

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
Michael Bowles, 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

ASSEMBLY AGENDA

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS

350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

ASSEMBLY REGULAR MEETING

6:00 PM

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026

WAYS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ASSEMBLY MEETING IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND IN PERSON:

IN WRITING:

- * You can submit written comments to leg.com@matsugov.us

TELEPHONIC TESTIMONY:

- * Dial 1-855-225-2326
- * You will hear "Joining conference" when you are admitted to the meeting.
- * You will be automatically muted and able to listen to the meeting.
- * When the Mayor announces audience participation or a public hearing you would like to speak to, press *3; you will hear "Your hand has been raised."
- * When it is your turn to testify you will hear "Your line has been unmuted."
- * State your name for the record, spell your last name, and provide your testimony.

OBSERVE: observe the meeting via the live stream video at:

- * <https://matanuska.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>
- * <https://www.facebook.com/MatSuBorough>
- * Matanuska-Susitna Borough - YouTube

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

[26-076](#) Mayoral Proclamation Honoring the Northern Knights Robotic Team

Attachments: [05/19/26 - Proclamation](#)

VI. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

- [26-079](#)
- A. Assembly Regular Meeting Minutes: 04/07/26
 - B. Assembly Departmental Budget Presentation Minutes: 04/09/26
 - C. Assembly Regular Meeting Minutes: 04/21/26
 - D. Assembly Budget Public Hearing Minutes: 04/23/26
 - E. Assembly Budget Public Hearing Minutes: 04/28/26
 - F. Assembly Budget Public Hearing Minutes: 04/30/26

Attachments: [05/19/26 - Minutes for Packet](#)

VII. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

A. AGENCY REPORTS (MSB 2.12.082; Seven minutes per person)

- 1. Reports From Cities**
- 2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District**
- 3. State of Alaska**

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. Joint Assembly/School Board Committees**
- 2. Assembly Public Relations**

C. MANAGER COMMENTS

- 1. State/Federal Legislation**
- 2. Strategic Planning Issues**

D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

E. CLERK COMMENTS

F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

- [26-080](#)
1. Caswell Lakes RSA Board of Supervisors: 04/09/25, 06/09/25
 2. Fishhook Community Council: 10/23/25, Resolution No. 26-01
 3. Glacier View Community Council: 03/26/26
 4. Knik RSA Board of Supervisors: 04/07/26
 5. Lazy Mountain RSA Board of Supervisors: 02/05/26, 05/07/26
 6. Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Board: 03/23/26
 7. Planning Commission: 04/20/26
 8. Talkeetna Community Council: 03/02/26, 04/06/26
 9. Tanaina Community Council: 03/23/26

Attachments: [05/19/26 - Citizen and Other Correspondence](#)

G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS

[IM 26-098](#) Reporting The Conclusion Of Contract For Bid No. 24-144B With Nodak Electric And Construction, Inc. For A Final Contract Amount Of \$344,200 For The Supply And Install Of Generators For Emergency Services.

Attachments: [IM 26-098](#)

[IM 26-104](#) Reporting The Conclusion Of Contract For Bid No. 24-157B With Orion Construction, Inc. For A Final Contract Amount Of \$1,072,202.93 For The Animal Care And Regulation 2023 Upgrades To The Animal Care Facility.

Attachments: [IM 26-104](#)

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.)

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three Minutes Per Person.)

[OR 26-041](#) An Ordinance Creating Republican Way Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 672, 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.

Attachments: [OR 26-041](#)

[IM 26-065](#)

[OR 26-050](#) An Ordinance Approving A Less Than Fair Market Value Sale Of Nine Borough-Owned Properties To The Alaska State Department Of Transportation And Public Facilities For A Public Purpose.

Attachments: [OR 26-050](#)
[IM 26-081](#)

[OR 26-051](#) An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$338,000 From The United States Department Of Military And Veterans' Affairs, Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Management, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.
RS 26-038: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget And Authorizing The Manager To Enter Into An Agreement For The Sushana Drive Drainage Improvement Phase 1.

Attachments: [OR 26-051](#)
[RS 26-038](#)
[IM 26-084](#)

[OR 26-052](#) An Ordinance Approving Land Classification Of Three Borough-Owned Properties In The Big Lake Area As Reserved Use Lands, Resource Management Lands, And General Purpose Lands.

Attachments: [OR 26-052](#)
[IM 26-085](#)

[OR 26-053](#) An Ordinance Extending The Date Of Completion Of The Brett Ice Arena Digital Sign Display Project Through June 30, 2027.
RS 26-040: A Resolution Amending The Scope Of Work And Retitling The Brett Ice Arena Digital Sign Display Project.

Attachments: [OR 26-053](#)
[RS 26-040](#)
[IM 26-087](#)

[OR 26-056](#) An Ordinance Establishing The Board For Advisory Review Of Kennel Standards ("BARKS") As An Advisory Board To Review And Make Recommendations Regarding Kennel Licensing And Enforcement.

Sponsors: Sumner, Fonov and Bernier

Attachments: [OR 26-056](#)
[IM 26-094](#)

C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (You can speak under one of the audience participations on the agenda, but not both; Three Minutes Per Person.)

D. CONSENT AGENDA

1. RESOLUTIONS

[RS 26-034](#) A Resolution To Waive The \$500 Application Fee For The Nonprofit Wasilla-Knik Historical Society And To Inform The Assembly Of The Borough's Intent To Enter Into A New Management Agreement For A Five-Year Term To Use And Manage Borough-Owned Land And Buildings, Including The Knik Museum And The Bjorn Cabin, Located Within Section 24, Township 16 North, Range 3 West.

Attachments: [RS 26-034](#)
[IM 26-076](#)

[RS 26-041](#) A Resolution Waiving All Application And Land Use Permit Fees For The Alaska State Department Of Fish And Game's Use Of Borough Land For Resource Monitoring And Management Activities.

Attachments: [RS 26-041](#)
[IM 26-088](#)

[RS 26-050](#) A Resolution Amending The Budget For Birchtree Charter School And Approving The Budget For American Charter Academy To Address Unforeseen Conditions, Infrastructure Needs, And Resulting Cost Impacts During Construction.

Attachments: [RS 26-050](#)
[IM 26-105](#)

[RS 26-051](#) A Resolution Encouraging Property Maintenance, Community Cleanliness, And The Preservation Of Individual Freedom Of Choice Regarding The Use Of Outdoor Yard Power Tools, Including Leaf Blowers.

Sponsors: Sumner

Attachments: [RS 26-051](#)
[IM 26-107](#)

2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS

[AM 26-050](#) Approval Of An Extension Of The Final Completion Date To June 30, 2027, For Contract No. 22-090P(A) With CRW Engineering Group, LLC For The Tex-Al Drive Extension Upgrade And Pathway Project.

Attachments: [AM 26-050](#)

[AM 26-055](#) Approval Of Change Order No. 3 For Contract No. 22-055P With Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. For The Seldon Extension Phase II Right-Of-Way Acquisition Map Completion To Extend The Contract To June 30, 2027.

Attachments: [AM 26-055](#)

[AM 26-056](#) Approving The Fiscal Year 2027 Payment To The City Of Palmer In The Amount Of \$1,395,571.64 For The Fire Services Agreement.

Attachments: [AM 26-056](#)

[AM 26-057](#) Acceptance Of Late Filed And Retroactive Senior Citizen And Disabled Veteran Tax Exemption Applications For The Period Of March And April 2026.

Attachments: [AM 26-057](#)

[AM 26-058](#) Approval Of Contract Amendment No. 2 For Contract No. 26-017C With Wolf Architecture Inc. For American Charter Academy Construction Administration Services To Add \$25,541 For Additional Design Services Related To On-Site Traffic Improvements.

Attachments: [AM 26-058](#)

[AM 26-059](#) Award Of Bid No. 26-127B To Granite Construction Company In The Amount Of \$1,527,531.50 To Construct The Compost And Tire Area Improvements At The Central Landfill.

Attachments: [AM 26-059](#)

[AM 26-060](#) Approval Of Contract Extension For Contract No. 24-060P With RESPEC, Inc. Adding \$9,920 For Continued Construction Administration Services To Design Central Landfill Entrance Improvements Phase I; And Extending The Contract Completion Date To June 30, 2026.

Attachments: [AM 26-060](#)

[AM 26-061](#) Approval Of Change Order No. 3 For The E-911 And Dispatch Services Agreement No. 16-100P Increasing The Annual Cost By \$569,600 In Fiscal Year 2027 For Two Additional Dispatchers And Two Additional Call Takers.

Attachments: [AM 26-061](#)

[AM 26-062](#) Authorizing A Purchase from FERNO In The Amount Of \$868,372.76 Of Power X-2 Ambulance Stretcher Platforms With Pro F1 Mounting Systems.

Attachments: [AM 26-062](#)

[AM 26-063](#) Award Of Bid No 26-167C To Braun Northwest Inc. In The Anticipated Cost Not To Exceed \$506,000 To Remount And Refurbish Two Ambulances.

Attachments: [AM 26-063](#)

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. VETO

A. Motion to Override Any Possible Mayoral Veto on Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Items (Ordinance Serial No. 26-026)

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing 06/02/26, Assembly Chambers)

[OR 26-021](#) An Ordinance Repealing A General Standard Of MSB 17.30, Conditional Use Permit For Earth Materials Extraction Activities.

Sponsors: Sumner

Attachments: [OR 26-021](#)
[IM 26-030](#)

- [OR 26-054](#) An Ordinance Extending The Completion Date For The Steam Thaw Truck Project Funding To June 30, 2028.
RS 26-044: A Resolution Amending The Budget For The Thaw Truck, Cold Planer, Pickup Truck Purchase; And Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Road And Pathway Sustainment Project.
- Attachments:** [OR 26-054](#)
[RS 26-044](#)
[IM 26-091](#)
- [OR 26-055](#) An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$37,700 Received From The Surplus Sale Of Road Service Area Equipment For The Road And Pathway Sustainment Project.
RS 26-045: A Resolution Amending The Budget For The Road And Pathway Sustainment Project.
- Attachments:** [OR 26-055](#)
[RS 26-045](#)
[IM 26-093](#)
- [OR 26-057](#) An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$75,000 From The Alaska State Department Of Transportation And Public Facilities For West Susitna Parkway Improvements.
RS 26-046: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For West Susitna Parkway Improvements.
- Attachments:** [OR 26-057](#)
[RS 26-046](#)
[IM 26-095](#)
- [OR 26-060](#) An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$523.73 From The United States Fish And Wildlife Service And \$583.74 From The Alaska State Department Of Fish And Game, Passed Through The Palmer Soil And Water Conservation District For A Total Of \$1,107.47.
RS 26-047: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget; And Authorizing The Manager To Enter Into An Agreement For The Caswell Creek/Caswell Lake Streambank Rehabilitation Project.
- Attachments:** [OR 26-060](#)
[RS 26-047](#)
[IM 26-099](#)

[OR 26-061](#) An Ordinance Increasing The Marijuana Sales Tax Levy From 5 Percent To 10 Percent; And To Submit The Question To The Qualified Areawide Voters At The November 3, 2026, Regular Borough Election.

Sponsors: Bernier

Attachments: [OR 26-061](#)
[IM 26-100](#)

[OR 26-062](#) An Ordinance Levying A Tax Up To 10 Percent On The Sale Of Alcoholic Beverages; And To Submit The Question To The Qualified Areawide Voters At The November 3, 2026, Regular Borough Election.

Sponsors: Bernier

Attachments: [OR 26-062](#)
[IM 26-101](#)

[OR 26-063](#) An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating A Grant In The Amount Of \$44,000 From The Alaska State Department Of Health And Social Services For A Project For The Continued Management Of Points Of Dispensing Sites That Will Be Used To Distribute Medicines Or Vaccines To Residents And Visitors In Our Area In The Event Of An Incident That Requires Large Numbers Of People To Receive Preventive Medicines And Medications.
RS 26-048: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For A Grant In The Amount Of \$44,000 From The Alaska State Department Of Health And Social Services, For The Continued Management Of Points Of Dispensing Sites Project.

Attachments: [OR 26-063](#)
[RS 26-048](#)
[IM 26-102](#)

[OR 26-064](#) An Ordinance Reappropriating \$10,000 From The 2023 Fiscal Year Areawide Budget Appropriation To Fish Passage Improvements For The Cottonwood Creek Pike Barrier Project.
RS 26-049: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Cottonwood Creek Pike Barrier Project.

Attachments: [OR 26-064](#)
[RS 26-049](#)
[IM 26-103](#)

B. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing 06/16/26, Assembly Chambers)

[OR 26-065](#) An Ordinance Adopting MSB 3.15.036 \$75,000, Owner-Occupied Residential Real Property Exemption And MSB 1.10.170, 1.5 Percent Areawide Sales Tax (With Exemptions For Sales Within The Cities); And Submitting The Proposition To The Voters At The November 3, 2026, Regular Borough Election.

Sponsors: Nowers

Attachments: [OR 26-065](#)
[IM 26-106](#)

C. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. VACANCY REPORT

[26-081](#) Mayoral Requests for Confirmation

Attachments: [05/19/26 - Vacancy Report](#)

D. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

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

XII. RECONSIDERATION

XIII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Disabled Persons Needing Reasonable Accommodation In Order To Participate At An Assembly Meeting Should Contact The Borough ADA Coordinator At (907) 861-8432 At Least One Week In Advance Of The Meeting.