevard Upgrade Project; And To Extend The Final Completion Date To September 30, 2025.

**AM 25-062** Authorizing The Manager To Sign A Grant Application With The Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund For Fish Passage Culvert Replacements At 49th State Street And Tern Drive At The Wasilla Creek Tributary; And Authorizing Submittal For The Application. 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 Hale, Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Sumner, Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and Assemblymember Bernier

**RS 25-061** Authorization to Reduce The Use Fees Of The Alcantra Fields By 50 Percent For The Alaska Polar Fastpitch Softball Group.

**Sponsors:** Fonov

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

**Assemblymember McKee moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 25-061.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

## **VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**OR 25-059** An Ordinance Amending MSB 4.80, Agriculture Advisory Board, To Remove Term Limits For The Board.

**Sponsors:** Sumner

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

**MOTION PENDING: Assemblymember Sumner moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 25-059.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

## **IX. VETO**

There were no vetoes.

## **X. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing 06/17/25, Assembly Chambers)**

**OR 25-042** An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$739,703 From The Enhanced 911 Fund Balance To A Project To Allow The City Of Palmer To Obtain Reimbursement From The Enhanced 911 Surcharge Funding For A VESTA 911 Telephone System.  
RS 25-035: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For A Project To Allow The City Of Palmer To Obtain Reimbursement From The Enhanced 911 Surcharge Funding For A VESTA 911 Telephone System.

**OR 25-050** An Ordinance Modifying The Intent, Notification, And Appeal Process For MSB 17.05, Essential Service Utilities.

**Sponsors:** Hale and Gamble

**OR 25-074** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$19,618.11 Of Revenues From Fiscal Year 2025 Public Donations To The Animal Care And Regulation Capital Projects Budget For Animal Care Outdoor Facility Upgrades.  
RS 25-060: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Animal Care Outdoor Facility Upgrades Project.

**OR 25-075** An Ordinance Appropriating Road Service Area Operating Funds To Each Road Service Area's Capital Project Fund.

**B. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing 07/15/25, Assembly Chambers)**

**OR 25-076** An Ordinance Enacting MSB 3.80, Areawide Fuel Excise Tax, In The Amount Of Seven Cents Per Gallon.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

**Assemblymember Bernier moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk and to set the public hearings for June 17, 2025, and July 15, 2025, respectively.**

**The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

**C. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

**1. VACANCY REPORT**

**25-096** Mayoral Requests for Confirmation  
Historical Preservation Commission  
Sue Deyoe  
Karla McBride  
Joint Assembly/School Board Committee on School District Funding Issues  
Maxwell Sumner  
Joint Assembly/School Board Committee on School Issues  
Maxwell Sumner, resignation  
Library Citizens' Advisory Committee  
Bruce Owens  
Midway RSA No. 9  
Tammy Schmidt

**Assemblymember Bernier 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 Sumner,  
Assemblymember Gamble, Assemblymember Fonov, and  
Assemblymember Bernier

**D. OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

There was no other new business.

**E. 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.

## **XII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS**

Mr. Spiropoulos wished everyone a good night.

Assemblymember Bernier spoke to there being a new local restaurant named Burnt Toast. Said a prayer.

Assemblymember Nowers congratulated Mr. Spiropoulos for a successful evaluation. Spoke to her gratitude for the discussion during the meeting. Stated that she is grateful the body supported eliminating terms for the Agriculture Advisory Board. Stated that she is glad that the body supported the homeless shelter legislation. Noted that her amendments to the Bogard Corridor Access Management Plan being areas on map that were not marked so that they would be. Spoke to her pleasure that the community stepped up to assist them. Noted how encouraged she was to see the community rally around them, which reminded her of what a great place the valley is. Spoke to her concerns that the Federal Government is closing down the Job Corp Center. Noted the many resources it provides for students and that she is sad to see it closing. Related that the center will be shuttered by end of June.

Mr. Brown congratulated the Mat-Su Sentinel on its one-year anniversary. Requested that the Assembly send folks his way so he can address excise fuel tax questions. Added that if the Assembly has any questions that he would be happy to address those as well.

Ms. McKechnie noted that she wanted to address public comments schools should not be precincts due to felons possibly being in schools. Advised that schools are closed on Election Day. Further advised that there are not enough fire departments to be precincts and that the State of Alaska designates precinct locations. Stated that felons have to be unconditionally discharged to be eligible to vote.

Assemblymember Sumner thanked the body for supporting the homeless shelter legislation. Thanked Alex Straw and Mark Whisenhunt for their assistance. Advised that he intends to work with them to see how it would be possible to address the issues that lead to homelessness. Opined that affordable housing should not be such a difficult topic and noted that there still needs to be a way to ensure it is properly developed.

Assemblymember Gamble thanked Alex Strawn and Mark Whisenhunt for their assistance in drafting the homeless legislation.

Assemblymember Fonov stated that he wants the Manager to look into the feasibility of acquiring the parcel and developing it into a community park

as requested by the North Lakes Community Council.

Mayor DeVries queried if there was any objection to Assemblymember Fonov's request.

Assemblymember Sumner noted that he was at the meeting with the state of Alaska at which the North Lakes Community Council outlined the park request. Stated that he fully supports Assemblymember Fonov's request of the Manager.

There was no objection noted.

Assemblymember Mckee apologized for interruptions during the meeting. Spoke to her pleasure at seeing residents testifying in support of libraries. Spoke to a community survey that was put out by Jillian Morrissey, Community Development Director, asking the community if they support banning pornographic books.

### **XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.