

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

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

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



Thomas Bergey, District 1
Jim Hart, District 2
Ole Larson, District 3
Jubilee Underwood, District 4
Ryan Ponder, District 5
Dwight Probasco, District 6
Jeff Taylor, District 7

MEETING MINUTES

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

JOINT ASSEMBLY/SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

6:00 PM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Joint Assembly/School Board meeting was held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, 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: 5 - Assemblymember Stephanie Nowers, Assemblymember Robert Yundt, Assemblymember Mokie Tew, Dee McKee, and Jesse Sumner

Excused: 2 - Assemblymember Tim Hale and Ron Bernier

SCHOOL BOARD ROLL CALL

School Board President Ryan Ponder, School Board Member Ole Larson, School Board Member Jubilee Underwood (arrived at 6:11 p.m.), and School Board member Thomas Bergey.

Telephonic: School Board Member James Hart.

Excused: School Board Member Dwight Probasco and School Board Member Jeff Taylor.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of Allegiance was led by School Board Member Ryan Ponder.

Performance from Teeland Middle School Drumline.

Julie Etsy from Matanuska Electric Association presented the Borough with the capital credit check for \$13,319.03.

Julie Etsy from Matanuska Electric Association presented the School Board with a capital credit check for \$61,756.33.

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There being no one present who wished to speak, audience participation closed.

VI. JOINT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Annual Budget, Preliminary Discussion; State Legislative Action Needed (MSB 2.12.075(A))

Superintendent Dr. Randy Trani gave an update on the Annual School District Budget.

B. Houston Middle School Update (Requested by Administration)

Mr. Terry Dolan, Public Works Director, gave an update on the Houston Middle School construction.

C. COVID-19 Update (Requested by Administration)

Superintendent Dr. Randy Trani gave an update on the COVID-19 procedures in Mat-Su Schools.

D. Road Bond Update; Status Of Seward Meridian Project (Requested by School District)

Mr. Mike Brown, Borough Manager, gave an update on the Road Bond Project.

VII. ASSEMBLY ITEMS OF BUSINESS

RS 21-136 A Resolution Supporting The Alaska Healthcare Transformation Project And Establishment Of An All-Payer Claims Database.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Assemblymember Nowers moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 21-136. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Assemblymember Nowers, Assemblymember Yundt, Assemblymember Tew, McKee, and Sumner

VIII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, SCHOOL BOARD, AND STAFF COMMENTS

School Board Member Bergey thanked staff for the updates. Expressed the need for alternative solutions to paying for school buildings.

School Board Member Underwood thanked staff for the updates discussed in the meeting.

School Board Member Larson agreed with Mr. Bergey to the need to find alternative solutions to pay for school buildings and not relying on property taxes. Thanked Teeland Drumline for their performance.

School Board Member Hart thanked staff for the updates and the Teeland Drumline for their performance. Encourage for the public to attend School Board and Assembly meetings.

School Board Member Ponder thanked Teeland Drumline for their performance. Thanked Assemblymember McKee for the discussion of social performance and grades. Expressed the need for schools to get back to pre-COVID.

Assemblymember McKee thanked Superintendent Dr. Trani for the updates.

Assemblymember Tew gave thanks for the updates.

Assemblymember Yunt spoke to great presentations. Expressed his excitement to work with the School Board for owning school land instead of renting.

Assemblymember Nowers spoke to the need for state reimbursement on school bonds. Thanked the School Board for working together and is glad to see schools are getting built. Spoke to concerns that students are being made to be test takers instead of problem solvers and thinkers. Inquired if graduates can be tracked to see how they continued after graduation.

Assemblymember Sumner noted that Governor Dunleavy's budget would be out tomorrow and the importance for school bond debt to be included.

Mayor DeVries noted appreciation of the presentations.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.




Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment


For

December 14, 2021, Joint Assembly/School Board Meeting Minutes

(3 pages)


EDNA DEVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 01/04/22