

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

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

Tim Hale, District 1
Stephanie Nowers, District 2
George McKee, District 3
Robert Yundt, District 4
Mokie Tew, District 5
Jesse Sumner, District 6
Tam Boeve, District 7



Mary Anderson, District 1
Richard Allen, District 2
Patricia Chesbro, District 3
Colleen Vague, District 4
Chris Elder, District 5
Stafford Glashan, District 6
Sassan Mossanen, District 7

MEETING MINUTES

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS

350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

JOINT ASSEMBLY/PLANNING COMMISSION

6:00 PM

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

The joint meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly and the Planning Commission was held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Mayor Vern Halter.

II. ASSEMBLY ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Assemblymember Tim Hale, Assemblymember Stephanie Nowers, Assemblymember George McKee, Assemblymember Mokie Tew, Assemblymember Jesse Sumner, and Assemblymember Tam Boeve

Telephonic: 1 - Assemblymember Robert Yundt

PLANNING COMMISSION ROLL CALL

Planning Commission Chair Colleen Vague
Planning Commission Member Chris Elder
Planning Commission Member Sassan Mossanen - telephonic
Planning Commission Member Patricia Chesbro - telephonic

ABSENT AND EXCUSED:

Planning Commission Member Mary Anderson
Planning Commission Member Richard Allen
Planning Commission Member Stafford Glashan

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The following person led the pledge of allegiance: Mr. Mike Brown,
Borough Manager.

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was no one present or attending telephonically that wished to testify.

VI. JOINT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Overview of the Planning and Land Use Department's Current Plans and Projects (Requested by Administration)

21-205 Planning Department Power Point Presentation

Ms. Kim Sollien, Planning Services Manager; Mr. Adam Bradway, Planner I; Ms. Kelsey Anderson, Planner II; and Mr. Ted Eischeid, Planner II, provided an overview of the Planning and Land Use Department's Current Plans and Projects.

VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, PLANNING COMMISSION, AND STAFF COMMENT

Planning Commission Member Mossanen thanked staff for the presentation. Wished Planning and Land Use Director Alex Strawn and his family well.

Planning Commission Member Chesbro thanked staff for the presentation. Wished Planning and Land Use Director Alex Strawn and his family well. Thanked Mayor Halter and Planning Commission Chair Vague for their service.

Planning Commission Member Elder opined that staff provided a great overview. Commented that the group appeared to work well together.

Planning Commission Chair Vague stated that she would like to see schools constructed with better access at the time they are built. Spoke to how awful it is to try to navigate traffic onto Seward Meridian from Cottonwood Elementary. Noted that even if there was a walking path, that it would not rectify the problems currently being experienced. Spoke to the many years that the State has needed to reconstruct Seward Meridian. Noted this is her last joint meeting. Presented Mr. Mayor with flowers in appreciation for his service. Stated that she is confident that the Planning staff will continue to do a great job. Noted that her heart goes out to Mr. Strawn and his family.

Assemblymember Yundt stated that it was an informative presentation with content that he appreciated. Spoke to concerns with unfunded liabilities. Wished the body a good evening.

Assemblymember Nowers noted that she appreciates the enthusiasm of Planning staff. Stated that she will miss working with Mayor Halter, Assemblymember McKee, and Planning Commission Chair Vague. Thanked them for their hard work on behalf of constituents.

Assemblymember Sumner thanked staff for the overview. Noted that it appears as though there is a lot of work ahead of staff but that he is confident they will do a great job. Stated that he was pleased to hear of the relocation of the Butte air quality monitoring station.

Assemblymember McKee thanked staff for the excellent overview. Spoke to concerns about funding for the projects spoken about.

Assemblymember Tew opined that staff provided a great overview. Thanked them for looking forward on what needs to be done.

Assemblymember Hale stated that it as a great presentation. Noted that no

one could be more pleased with the Butte air quality monitoring station being moved than him.

Assemblymember Boeve thanked staff for their presentations and for staffing advisory boards. Thanked Planning Commission Chair Vague and Planning Commission Member Anderson for their service.

Mayor Halter thanked the Planning Commission for his flowers and thanked Planning staff for the Narcissus bulbs. Noted that he started out with the Borough being on the Planning Commission because he used to complain to the Borough about a myriad of things. Stated that he enjoyed his time with the Borough going from the Planning Commission, to the Assembly, and then to the position of Mayor and watching the growth that continues to occur. Spoke to his pleasure that the Borough is hosting the Arctic Winter Games. Stated that his only regret is that this is his last joint meeting with the Planning Commission but that it is time for a fresh perspective to the position of Mayor. Thanked everyone for all their hard work on behalf of the Borough. Wished the body good night.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.



Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

October 12, 2021, Joint Assembly/Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

(4 pages)

EDNA DEVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 11/16/21

