

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

AGENDA

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS

350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

ASSEMBLY REGULAR MEETING

6:00 PM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2024

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

A. Appointment of Deputy Mayor - Ron Bernier

VI. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

- [24-161](#)
- A. Assembly Special Meeting: 10/03/24
 - B. Joint Assembly/Planning Commission: 10/08/24
 - C. Assembly Regular Meeting: 10/15/24
 - D. Assembly Special Meeting: 11/19/24
 - E. Assembly Regular Meeting: 11/19/24
 - F. Assembly Regular Meeting: 12/03/24

Attachments: [12/17/24 - 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 Committee On School Issues**
- 2. Assembly Public Relations**

C. MANAGER COMMENTS

- 1. State/Federal Legislation**
- 2. Strategic Planning Issues**
- 3. Port MacKenzie Rail Extension Farms**

[25-007](#) Port MacKenzie Rail Extension Farms

Attachments: [PMRE Farm Property Presentation](#)

D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

E. CLERK COMMENTS

F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

- [24-159](#)
1. Abbreviated Plat: 11/27/24, 12/04/24
 2. Big Lake Community Council: 09/24/24, 10/08/24
 3. Board of Adjustment and Appeals: 05/24/22, 06/30/22, 08/17/22, 09/08/22, Final Decision for Case Nos. 24-01, 24-02
 4. Caswell RSA Board of Supervisors: 08/12/24, Resolution No. 24-01
 5. Fairview RSA Board of Supervisors: 04/16/24, 05/07/24, 09/24/24
 6. Local Road Service Area Advisory Board: 11/21/24, Resolution No. 24-01
 7. North Lakes Community Council: 10/24/24
 8. Tanaina Community Council: 11/25/24
 9. Trapper Creek Community Council: 09/19/24

Attachments: [12/17/24 - Citizen and Other Correspondence](#)

G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS

- [IM 24-229](#) Informing The Assembly Of The Submittal Of The Annual Volunteer Fire Capacity Grant Applications From The Alaska State Department Of Natural Resources Division Of Forestry And Fire Protection By The Caswell, Sutton, Talkeetna, And Willow Fire Service Areas.

Attachments: [IM 24-229](#)

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.)

- [RS 24-124](#) A Resolution Approving Changes To Update The Fiscal Year 2026 Schedule Of Rates And Fees, Effective July 1, 2025.

Attachments: [RS 24-124](#)
[IM 24-221](#)

[OR 24-096](#) An Ordinance Amending MSB 17.73 To Clarify That Mobile Home Parks Are Not Permitted In The Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

Sponsors: Nowers

Attachments: [OR 24-096](#)
[IM 24-176](#)
[12/17/24 - Sumner Possible Amendment](#)

[OR 24-115](#) An Ordinance Approving A Request From The Agricultural Rights Owners Paul And Margaret Cook, And Ben Raevsky, To Subdivide A 320-Acre Farm Consisting Of 2 Parcels Into Two 40-Acre Parcels And One 240-Acre Parcel); To Construct One Permanent And One Temporary Residence To Accommodate The Farm Families; And Implement An Updated Farm Plan With An Additional Subunit Farm Plan.

Attachments: [OR 24-115](#)
[IM 24-219](#)

[OR 24-117](#) An Ordinance Amending MSB 5.25.060(C), Service Area No. 36: Talkeetna Sewer And Water Service Area To Amend The Operating Rules, Rates, And Procedures.

Attachments: [OR 24-117](#)
[IM 24-226](#)

[OR 24-118](#) An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$315,790 In Fiscal Year 2025 Community Assistance Program Funding.
RS 24-128: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Community Assistance Program And Authorizing The Manager To Enter Into Agreements With 20 Unincorporated Communities Within The Borough.

Attachments: [OR 24-118](#)
[RS 24-128](#)
[IM 24-227](#)

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 24-125](#) A Resolution Providing Notice And Authorization To Make Expenditures Related To Borough Transportation Infrastructure Program 2024 And Reimburse The Borough From Related Bond Proceeds.

Attachments: [RS 24-125](#)
[IM 24-223](#)

[RS 24-126](#) A Resolution Directing The Manager To Utilize A Design-Build Alternative Delivery Method For The New Academy Charter School.

Sponsors: Fonov

Attachments: [RS 24-126](#)
[IM 24-224](#)
[12/17/24 - Fonov Possible Amendment](#)

[RS 24-129](#) A Resolution Approving The Final Spending Plan For The American Rescue Plan Funding To Comply With The December 31, 2024, Obligation Requirements Of The United States Treasury.

Attachments: [RS 24-129](#)
[IM 24-228](#)

[RS 24-130](#) A Resolution Approving The Scopes Of Work And The Budgets For The Tuxedo Avenue Bridge Replacement Project, And The Montana Creek Bridge Maintenance And Armoring Project; Approving The Amended Scopes Of Work And Budgets For The Kepler Drive Bridge Replacement Project, And The Shirley Towne Bridge Maintenance Project; And Approving The Amended Budgets For The Midnight Drive Bridge And Snowball Circle Bridge Project, And The Bridge And Railroad Crossing Major Maintenance And Repair Project.

Attachments: [RS 24-130](#)
[IM 24-230](#)

2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS

[AM 24-138](#) Approval Of Change Order No. 3 For Contract No. 22-104P(A) With Kinney Engineering, LLC. To Add Up To \$50,730 For The 49th State Street Pathway Project; And Extend Completion Date To June 30, 2025.

Attachments: [AM 24-138](#)

[AM 24-139](#) Approval Of Change Order No. 3 For Contract No. 22-098C With HDL Engineering Consultants, LLC. For The Old Glenn Pathway Phase II Project To Extend Completion Date To December 31, 2025.

Attachments: [AM 24-139](#)

[AM 24-140](#) Approval Of Change Order No. 3 For Contract No. 22-090P(A) With CRW Engineering Group, LLC. For The Tex-Al Drive Extension, Upgrade, And Pathway Project To Extend Completion Date To June 30, 2026.

Attachments: [AM 24-140](#)

[AM 24-141](#) Approval Of A Change Order For Contract No. 22-039P With Architects Alaska, Inc. To Add 35,946.08 For The Palmer Emergency Services Facility Project; And To Extend The Contract From December 31, 2024, To February 26, 2027.

Attachments: [AM 24-141](#)

[AM 24-142](#) Requesting The Authorization For Destruction Of Ballots From The November 5, 2024, Regular Borough Election.

Attachments: [AM 24-142](#)

[AM 24-143](#) Approval Of Change Order No. 3 For Contract No. 22-090P(C) With HDL Engineering Consultants, LLC. To Add \$164,134 For Engineering Services For The Engstrom Road To Trunk Road Connector Project; And Extend The Contract To March 31, 2026.

Attachments: [AM 24-143](#)

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. VETO

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing 01/07/25, Assembly Chambers)

[OR 25-001](#) An Ordinance Amending MSB 3.15.200, Board Of Equalization; Appeal, Related To Setting Of Dates For Tax Assessment Appeals Before The Borough Board Of Equalization.

Attachments: [OR 25-001](#)

[IM 25-001](#)

[OR 25-002](#) An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating A Grant In The Amount Of \$15,000 From The Alaska State Department Of Military And Veteran’s Affairs, 2023 State And Local Cybersecurity Grant Program And Approve The Scope Of Work And Budget For Modernizing Critical Telecommunications Cybersecurity Infrastructure.

RS 25-001: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For A Grant In The Amount Of \$15,000 From The Alaska State Department Of Military And Veteran’s Affairs, 2023 State And Local Cybersecurity Grant Program.

Attachments: [OR 25-002](#)
[RS 25-001](#)
[IM 25-002](#)

[OR 25-003](#) An Ordinance Converting The Port Mackenzie Building Maintenance Specialist Position From An On-Call Position To A Full-Time Position And Allowing For The Hiring Of This Position Prior To The Beginning Of Fiscal Year 2026.

Attachments: [OR 25-003](#)
[IM 25-006](#)

B. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. VACANCY REPORT

[24-160](#) Mayoral Requests for Confirmation

Attachments: [12/17/24 - Vacancy Report](#)

C. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

D. 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.