

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

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

BOROUGH MAYOR
Vern Halter

BOROUGH CLERK
Lonnie R. McKechnie, CMC

BOROUGH MANAGER
John Moosey

BOROUGH ATTORNEY
Nicholas Spiropoulos



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

MEETING MINUTES

TALKEETNA LIBRARY
24645 TALKEETNA SPUR ROAD
TALKEETNA, AK

ASSEMBLY SPECIAL MEETING

11:00 AM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Friday, January 12, 2018, at the Talkeetna Library, 24645 Talkeetna Spur Road, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by Mayor Vern Halter.

[Clerk's Note: Due to technical difficulties, the audio of the meeting may be difficult to hear.]

II. ROLL CALL

Present 4 - Assemblymember Jim Sykes, Assemblymember Matthew Beck, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, and Assemblymember Randall Kowalke

Excused 3 - Assemblymember George McKee, Assemblymember Ted Leonard, and Assemblymember Barbara J. Doty

[Clerk's note: Assemblymember Doty arrived at 11:25 a.m.]

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

The agenda was approved as presented by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

Excused: 3 - Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, and Assemblymember Doty

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Vern Rachenstein, a member of the audience.

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was no one present who wished to testify.

VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Financial Overview And Discussion Of The Fiscal Year 2019 Budget

Mr. Moosey spoke to the having attended the ground breaking ceremony for the Talkeetna Library. Spoke to the beauty of the building. Thanked his staff for being in attendance. Stated that should the body have any questions that staff is prepared to answer them.

Mr. Justin Ainsworth, Executive Director of the Office of Instruction for the School District, provided an overview of the School District's finances.

Mr. Moosey provided an overview of the Borough's finances and projected fiscal year 2019 budget.

The meeting recessed at 12:30 p.m. and reconvened at 12:50 p.m.

VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENT

Assemblymember Mayfield spoke to the need to diversify the Borough's tax base. Stated that he is looking forward to finding a way to lessen the load on property tax payers.

Assemblymember Beck spoke in support of the Manager's budget. Opined that it is always presented appropriately. Opined that the Borough needs to consider putting a road bond package on the ballot this year. Spoke to concerns with substandard road development. Stated that he values the partnerships that Mr. Moosey has worked to develop in the community.

Assemblymember Sykes stated that he enjoyed the information that was presented at the meeting as he found it very helpful.

Assemblymember Doty spoke in support of creating a U-Med District. Advised that there are currently no skilled nursing beds in the Borough. Stated that a U-Med District would attract more business, which would be beneficial to the Borough.

Mayor Halter spoke to the libraries that have been built in the Borough the last few years with grant money from the Rasmuson Foundation. Spoke to other facilities that the Borough has built over the last year. Noted that every time the Borough has managed a road improvement project for the state that it has turned out well. Noted that the State Delegation would be entering session soon. Related that he is hopeful that they will manage to stick to a 90-day session and accomplish the work of the people, as it is difficult for municipalities to develop their budgets when it is unknown what the State will do. Spoke to the legislation he has requested regarding the rewrite of the school funding formula. Expressed concerns with revenue sharing from the State. Requested that the Transportation Advisory Board be present at the March 27, Joint Assembly/Planning Commission Meeting as the Assembly will be having a road bond discussion.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:44 p.m.



Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

January 12, 2018, Regular Meeting Minutes (3 pages)


VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 02/06/18