

# 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  
Steve Colligan, District 4  
Dan Mayfield, District 5  
Barbara J. Doty, District 6  
Randall Kowalke, District 7

## MEETING MINUTES

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS  
350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

ASSEMBLY SPECIAL MEETING

1:00 PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2017

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### **Budget Presentations - 1 p.m. Joint Assembly/Planning Commission Meeting - 6 p.m.**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, March 28, 2017, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m. by Mayor Vern Halter for the purposes of conducting Fiscal Year 2018, departmental budget presentations and to hold a joint meeting with the Planning Commission.

#### **II. ROLL CALL**

**Present** 6 - Assemblymember Jim Sykes, Assemblymember Matthew Beck, Assemblymember George McKee, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, Assemblymember Barbara J. Doty (entered at 1:30 p.m.), and Assemblymember Randall Kowalke

**Telephonic** 1 - Assemblymember Steve Colligan (entered at 1:15 p.m.)

#### **III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

#### **IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. John Moosey, Borough Manager.

#### **V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

The following person spoke to concerns with the public process: Mr. Eugene Carl Haberman.

The following person thanked the Borough for performing the crack sealant work on the Borough roads, and spoke to the bidding process and the bonding requirements for Borough contracts: Mr. Bill Stearns, D&S Road Services.

The following person spoke to proposed state legislation that affected the Borough and encouraged a resolution supporting House Bill 156: Mr. Jim Colver, former Assembly Member.

The following person spoke to the AARP sponsored budget discussion and congratulated the Borough for the public outreach: Ms. Terry Snyder.

## **VI. ASSEMBLY ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

### **A. 17-021 Department Budget Presentations**

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Mr. John Moosey, Borough Manager, spoke to the fiscal year 2018 budget.

Ms. Cheyenne Heindel, Finance Director, spoke to the revenue tax cap and explained the mill rate calculation process.

Ms. Eileen Probasco presented the Planning and Land Use Department budget.

Mr. Alex Strawn, Development Services Manager, spoke to impact of marijuana related facilities to the proposed budget.

Mr. Marc Van Dongen presented the Port Department budget.

(The meeting recessed at 2:42 p.m. and reconvened at 2:49 p.m.)

Mr. Eric Phillips presented the Community Development budget.

Ms. Kirsten Vesel presented the Animal Care and Regulation Department budget.

Mr. Eric Wyatt presented the Information Technology Department budget.

(Assemblymember Colligan exited the meeting at 3:47 p.m.)

(The meeting recessed at 3:47 p.m. and reconvened at 3:54 p.m.)

Ms. Cheyenne Heindel presented the Finance Department budget.

Mr. Jude Bilafer presented the Capital Projects Department budget.

Mr. Otto Feather, Department of Emergency Services Interim Director, presented the Emergency Services Department budget.

Ms. Lonnie McKechnie, Borough Clerk, commented that the Clerk's Department budget memo was provided to the Assembly and advised if there were questions to contact her.

(The meeting recessed at 4:39 p.m. and reconvened at 6 p.m.)

## **VII. JOINT ITEMS OF BUSINESS (To Begin At 6 p.m.)**

The meeting reconvened at 6 p.m. for the purpose of holding a joint Assembly/Planning Commission meeting.

### **Planning Commission Roll Call**

Planning Commission members present: Commissioner Mary Anderson, Commissioner Thomas Healy, Commissioner Patricia Chesboro, Commissioner Colleen Vague (entered at 6:40 p.m.), Commissioner Stafford Glashan, and Commissioner Vern Rauchenstein.

MOTION: Assemblymember Sykes moved to suspend the rules to add audience participation before the joint meeting items.

VOTE: The motion passed with Assemblymember Mayfield opposed.

## **VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

The following person spoke to the need for a sewer system: Ms. Helen Munoz.

The following person spoke to concerns with the public process: Mr. Eugene Carl Haberman.

### **A. Flood Risk Map Project (Requested by Administration)**

Mr. Alex Strawn, Development Services Manager, provided an update on the Flood Risk Map Project and outlined the next steps of the process.

### **B. Title 17/30 Zoning Code Update (Requested by Administration)**

Ms. Eileen Probasco, Planning Director, reported on the status of the Title 17 and Title 30, Zoning code updates.

### **C. Title 43 Subdivisions - Future Amendments (Requested by Administration)**

Mr. Fred Wagner, Platting Officer, spoke to the proposed amendments to Title 43, Subdivisions, and noted formal amendments would be presented to the Assembly in the future.

#### **D. Transportation Planning Projects (Requested by Administration)**

Ms. Jessica Smith, Transportation Planner, gave an overview on the transportation planning projects and the processes followed.

1. Long Range Transportation Plan

Ms. Smith gave a proposed timeline and overview of the process.

2. Regional Aviation System Plan

Ms. Smith provided an overview and timeline for phase two of the projects.

3. Subdivision Construction Manual Update

Ms. Smith spoke to the updates to the manual and provided a project schedule and timeline of completion.

4. Internal Technical Team

Ms. Smith and Ms. Probasco spoke to a proposed Internal Technical Team for the purpose of resolving some of the complex issues related to the multi-agency plans.

#### **E. GIS/Planning Projects (Requested by Administration)**

1. GIS Layers For Platting

Ms. Probasco spoke to the Geographical Information System (GIS) layering process for platting purposes and noted that some existing discrepancies would be addressed.

2. Transportation Portal

Ms. Smith gave an update on the transportation portal on the website and spoke to the proposal and memorandum of agreement processes with the State Department of Transportation.

3. Intersection Analysis

Ms. Smith provided information regarding economic development strategies for various traffic intersections within the Borough.

#### **IX. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, PLANNING COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS**

Commissioner Healy thanked everyone for the meeting.

Commissioner Glashan thanked everyone for the meeting and noted there were a lot of forthcoming changes.

Commissioner Chesboro thanked everyone for the meeting and commented that she was learning a lot.

Commissioner Vague apologized for her late arrival to the meeting and thanked everyone for holding joint meetings of the two bodies.



Assemblymember McKee commented on the Long Range Transportation Plan.

Assemblymember Sykes thanked the Commission members for attending the meeting and welcomed the new members. He commented that future planning was good and anticipated future work sessions with the various user groups in order to accomplish future goals.

Assemblymember Kowalke thanked everyone for their participation. He spoke to the collaboration efforts between the Borough and the State Department of Transportation. He spoke briefly to the bonding situation brought up by Mr. Stearns and directed the Manager to look into the situation. He announced that Mr. Rich Boothby had accepted the Fire Chief position for the Willow Fire Department.

Assemblymember Mayfield commented that he was impressed that two directors had submitted lower budgets for fiscal year 2018.

Assemblymember Doty addressed the process for the presentation of future amendments to Title 43. She requested a timeline of the process from the Planning Department.

Assemblymember Beck thanked the Planning Commission for its hard work and welcomed the new members. He commented that good decisions were being made by the Assembly. He thanked the Borough staff for their time and hard work.

Mayor Halter welcomed the new Commissioners and spoke to the terms of the Commission. He noted that the appointment of the final Planning Commissioner would take place at the next regular Assembly meeting. He thanked the Planning Department staff for their hard work. He spoke to the resignation of Mr. Gene Stone, School District Superintendent, and thanked him for his services.

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**


The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.



Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

March 28, 2017, Special Assembly Meeting Minutes (5 pages)

  
VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 05/16/17

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## MEETING MINUTES

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS

350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

ASSEMBLY REGULAR MEETING

6:00 PM

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2017

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, April 18, 2017, 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. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 6 - Assemblymember Jim Sykes, Assemblymember Matthew Beck, Assemblymember George McKee, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, Assemblymember Randall Kowalke, and Mayor Vern Halter

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember Barbara J. Doty

**Telephonic:** 1 - Assemblymember Steve Colligan

### **III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

The agenda was presented as amended without objection.

### **IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Luke Fulp, School District Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations.

### **V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS**

There were no minutes to approve.

## **VI. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE**

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

#### **1. Reports From Cities**

Mayor Bert Cottle, City of Wasilla, reported on the activities of the city.

Manager Nathan Wallace, City of Palmer, reported on the activities of the city and requested Assembly support for community grant funding.

#### **2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District**

Ms. Monica Goyette, School District Superintendent, reported on the activities of the School District.

### **B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **1. Joint Assembly/School Board Committee On School Issues**

Assemblymember Beck noted there had been no recent meeting held.

#### **2. Assembly Public Relations**

There were no reports provided.

### **C. MANAGER COMMENTS**

#### **1. State/Federal Legislation**

#### **2. Strategic Planning Issues**

#### **3. Mat-Su Regional Medical Center Presentation**

Mr. John Lee, Mat-Su Regional Medical Center, spoke to activities and future planning of the medical center.

#### **4. Review of Borough Staff Statistics**

Mr. Moosey, provided MSB Employee Information packets to the Assembly for consideration during the budget process.

Mr. Moosey inquired if the Assembly would allow 15 minute presentations to review the information in the packets during the budget public hearings of April 24, 25, and 27.

Mayor Halter queried if there was any objection to allowing the presentations. There was no objection noted.

## 5. E-911 Project Update

Mr. Eric Wyatt, Information Technology Director, provided an update on the E-911 Dispatch project and reported on the Borough's E-Commerce system.

Mr. Moosey, announced that Mr. Otto Feather would permanently serve as the Emergency Services Director.

Assemblymember Beck queried if there was objection to his co-signing a letter with Mayor Halter, in support of the Pioneer Home. There was no objection noted.

Assemblymember Sykes noted he had attended a local rally in support of the Pioneer Home.

## D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Mr. Spiropoulos reported on the meetings, that were attended by himself, Mayor Halter and Assemblymembers Kowalke and Beck, regarding the M/V Susitna, in Washington, D.C. He spoke to submitting arguments regarding the reduction of payments for the ferry. He briefly reported on House Bill 201, regarding trapping and Senate Bill 100 which would allow municipalities to create liens on properties.

## E. CLERK COMMENTS

Ms. McKechnie spoke to the upcoming meeting schedule. She noted that pertinent election dates had been included in the Clerk's report. She spoke to the upcoming deadline to notify the School District of those Assemblymembers who would be attending local graduation ceremonies. She queried if the Assembly would like to schedule the following special meeting dates:

May 16, 2017, 4 p.m., Manager's Annual Evaluation  
June 6, 2017, 4 p.m., Attorney's Annual Evaluation  
August 1, 2017, 4 p.m., Clerk's Annual Evaluation

Mayor Halter inquired if there was any objection. There was no objection noted.

## F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

**17-024**

1. Aviation Advisory Board: 01/18/17, Resolution No. 17-01
2. Central Mat-Su FSA Board of Supervisors: 01/09/17
3. Planning Commission: Resolution Nos. 16-42 and 17-10
4. Platting Board: 02/16/17
5. Port Commission: 12/19/16, 02/13/17

6. Talkeetna Sewer and Water Service Area Advisory Board: 12/14/16, 01/04/17, 02/01/17, 03/01/17
7. Transportation Advisory Board: Resolution No. 17-01
8. Willow FSA Board of Supervisors: 01/12/17
9. North Lakes Community Council: 01/26/17
10. Susitna Community Council: 03/02/17
11. Sutton Community Council: 02/22/17
12. Willow Area Community Organization: 02/13/17

The citizen and other correspondence were presented and no comments were noted.

## **G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS**

There were no informational memorandums presented.

## **VII. SPECIAL ORDERS**

### **A. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (MSB 2.12.081; Three Minutes Per Person.)**

There were no persons to be heard.

The meeting recessed at 6:41 p.m. and reconvened at 6:48 p.m.

### **B. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three Minutes Per Person.)**

**OR 17-031** An Ordinance Of The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly Approving The Less Than Fair Market Value Sale Of The Old Iditarod Elementary School Parcel In The Amount Of \$1,500,000 To The City Of Wasilla, Said Parcel Identified As Tract B, Iditarod-Wasilla Schools 2016, Plat No. 2016-112, And Accepting And Appropriating The Sale Proceeds (MSB007256).

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager  
Mayor Halter opened the public hearing.

The following persons spoke in oppositon of Ordinance Serial No. 17-031: Ms. Patricia Gersich and Mr. Garvin Bucaria.

There being no others present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to adopt.**

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved to postpone to a time certain of May 2, 2017. The motion failed by the following vote:**

**No:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck,  
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan,  
Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**The main motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck,  
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan,  
Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**OR 17-034** An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$300,000 From The Talkeetna Fire Service Area Fund Balance, Fund 254, To Fund 405, Project No. 45243, To Purchase A Pumper/Rescue Vehicle And Related Equipment.

**RS 17-020:** A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For Project No. 45243, To Allow For The Purchase Of A Pumper/Rescue Vehicle And Related Equipment For Talkeetna Fire Service Area.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager  
Mayor Halter opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

**Assemblymember Kowalke moved to adopt. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck,  
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan,  
Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**OR 17-037** An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$250,000 From South Colony Road Service Area No. 16 Fund Balance, Fund 273, To Fund 410, Project No. 30039, For South Colony Road Service Area No. 16 Capital Projects.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager  
Mayor Halter opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and



discussion moved to the Assembly.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to adopt. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**OR 17-038** An Ordinance Reappropriating \$82,100 From Fund 480, Project No. 47511, Payroll Benefits System/Human Resources System, To Fund 480, Project No. 47506, Financial System Enhancements.

**RS 17-024:** A Resolution Amending The Scopes Of Work And Budgets For Payroll Benefits System/Human Resources System, Project No. 47511 And Financial System Enhancements, Project No. 47506, To Include The Continued Development And Implementation Of The Borough E-Commerce Site.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Mayor Halter opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to adopt. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**OR 17-039** An Ordinance Authorizing The Borough Manager To Transfer And Relinquish Any And All Interest The Borough Has Within West Hawk Lane To The City Of Houston For Maintenance Within The City Boundaries, Located Within Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11 And 12, Township 17 North, Range 3 West, Seward Meridian, Third Judicial District.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Mayor Halter opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

**Assemblymember Kowalke moved to adopt. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck,  
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan,  
Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three Minutes Per Person.)**

There was no one present who wished to testify.

**D. CONSENT AGENDA**

Note: Action Memorandum No. 17-034 was pulled from the consent agenda and taken up with Ordinance Serial No. 17-013 and Resolution Serial No. 17-009 under Unfinished Business, without objection.

**1. RESOLUTIONS**

**RS 17-026** A Resolution Establishing The Minimum Level Of Funding For The Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District For The Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**RS 17-032** A Resolution Supporting The Adoption Of Alaska House Bill No. 178, Regarding Amendments To Alaska Statutes 35.40.035, Veterans' Memorials.

**Sponsors:** Kowalke

**2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS**

**AM 17-032** Award Of Bid No. 17-097B To Dirtworks, Inc. In The Contract Amount Of \$568,189 For Bodenbug Creek Bridge Upgrades.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**AM 17-033** Acceptance Of Late Filed And Retroactive Senior Citizen And Disabled Veteran Exemption Applications.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**Assemblymember Beck moved to approve the Consent Agenda as read into the record by the Clerk. The motion carried without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck,  
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan,  
Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**RS 17-031** A Resolution To Approve And Adopt The Fiscal Year 2018

Schedule Of Rates And Fees Effective July 1, 2017.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved to postpone to a time certain of May 2, 2017. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

## **VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. OR 17-013** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$169,009.50 From Fund 520 To Fund 450, Project No. 70012 To Fund Repairs To The Port MacKenzie Barge Dock.

RS 17-009: A Resolution Approving The Appropriation Of \$450,000 From The Areawide Capital Reserve And \$400,000 From The Land Management Permanent Fund, For A Total Of \$850,000 To Fund 450, Project No. 70012, As A Loan To Fund 520, To Fund Repairs To The Port MacKenzie Barge Dock.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Main Motion Pending

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved a primary amendment by striking taking the funds from the Land Management Permanent Fund in the amount of \$400,000 and replacing it with M/V Susitna, fund 367, in the amount of \$400,000 throughout the legislation. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**The main motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**AM 17-034** Award Of Bid 17-102B, To Sandstrom & Sons, Inc. For Port Mackenzie Open Cell Dock Repairs/Preliminary Work Package In The Amount Of \$532,357.50

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Action Memorandum No. 17-034 was taken up with Ordinance Serial No. 17-013 and Resolution Serial No. 17-009.

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved to adopt. The motion passed**

**without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

## **IX. VETO**

There were no vetoes presented.

## **X. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing 04/24/17, Central Mat-Su Public Safety Building; 4/25/17, Assembly Chambers; 4/27/17, Willow Community Center)**

**OR 17-017** An Ordinance Appropriating Monies From The Central Treasury For The Borough Operating Funds, Enterprise Funds, Education Operating Fund And Capital Funds, Establishing The Rate Of Levy For All Borough Functions For The Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2017 And Ending June 30, 2018 And Setting The Surcharge Rate For The Wireline And Wireless Enhanced 911 Systems For The Period Of July 1, 2017 Through June 30, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

### **B. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing 05/02/17, Assembly Chambers)**

**OR 17-040** An Ordinance Adopting An Update To The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Recreational Trails Plan Component Of The Borough's Comprehensive Plan That Adds, Amends, And Removes Trails And Trail Systems, MSB 15.24.030(B)(16).

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-044** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$35,000 From The Alaska State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Management Grant Program, To Fund 425, Project No. 45158, For Continuity Of Operations And Continuity Of Government Plans And Emergency Operations Plan Writing Software.  
**RS 17-029:** A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For Alaska State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Management Grant, Project No. 45158, Fund 425, For Continuity Of Operations And Continuity Of Government Plans And Emergency Operations Plan Writing Software.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-045** An Ordinance Reappropriating \$90,000 From The Fiscal Year 2017 Assessment Division Operating Budget, Fund 100, To Fund 480, Project No. 47523, For The Assessments Mobile Application Project.  
RS 17-030: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Assessment Mobile Application Project.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-046** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The Portion Of Stepan Lake Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 554, And Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments And Making Refunds To Property Owners.

**OR 17-051:** An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not To Exceed \$68,000 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Bonds For The Portion Of Stepan Lake Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 554, And Fixing Details Of Said Bonds.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-047** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The West Rangeview Drive Road Paving Local Improvement District No. 566, And Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments And Making Refunds To Property Owners.

**OR 17-052:** An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not To Exceed \$69,000 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Bonds For The West Rangeview Drive Road Paving Local Improvement District No. 566, And Fixing Details Of Said Bonds.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-048** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The McCombs Road And Melanie Lane Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 572, And Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments And Making Refunds To Property Owners.

**OR 17-053:** An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not To Exceed \$65,000 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Bonds For The McCombs Road And Melanie Lane Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 572, And Fixing Details Of Said Bonds.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-049** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The 3588

South Dawn Lake Drive Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 576 And Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments And Making Refunds To Property Owners.  
**OR 17-054:** An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not To Exceed \$10,000 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Bonds For The 3588 South Dawn Lake Drive Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 576, And Fixing Details Of Said Bonds.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-050** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The 2207 And 2287 East Carney Road Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 577, And Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments And Making Refunds To Property Owners.  
**OR 17-055:** An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not To Exceed \$24,000 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Bonds For The 2207 And 2287 East Carney Road Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 577, And Fixing Details Of Said Bonds.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-056** An Ordinance Approving A Supplemental Appropriation In The Amount Of \$20,000 From The Sutton Fire Service Area Fund Balance, Fund 253, To The Sutton Fire Service Area Fiscal Year 2018 Operating Budget To Cover Wages And Benefits For The Remainder Of Fiscal Year 2018.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Ms. McKechnie read the above legislation into the record.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the clerk and set the public hearings for April 24, 25, and 27, and May 2, 2017, respectively. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

## **C. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

### **1. VACANCY REPORT**



**17-025**      Vacancy Report

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Emergency Medical Services Board  
Brian Anderson, resignation

Note: Ms. Kelci Boe was not moved forward for confirmation as she had submitted notification to withdraw her application for the Board of Equalization.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to confirm the Mayor's appointment and resignation. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck,  
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan,  
Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**D. OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

There was no other new business.

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

There were no referrals presented.

**XI. RECONSIDERATION**

There was no reconsideration presented.

**XII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS**

Assemblymember McKee inquired on the reasons for future funding for the Port as it was not a functioning enterprise fund.

Mr. Moosey provided information on the process and reasons for future funding requests.

Assemblymember Sykes noted appreciation for the comments regarding the Port. He spoke to the retirement party for Fire Chief Greene.

Assemblymember Mayfield congratulated Mr. Feather for his permanent assignment as Emergency Services Director. He recognized Mr. Marc Van Dongen, Port Director, for his years of service with the Borough.

Assemblymember Colligan thanked Chief Greene for his service.

Assemblymember Beck spoke in agreement on the sale of Iditarod Elementary School to the city of Wasilla. He opined there were other viable places for the School District business offices. He noted he would be out of town during the budget deliberations. He spoke regarding the trip to Washington, DC and expressed appreciation for the efforts of the Manager and Attorney on behalf of the Borough.



Mayor Halter congratulated Mr. Feather as Emergency Services Director. He congratulated Mayor Cottle on the sale of Iditarod Elementary School property to the City of Wasilla.

**XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (For Matters Which By Law, Municipal Charter, Or Ordinance Are Required To Be Kept Confidential; And To Discuss Matters Involving Consideration Of Borough Records That By Law Are Not Subject To Public Disclosure; And Discussion Of Matters Subject To The Attorney Client Privilege.)**

**A. Pre-Decisional And Confidential Legal Analysis Of Proposed Sales Tax Confined To The Talkeetna Sewer And Water Service Area.**

**Assemblymember Beck moved to enter into executive session for matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be kept confidential; and to discuss matters involving consideration of Borough records that by law are not subject to public disclosure; and discussion of matters subject to the attorney client privilege, in particular to discuss pre-decisional and confidential legal analysis of proposed sales tax confined to the Talkeetna Water Service Area. Those present in executive session were the Mayor, the Assembly, the Manager, the Attorney, and the Clerk. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke**

The Assembly entered executive session at 7:35 p.m.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to exit executive session. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke**

The Assembly exited executive session at 7:56 p.m.

#### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

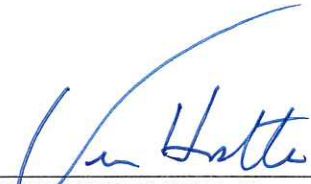
The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.



Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

April 18, 2017, Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes (14 pages)

  
VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 05/16/17

# 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  
Steve Colligan, District 4  
Dan Mayfield, District 5  
Barbara J. Doty, District 6  
Randall Kowalke, District 7

## MEETING MINUTES

MENARD SPORTS CENTER  
1001 S. CLAPP STREET, WASILLA

ASSEMBLY SPECIAL MEETING

6:00 PM

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2017

### **Budget Public Hearing**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Monday, April 24, 2017, at the Menard Sports Center, 1001 South Clapp Street, Wasilla, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Mayor Vern Halter for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget ordinance, Ordinance Serial No. 17-017.

#### **II. ROLL CALL**

**Present** 5 - Assemblymember George McKee, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, Assemblymember Randall Kowalke, Assemblymember Jim Sykes, and Assemblymember Matthew Beck

**Excused** 2 - Assemblymember Steve Colligan and Assemblymember Barbara J. Doty

#### **III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

#### **IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. John Moosey, Borough Manager.

#### **V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

The following person spoke to concerns with the public process: Mr. Eugene Carl Haberman.

## VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Mr. Moosey provided a brief overview on the fiscal year 2018 budget.

### A. PUBLIC HEARING

**OR 17-017** An Ordinance Appropriating Monies From The Central Treasury For The Borough Operating Funds, Enterprise Funds, Education Operating Fund And Capital Funds, Establishing The Rate Of Levy For All Borough Functions For The Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2017 And Ending June 30, 2018 And Setting The Surcharge Rate For The Wireline And Wireless Enhanced 911 Systems For The Period Of July 1, 2017 Through June 30, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Mayor Halter opened the public hearing.

The following persons spoke in support of the School District funding request: Ms. Dianne Shibe, Ms. Jen Dowd, Ms. Laura Wick, Ms. Rourke Spatz, Ms. Josie Schubert, Ms. Cassie Nickelson, Ms. Nancy Blake, Mr. Gary Richardson, Ms. Mandy Quimby, Mr. Jason Ross, Ms. Lisa Vrvilo, Ms. Alissa Parent, Ms. Susan Steele, Ms. Ayla Turner, Mr. Steve Novak, Ms. Sarah Novak, Ms. Lauree Simms, Ms. Amy Reagan, Ms. Kathy Lovetter, Ms. Diana Wilson, Ms. Peggy Kritich, Ms. Hillary Thomas, and Mr. Leslie Thomas.

The following persons spoke in support of the funding for the Phase II Trail Expansion at Government Peak Recreational Area: Mr. Jeff Kase and Mr. Chris Thomsen.

The following person spoke to concerns with the public process: Mr. Eugene Carl Haberman.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to continue the public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 17-017, to Tuesday, April 25, 2017, at 6 p.m. at the Assembly Chambers, Palmer. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember McKee, and Assemblymember Kowalke

## VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENT

Ms. McKechnie noted she would have amendment forms to the Assembly in preparation of the budget deliberations.

Mr. Moosey reported that no agreement had been reached by the State Legislature in

Juneau and the legislative session would continue.

Assemblymember Beck thanked everyone for coming to speak and participate in the public process. He spoke to his children and their tenure in the public school system. He commented on the seriousness of the budget situation and urged for help in resolving the funding challenges. He spoke to the priorities that had been set by the Borough and the staff. He voiced appreciation for staff and commended their hard work on the budget. He spoke briefly in opposition to the idea of an areawide sales tax until more information could be gleaned from the State Legislature.

Assemblymember Mayfield thanked the teachers and staff who were present to testify and thanked them for their efforts. He spoke to the connection between students and teachers and personal experiences with the education system. He opined that education was a high priority for the Assembly.

Assemblymember Kowalke thanked everyone for being present and testifying. He spoke to challenges with the budget process. He expressed his pleasure for being able to attend the retirement event for Willow Fire Chief Green.

Assemblymember Sykes thanked everyone for being present and testifying. He spoke to his experience as a teacher. He opined that the Assembly had recognized that education was a priority throughout past years. He gave an overview of the budget situation and challenges being faced. He encouraged public outreach by the School District to provide education on the current budget situation.

Assemblymember McKee spoke against additional funding for the School District. He spoke to the process of Assembly approved funds given to the School District and how the process affected the positions within the District. He commented on the continuous increase of population and loss of jobs throughout the State.

Mayor Halter noted the challenges of this budget season. He encouraged better dialogue between the State, the cities of Wasilla, Palmer, and Houston, and the Borough. He opined that an areawide sales tax wouldn't magically fix the budget. He commented on the need to know what direction the State was heading before addressing an areawide sales tax. He noted that there was the possibility of a state income tax and encouraged the School District and the Borough to move cautiously with the process. He commended the School District on its efforts and felt the Borough had a great school system. He briefly spoke to the schools toured by Senator Murkowski and noted she was aware of the funding situation.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**


The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.



Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

April 24, 2017, Special Assembly Meeting Minutes (3 pages)

  
VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 05/16/17



# 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  
Steve Colligan, District 4  
Dan Mayfield, District 5  
Barbara J. Doty, District 6  
Randall Kowalke, District 7

## MEETING MINUTES

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS  
350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

ASSEMBLY SPECIAL MEETING

6:00 PM

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2017

### **Budget Public Hearing**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, April 26, 2017, 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. ROLL CALL**

**Present** 5 - Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, Assemblymember Jim Sykes, Assemblymember Matthew Beck, Assemblymember George McKee, and Assemblymember Randall Kowalke

**Excused** 2 - Assemblymember Steve Colligan, and Assemblymember Barbara J. Doty

#### **III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

#### **IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Rebecca Johnson, a member of the audience.

## V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was no one present who wished to testify.

## VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Mr. Moosey provided an overview of the Fiscal Year 2018 budget.

### A. PUBLIC HEARING

**OR 17-017** An Ordinance Appropriating Monies From The Central Treasury For The Borough Operating Funds, Enterprise Funds, Education Operating Fund And Capital Funds, Establishing The Rate Of Levy For All Borough Functions For The Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2017 And Ending June 30, 2018 And Setting The Surcharge Rate For The Wireline And Wireless Enhanced 911 Systems For The Period Of July 1, 2017 Through June 30, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Mayor Halter reopened the public hearing.

The following persons spoke in support of full funding for the School District and in support of funding for Phase II for the Government Peak Recreational Area: Mr. Ed Strabel, Mr. Dave Musgraves, and Mr. Tom Smayda,

The following persons spoke in support of full funding for the School District: Ms. Brenna Rentsma, Big Lake Elementary School Principal; Ms. Jenny Bachelder, Wasilla Middle School Teacher; Mr. Eric Wade, Cyberlynx Correspondence Program Executive Director; Ms. Elizabeth Watchus, student; Ms. Avery Thompson, student; Ms. Aui Tzuski, student; Mr. Tim Walters, Mat-Su Education Association President; Mr. Dan Michael, Sherrod Elementary Principal; Mr. Brad Allen, Palmer Junior Middle School Principal; Ms. Coalette Watchus, Wasilla High School Special Education Teacher; Ms. Kim Evans, Swanson Elementary Teacher; Mr. Paul Reid, Palmer High School Principal; Ms. Jill Showman, Wasilla High School Teacher; Mr. Sean Riley, Teacher; Ms. Karen Saulisbury; and Mr. Ernie Kirby, School District Employee.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to continue the public hearing to a time certain of April 27, 2017. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, and Assemblymember Kowalke

## **VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENT**

Mr. Spiropoulos provided an update on the Sockeye Fire trial.

Ms. McKechnie spoke to the budget amendment forms and process.

Assemblymember Mayfield thanked the public for their testimony. Spoke to the need to increase revenue. Spoke to his support for education. Noted that this will be a tough budget year.

Assemblymember Kowalke thanked the public for their testimony. Stated that tough choices will have to be made during this budget cycle.

Assemblymember Sykes thanked the public for their testimony. Spoke to the State budget cuts that were made last year by Governor Walker. Spoke in support of increasing revenue. Spoke to the code requirement for adoption of the budget.

Assemblymember McKee spoke in opposition to increased funding for the School District. Spoke to the budget shortfalls at the State level.

Assemblymember Beck thanked the public for their heartfelt testimony. Spoke to his history of being a teacher. Spoke in support of education. Summarized the funding for the school district over the last few years. Noted that the Assembly priorities have changed drastically in the last two years. Stated that if a sales tax was approved by the voters, that he would like to see it solely allocated to education. Thanked Mr. Moosey for his hard work on putting together a reasonable budget.

Mayor Halter summarized the history of previous sales tax proposals that failed when they went before the voters. Noted that every time the Borough has tried to diversify revenue that it gets voted down by the voters. Noted that comparing our Borough to Anchorage is not appropriate because of the vast differences in population and commercial taxation. Commented that it will be a tough budget year.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**


The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.



Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

April 25, 2017, Special Assembly Meeting Minutes (3 pages)

  
VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 05/16/17

# 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  
Steve Colligan, District 4  
Dan Mayfield, District 5  
Barbara J. Doty, District 6  
Randall Kowalke, District 7

## MEETING MINUTES

WILLOW COMMUNITY CENTER  
MILE 69, PARKS HIGHWAY, WILLOW

ASSEMBLY SPECIAL MEETING

6:00 PM

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017

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### Budget Public Hearing

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at the Willow Community Center, Mile 69 Parks Highway, Willow, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Mayor Vern Halter.

#### II. ROLL CALL

**Present** 5 - Assemblymember Jim Sykes, Assemblymember Matthew Beck, Assemblymember George McKee, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, and Assemblymember Randall Kowalke

**Excused** 2 - Assemblymember Steve Colligan and Assemblymember Barbara J. Doty

#### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

#### IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Bert Cottle, city of Wasilla.

#### V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

The following person spoke to concerns with the public process: Mr. Eugene Carl Haberman

The following persons spoke in support of full funding for the School District: Mr. Ron Jones.

There being no one else who wished to testify, the public hearing closed.

MOTION: Assemblymember Beck moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 17-017.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to adopt. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

## **VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENT**

Mr. Spiropoulos reported that the Sockeye Trial is still going on and is expected to last for at least the next two weeks. Stated that he would report back to the Assembly with any breaking developments.

Ms. McKechnie thanked Ms. Tam Boeve for the dinner and thanked the community for their warm welcome.

Mr. Moosey noted that he attends numerous meetings and that the budget public hearing in Willow is always his favorite. He related that it is due in part to the beautiful drive and how welcoming the community is and thanked them for their hospitality.

Assemblymember McKee: spoke in opposition to increased funding for the School District. Spoke to the budget shortfalls at the State level.

Assemblymember Sykes thanked the public for their testimony. Spoke in support of increasing revenue. Noted that the School District needs to engage the public in the possibility of a sales tax.

Assemblymember Mayfield thanked the public for their testimony. Spoke to the need to increase revenue. Commented on his support for education. Advised that he will have an amendment that will increase the amount of funds for the School District, but that it likely will not be the amount that the School District is requesting. Noted that he will need the support of his fellow Assembly Members in order for it to pass.

Assemblymember Beck stated that he agrees with Mr. Moosey that this is the best meeting, as the community is so welcoming. Thanked the teachers for their dedication to students. Summarized his history of being a teacher. Spoke in support of Assemblymember Mayfield's proposed amendment to the School District budget. Commented that it is not realistic to think that the Assembly could fully fund this year's request. Stated that he is looking forward to deliberating on the budget.

Assemblymember Kowalke thanked his friends and neighbors who attended the meeting. Thanked the Boeve family for a delicious dinner. Spoke in support of funding for the Senior Strong program. Spoke in support of funding for the Sexual Assault Response Team.

Mayor Halter noted that the Willow Community suffered a huge loss with the Sockeye Fire. Stated his belief in the legal system. Related that there are many components to funding a library and that it can be a huge project. Noted that it is Willow's turn to get a new library and that he supports it, but that it is just not feasible at this time. Noted his support of education. Summarized the history of previous sales tax proposals that failed when they went before the voters. Noted that every time the Borough has tried to diversify revenue that it gets voted down by the voters. Noted that comparing our Borough to Anchorage is not appropriate because of the vast differences in population and commercial taxation. Commented that it will be a tough budget year.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**


The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.




Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

April 27, 2017, Special Assembly Meeting Minutes (4 pages)

  
VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 05/16/17



# 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  
Steve Colligan, District 4  
Dan Mayfield, District 5  
Barbara J. Doty, District 6  
Randall Kowalke, District 7

## MEETING MINUTES

### ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS

350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

ASSEMBLY REGULAR MEETING

6:00 PM

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, 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. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 5 - Assemblymember Jim Sykes, Assemblymember Matthew Beck, Assemblymember George McKee, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, and Assemblymember Randall Kowalke

**Telephonic:** 2 - Assemblymember Steve Colligan, and Assemblymember Barbara J. Doty

### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Halter queried if there was any objection to taking up the public hearings for Ordinance Serial Nos. 17-046, 17-051, 17-047, 17-052, 17-048, 17-053, 17-049, 17-054, 17-050, and 17-055 together.

There was no objection noted.

Mr. Moosey requested that Resolution Serial No. 17-042, be pulled from the agenda and no action be taken.

Mayor Halter queried if there was any objection.

The agenda was approved as amended without objection.

### IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Bonnie Quill, Mat-Su Convention and Visitors Bureau Executive Director.

### V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

**17-027**      A. Regular Meeting Minutes: 04/04/17

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

The minutes were approved as presented without objection.

### VI. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

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

##### 1. Reports From Cities

Mr. Nathan Wallace, Palmer City Manager, reported on the activities of the city.

##### 2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

Ms. Monica Goyette, School District Superintendent, requested full funding for the School District.

##### 3. Mat-Su Convention And Visitors Bureau

Ms. Bonnie Quill, Mat-Su Convention and Visitors Bureau Executive Director, reported on the activities of the Bureau to promote tourism within the Borough.

## **B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **1. Joint Assembly/School Board Committee On School Issues**

Assemblymember Beck reported on the most recent meeting of the Committee.

### **2. Assembly Public Relations**

Mayor Halter reported on the mock meetings that he and Ms. McKechnie conducted for Snowshoe Elementary School third graders.

## **C. MANAGER COMMENTS**

Mayor Halter presented a proclamation to Willow Fire Chief Mahlon Greene in honor of his many years of service to the Borough.

Mr. Moosey reported on the reasons that he requested to pull Resolution Serial No. 17-042, from the agenda; and the ongoing budget issues in Juneau.

### **1. State/Federal Legislation**

### **2. Strategic Planning Issues**

### **3. Updated Schedule And Clarification For Title 17 Zoning And Title 43 Subdivision Updates**

Ms. Eileen Probasco, Planning and Land Use Director, provided an updated schedule and clarification for amendments to Title 17, Zoning; and Title 43, Subdivisions.

## **D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

Mr. Spiropoulos reported on several lawsuits that are ongoing in the Superior Court.

## **E. CLERK COMMENTS**

Ms. McKechnie reported on the coming meeting schedule and reminded the Mayor and Assembly to evaluate the Manager with the link that was provided.

## **F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**

**17-029**

1. Enhanced 911 Advisory Board: 02/14/17
2. Greater Butte RSA Board Of Supervisors: 02/02/17
3. Greater Talkeetna RSA Board of Supervisors: 03/09/17
4. Local Road Service Area Advisory Board: 03/16/17, Resolution No. 17-01
5. Planning Commission: 11/07/16, 12/19/16, 02/06/17, 03/06/17, Resolution Nos. 17-04, 17-05, 17-11, 17-13, 17-14, 17-18
6. Platting Board: 03/02/17
7. Port Commission: 03/20/17
8. Talkeetna Flood Control Board Of Supervisors: 01/25/17, 02/22/17
9. Meadow Lakes Community Council: 03/08/17
10. Talkeetna Community Council: 03/06/17

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

The citizen and other correspondence were presented and no comments were noted.

**G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS**

**IM 17-095** Reporting Of Conclusion Of Contract For Bid No. 14-032B To Scarsella Bros., Inc. For South Big Lake Road Realignment Improvements, For The Final Contract Amount Of \$5,059,989.42.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

The informational memorandum was presented and no comments were noted.

The meeting recessed at 6:40 p.m. and reconvened at 6:46 p.m.

**VII. SPECIAL ORDERS**

**A. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (MSB 2.12.081; Three Minutes Per Person.)**

(Requires 11 Days Advance Notice And Must Otherwise Be In Compliance With The Necessary Code Requirements. If No Advance Notice Is Given, Persons Wishing To Speak May Do So Under The Audience Participation Section Of The Agenda.)

There were no persons to be heard.

**B. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three Minutes Per Person.)**

**OR 17-040** An Ordinance Adopting An Update To The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Recreational Trails Plan Component Of The Borough's Comprehensive Plan That Adds, Amends, And Removes Trails And Trail Systems, MSB 15.24.030(B)(16).

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Mayor Halter opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

Assemblymember Beck moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 17-040.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to postpone Ordinance Serial No. 17-040, to a time certain of June 6, 2017. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**OR 17-044** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$35,000 From The Alaska State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Management Grant Program, To Fund 425, Project No. 45158, For Continuity Of Operations And Continuity Of Government Plans And Emergency Operations Plan Writing Software.  
RS 17-029: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For Alaska State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Management Grant, Project No. 45158, Fund 425, For Continuity Of Operations And Continuity Of Government Plans And Emergency Operations Plan Writing Software.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Mayor Halter opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to adopt. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck,  
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan,  
Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and  
Assemblymember Kowalke

**OR 17-045** An Ordinance Reappropriating \$90,000 From The Fiscal Year 2017 Assessment Division Operating Budget, Fund 100, To Fund 480, Project No. 47523, For The Assessments Mobile Application Project.  
RS 17-030: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Assessment Mobile Application Project.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Mayor Halter opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to adopt. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck,  
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan,  
Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and  
Assemblymember Kowalke

**OR 17-046** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The Portion Of Stepan Lake Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 554, And Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments And Making Refunds To Property Owners.  
OR 17-051: An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not To Exceed \$68,000 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Bonds For The Portion Of Stepan Lake Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 554, And Fixing Details Of Said Bonds.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-047** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The West Rangeview Drive Road Paving Local Improvement District No. 566, And Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments And Making Refunds To Property Owners.

OR 17-052: An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not To Exceed \$69,000 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Bonds For The West Rangeview Drive Road Paving Local Improvement District No. 566, And Fixing Details Of Said Bonds.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-048** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The McCombs Road And Melanie Lane Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 572, And Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments And Making Refunds To Property Owners.

OR 17-053: An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not To Exceed \$65,000 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Bonds For The McCombs Road And Melanie Lane Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 572, And Fixing Details Of Said Bonds.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-049** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The 3588 South Dawn Lake Drive Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 576 And Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments And Making Refunds To Property Owners.

OR 17-054: An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not To Exceed \$10,000 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Bonds For The 3588 South Dawn Lake Drive Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 576, And Fixing Details Of Said Bonds.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

- OR 17-050** An Ordinance Confirming The Assessment Roll For The 2207 And 2287 East Carney Road Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 577, And Establishing The Method Of Terminating Assessments And Making Refunds To Property Owners.  
OR 17-055: An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance And Sale Of Not To Exceed \$24,000 Principal Amount Of Special Assessment Bonds For The 2207 And 2287 East Carney Road Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 577, And Fixing Details Of Said Bonds.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Mayor Halter opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to adopt Ordinance Serial Nos. 17-046, 17-051, 17-047, 17-052, 17-048, 17-053, 17-049, 17-054, 17-050, and 17-055. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

- OR 17-056** An Ordinance Approving A Supplemental Appropriation In The Amount Of \$20,000 From The Sutton Fire Service Area Fund Balance, Fund 253, To The Sutton Fire Service Area Fiscal Year 2018 Operating Budget To Cover Wages And Benefits For The Remainder Of Fiscal Year 2018.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Mayor Halter opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

**Assemblymember Sykes moved to adopt. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke



## C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three Minutes Per Person.)

The following person spoke to concerns with the Borough banning wood stoves, in support of Resolution Serial No. 17-042 being removed from the agenda, and in support of full funding for the School District: Mr. Tim Kelly

The following person spoke in opposition to the intent of Resolution Serial No. 17-042: Mr. Craig Anderson.

The following persons spoke in opposition to Resolution Serial No. 17-042: Mr. Brian Endel, Ms. Carol Carmen, Mr. Mike Shower, and Mr. Steven Renner.

## D. CONSENT AGENDA

### 1. RESOLUTIONS

**RS 17-034** A Resolution Approving Certain Unincorporated Communities And Their Incorporated Nonprofit Entity For Participation In The Fiscal Year 2018 Community Assistance Program.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**RS 17-042** A Resolution Authorizing The Borough Manager To Enter Into A Memorandum Of Understanding With The Alaska State Department Of Environmental Conservation For Air Quality Coordination.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Resolution Serial No. 17-042 was pulled from the agenda at approval of the agenda. No action was taken.

### 2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS

**AM 17-037** Award Of Proposal No. 17-082P To Architects Alaska For The Contract Amount Of \$1,276,699 For Palmer And Wasilla Pool Improvement Designs.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**AM 17-038** Award Of Proposal No. 17-083P To Burkhart Croft Architects In The Contract Amount Of \$410,319, for Brett Memorial Ice Arena Improvements Design.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**AM 17-040** Award Of Bid No. 17-107B To Western Construction & Equipment, LLC. In The Contract Amount Of \$372,349 For Foothills Boulevard At Lucille Creek Fish Passage.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**AM 17-041** Award Of Request For Proposal No. 17-077P To Byler Contracting In The Amount Of \$1,384,000 For The Design Build Of The Borough Parks And Recreation Maintenance Shop.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**AM 17-042** Award Of Request For Proposal No. 17-041P To Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. In The Amount Of \$149,400 For The Borough Solid Waste Business Roadmap/Study.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**AM 17-043** Authorization For The Manager To Enter Into A Grant Agreement In The Amount Of \$25,000 With The Iditarod Trail Committee, Project No. 15015.

**Sponsors:** Kowalke

**AM 17-045** Authorization For Paul Feather, Current Emergency Services Director, To Accrue Personal Leave At The Rate Of 12.7691 Hours Per Pay Period.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Ms. McKechnie read the consent agenda into the record.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to approve the consent agenda as read into the record by the Clerk. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**AM 17-035** Award Of Bid 17-101B To D & S Road Services In The Amount Of \$930,020 To Provide Crack Sealing Services.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved to adopt. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember Colligan, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**No:** 3 - Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Doty

## **VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**RS 17-031** A Resolution To Approve And Adopt The Fiscal Year 2018 Schedule Of Rates And Fees Effective July 1, 2017.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

MOTION PENDING: Assemblymember Mayfield moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 17-031.

Assemblymember Mayfield moved to amend the fees table as follows: Community Development - Hourly private ice rental/Primetime (September 1 through March 31) Monday through Friday 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. or Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. - by striking "\$225" and inserting "\$235" in its place; Community Development - Hourly private ice rental/non-primetime (April 1 through August 31) Outside primetime September 1 through March 31, all hours - by striking "\$180" and inserting "\$190" in its place; Community Development - Hourly private rental/paid gate/primetime (September 1 through March 31) Monday through Friday 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. or Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. - by striking "\$250" and inserting "\$260" in its place; and Community Development - Hourly private rental/paid gate/non-primetime (April 1 through August 31) Outside primetime September 1 through March 1, all hours - by striking "\$200" and inserting "\$210" in its place.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved to adopt. The main motion passed as amended without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

## **IX. VETO**

There were no vetoes presented.

## **X. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing May 16, 2017, Assembly Chambers)**

**OR 17-032** An Ordinance Approving Classification Of Borough-Owned Lands For Inclusion In The 2017 Competitive Sealed Bid Land Sale And Future Over-The-Counter Land Sales (MSB007249).

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-041** An Ordinance Amending MSB 4.27, Borough Area School Site Selection Committee; And MSB 19.08.020(D), Location Of School Buildings, To Make The Board Function More Efficiently And To Further The Goals Of The Assembly.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-042** An Ordinance Amending MSB 4.58, Health And Social Services Board, To Make The Board Function More Efficiently And To Further The Goals Of The Assembly.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-043** An Ordinance Amending MSB 4.43, Transportation Advisory Board, To Make The Board Function More Efficiently And To Further The Goals Of The Assembly.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-057** An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$134,000 From Meadow Lakes Road Service Area No. 27 Fund Balance, Fund 281, To Fund 410, Project No. 30047, For Meadow Lakes Road Service Area No. 27 Capital Projects.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-059** An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$115,000 From Gold Trail Road Service Area No. 28 Fund Balance, Fund 282, To Fund 410, Project No. 30048, For Gold Trail Road Service Area No. 28 Capital Projects.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-062** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating September 2012 Southcentral Flood Disaster Relief Monies In The Amount Of \$1,778,688 From The Alaska State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Management And The Federal Emergency Management Agency To Fund 445, Project No. 55017.  
RS 17-033: A Resolution Amending The Budget For The September 2012 Southcentral Flood Disaster Relief Monies, Project No. 55017.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-065** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating Additional Funds For Revision No. 2 In The Amount Of \$300,000 From The United States Fish And Wildlife Service To Fund 410, Project No. 30114, For Up To 24 Culvert Replacements As Part Of The Fish Passage Improvements Project, Project No. 30114.  
RS 17-035: A Resolution Amending The Budget For Revision No. 2 In The Amount Of \$300,000 For Replacement Of Up To 24 Culverts For Fish Passage Improvement, Project No. 30114.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-067** An Ordinance Reappropriating \$171,513 From The Capital Projects Department Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Budget Fund 100, To Fund 435, Borough Facilities Capital Projects, For The Fireweed Building Improvements, Project No. 10178.  
RS 17-036: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Fireweed Building Improvements, Project No. 10178.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-068** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating A \$7,500 Alaska State Division Of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant And Requesting A Reappropriation Of \$833.33 From The Butte Fire Service Area Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Budget Fund 251, To Project No. 20144, Fund 405, For Fire Hose, Foam, And Shipping.

RS 17-037: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Alaska State Division Of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant And Matching Funds For Butte Fire Service Area, Project No. 20144, Fund 405.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-069** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating A \$7,015 Alaska State Division Of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant And Requesting A Reappropriation Of \$779.44 From The Caswell Fire Service Area Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Budget Fund 248, To Project No. 20150, Fund 405, For Fire Hose And Shipping.

RS 17-038: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Alaska State Division Of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant And Matching Funds For Caswell Fire Service Area, Project No. 20150, Fund 405.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**OR 17-070** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating A \$7,015 Alaska State Division Of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant And Requesting A Reappropriation Of \$779.44 From The Willow Fire Service Area Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Budget Fund 258, To Project No. 20146, Fund 405, For Fire Hose And Shipping.

RS 17-039: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Alaska State Division Of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant And Matching Funds For Willow Fire Service Area, Project No. 20146, Fund 405.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

- OR 17-071** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating A \$7,347.36 Alaska State Division Of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant And Requesting A Reappropriation Of \$816.37 From The Sutton Fire Service Area Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Budget Fund 253, To Project No. 20255, Fund 405, For Radios And Pagers.  
RS 17-040: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Alaska State Division Of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant And Matching Funds For Sutton Fire Service Area, Project No. 20255, Fund 405.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

- OR 17-072** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating A \$7,484.80 Alaska State Division Of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant And Requesting A Reappropriation Of \$831.64 From The West Lakes Fire Service Area Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Budget Fund 249, To Project No. 20151, Fund 405, For Fire Equipment And Clothing.  
RS 17-041: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Alaska State Division Of Forestry Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant And Matching Funds For West Lakes Fire Service Area, Project No. 20151, Fund 405.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

- OR 17-074** An Ordinance Authorizing The Borough To Enact A Sales Tax Not To Exceed 3 Percent Of Sales, Services, And Rentals Within Service Area No. 36, Talkeetna Sewer And Water Service Area And Submitting The Question To The Qualified Service Area Voters At The October 3, 2017, Regular Borough Election.  
OR 17-075: An Ordinance Adopting MSB 3.70, Service Area Sales Tax; To Adopt A 3 Percent Sales Tax Within Service Area No. 36, Talkeetna Sewer And Water Service Area.

**Sponsors:** Kowalke

- OR 17-076** An Ordinance Amending MSB 4.10, Aviation Advisory Board To Make The Board Function More Efficiently And To Further The Goals Of The Assembly.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

**Assemblymember Beck moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the clerk and set the public hearings for May 16, 2017. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

## **B. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

### **1. VACANCY REPORT**

**17-031**      Vacancy Report

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Historical Preservation Commission:

Mark Murray

Local Emergency Planning Committee:

Brian Ritchie

Ryan Pierce, resignation

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Board:

Tom Phillips

Wastewater and Septage Advisory Board:

William Nall

**Assemblymember Beck moved to confirm the Mayor's appointments. The motion passed without objection by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

## **C. OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

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

There were no referrals presented.

## **XI. RECONSIDERATION**

There were no reconsiderations presented.



## **XII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS**

Assemblymember McKee spoke to concerns with the construction of the Parks and Recreation maintenance facility.

Assemblymember Sykes thanked the body for a good meeting. Noted his appreciation of staff for their input. Thanked the public for expressing their concerns regarding the Memorandum of Agreement (MOU) attached to Resolution Serial No. 17-042. Commented that the real issue is not the MOU, but the guidelines that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) expects the Borough to abide by when it comes to air quality standards. Stated that there is a need to help the public understand the EPA process.

Assemblymember Kowalke stated that he was delighted to be present at the presentation of proclamation to Chief Mahlon Greene. Spoke to numerous meetings he has been attending.

Assemblymember Mayfield stated that it is good to be able to discuss the issues that are important to the public. Noted that it is important to him to have open discussion. Thanked the body for the meeting.

Assemblymember Doty spoke to her appreciation of the input from the public on the air quality issue. Commented that air quality is about the health of the public. Related that respiratory disease is on the rise due to the poor quality of air. Stated her preference for local community engagement. Commented that the discussion regarding procurement was beneficial.

Assemblymember Colligan opined that it is important to follow the procurement process rules. Noted that it is an administrative process and not an Assembly process. Noted that the Borough has been steadily working to meet certain standards for services over the years. Stated his appreciation of the discussion during the meeting.

Assemblymember Bec thanked staff for all of their hard work. Thanked the public for their participation. Advised the body that he will be calling in for the next two weeks for budget deliberations.

Mayor Halter expressed his disdain for the patently false information on social media that woodstoves would be banned by the Borough. Noted the budget deliberations that would be occurring tomorrow evening. Stated that he would like to take the school budget amendments first and then to follow the order the Clerk has suggested for the remainder of the amendments.

### **XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

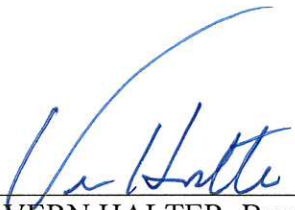
The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.



Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

May 2, 2017, Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes (18 pages)

  
VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 05/16/17

# 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  
Steve Colligan, District 4  
Dan Mayfield, District 5  
Barbara J. Doty, District 6  
Randall Kowalke, District 7

## MEETING MINUTES

### ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS

350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

ASSEMBLY SPECIAL MEETING

6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2017

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### **Budget Deliberations and Possible Adoption**

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Wednesday, May 3, 2017, 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 for the purpose of deliberations on Ordinance Serial No. 17-017.

#### **II. ROLL CALL**

**Present** 5 - Assemblymember Jim Sykes, Assemblymember George McKee, Assemblymember Steve Colligan, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, and Assemblymember Randall Kowalke

**Telephonic** 2 - Assemblymember Matthew Beck, and Assemblymember Barbara J. Doty

#### **III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Assemblymember Sykes moved to take up Mayor and Assembly Comments prior to Audience Participation. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes :** 5 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Doty

**No:** 2 - Assemblymember Colligan and Assemblymember Kowalke.

Mayor Halter vetoed the motion.

**Assemblymember Sykes moved to override the Mayor's veto. The motion failed by the following vote (required five votes):**

**Yes:** 4 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty

**No:** 3 - Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember McKee, and Assemblymember Kowalke

#### **IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Jon Carpenter, Channel 2 News.

Mr. Moosey provided an overview of the fiscal year 2018 budget.

#### **V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

The following person spoke against the sale of the Iditarod Elementary School: Mr. Garvin Bucaria.

The following persons spoke in support of the school district funding request: Mr. Mike Devine, Mr. Carl Nevada, Mr. John Robertson, Ms. Barbara Stott, Mr. Brian Mayer, Mr. John Pagel, Ms. Barbara Gerard, Mr. Michael Oron, Ms. Kelly Hammer, Mr. Rick Vaughn, Ms. Elizabeth Watchers, Ms. Carrie Fia, Ms. Shante Robinson, Mr. Benjamin Moyer, Ms. Christie Becker, Mr. Jason Ortiz, Ms. Stephanie Montoya, Ms. Catherine Pollock, Mr. Hunter Blakeley, Mr. Dan Hyde, Ms. Kylie Nagle, Ms. Malia Gravel, Mr. Eric Blakeley, Mr. John Berheney, Mr. Dan Gallagher, Ms. Laura Wick, Mr. Brandon Tucker, Mr. Mike Dannels, Mr. Bill Johnson, Ms. Lara Saunders, Mr. Joshua Rocky, and a number of ROTC cadets.

Assemblymember Beck exited the meeting at 6:46 p.m. and reentered the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

The meeting recessed at 7:23 p.m. and reconvened at 7:31 p.m.

#### **VI. DELIBERATIONS AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET**

**OR 17-017** An Ordinance Appropriating Monies From The Central Treasury For The Borough Operating Funds, Enterprise Funds, Education Operating Fund And Capital Funds, Establishing The Rate Of Levy For All Borough Functions For The Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2017 And Ending June 30, 2018 And Setting The Surcharge Rate For The Wireline And Wireless Enhanced 911 Systems For The Period Of July

1, 2017 Through June 30, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Borough Manager

Assemblymember Colligan summarized the relationship of the Borough and the School District for the last five years.

Assemblymember Doty spoke in support of education, a balanced budget, and the need for a broader revenue base.

Assemblymember McKee spoke to the need for a balanced budget. He noted that providing additional funding for the School District could take away funding from other necessary services.

Assemblymember Sykes spoke to the need for a balanced budget. He commented that a sales tax would reduce the amount of property taxes but not provide additional funding to the School District at this time. He noted the amount that the senior property tax exemptions were costing the Borough. He thanked everyone for their testimony. He encouraged public outreach by the School District to support the sales tax idea.

Assemblymember Kowalke noted there was record attendance at the meeting. He spoke to his proposed amendment to cut \$1.5 million from the school district funding.

Assemblymember Mayfield thanked everyone for their attendance and commented that education was a high priority to the Assembly.

(Assemblymember Beck entered telephonically before the amendments were made.)

**Amendment No. 1**

**Assemblymember Kowalke moved a primary amendment to increase the mill rate by .192 to cover the voter approved bond debt. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**No:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**Amendment No. 2**

**General Fund (Tab B, page 1 and 18) and Education Operating (Tab J, page 2)**

**Assemblymember Kowalke moved a primary amendment to the General Fund and Education Operating Fund as follows: Education Operating 100.000.000.445.220, 204.000.000.367.100, and 204.000.000.406.100 by striking \$55,841,300 and inserting in its place \$54,260,886 for a decrease of \$1,580,414. The motion failed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**No:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck,  
Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield,  
Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**Amendment No. 3**

**General Fund (Tab B, pages 1, 12, and 15), Debt Service Funds (Tab N, pages 19 and 20), and Educational Fund (Tab J, page 2)**

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved a primary amendment to the General Fund and Education Operating Fund as follows:**

- **Debt Service Funds, Other Financing Sources (303.000.000.390.000) and Debt Service-Principal Schools (303.000.000.441.100) by striking \$400,000 and inserting \$0 in its place;**
- **School Site Selection Reserve by inserting \$800,000 and inserting \$818,798 for a total increase of \$1,618,798;**
- **Lease Income (100.000.000.3xx.xxx) by inserting \$400,000;**
- **School Site Selection Reserve by striking \$1,898,798, leaving a balance of \$0; and**
- **Transfer to Education Operating (100.000.000.445.220), Transfer from Areawide (204.000.000.367.100), Education Operating (204.000.000.406.100) by inserting \$1,898,798 for a total of \$57,740,098.**

**Assemblymember Sykes moved a secondary amendment to School Site Selection Reserve by striking \$1,898,798 and inserting in its place \$1,598,798 leaving a balance of \$300,000 and to Transfer to Education, Transfer from Areawide, Educating Operating by striking \$1,898,798 and inserting in its place \$1,598,798 for a total of \$57,440,098. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck,  
Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield,  
Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**No:** 1 - Assemblymember McKee

**The primary amendment passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck,  
Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Doty

**No:** 3 - Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**Amendment No. 4**

**Assemblymember Kowalke moved a primary amendment to adopt the technical amendments as presented in the budget deliberation packet (see attached technical amendments). The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**Amendment No. 5**

**General Fund (Tab B, pages 85, 89, 92, and 95) and Fire Service Areas (Tab G, pages 12, 18, 25, 38, 45, 51, and 59)**

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved a primary amendment to the Areawide Emergency Services funds by inserting \$40,579 in wages and benefits and Fire Service Areas funds as listed below by inserting \$131, 487 in wages and benefits for a total of \$172,066 to add a Program Coordinator for recruitment and an Administrative Assistant to assist fleet maintenance. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**Amendment No. 6**

**Special Service Areas - Talkeetna Flood Control SSA (Tab I, page 4)**

**Assemblymember Kowalke moved a primary amendment to the Special Service Areas, Talkeetna Flood Control SSA, Other Contractual (290.000.000.429.900) by striking \$15,000 and inserting in its place \$35,000 for an increase of \$20,000 with no mill rate increase. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke



**Amendment No. 7**

**Non-Areawide Services - Animal Care (Tab D, page 15)**

**Assemblymember McKee moved a primary amendment to Non-Areawide Services, Animal Care, by inserting \$57,858 in Permanent Wages (411.100) and \$44,303 in Benefits (412's) for a total of \$102,161 to add a Deputy Animal Care and Regulation Officer. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke**

**Amendment No. 8**

**Capital Projects/Grants/Pass - Tourism Infrastructure, Winter Trail Grooming (Tab O, page 1)**

**Assemblymember Doty moved a primary amendment to Tourism Infrastructure, Winter Trail Grooming, by striking \$420,000 and inserting in its place \$370,000 and inserting a new grant to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Ski Club in the amount of \$50,000. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke**

**Amendment No. 9**

**Capital Projects/Grants/Pass - Tourism Infrastructure, Winter Trail Grooming (Tab O, page 1)**

**Assemblymember Kowalke moved a primary amendment to the Tourism Infrastructure, Winter Trail Grooming, by striking \$420,000 and inserting in its place \$150,000 and inserting the following tourism infrastructure projects:**

- Jim Creek Phase II \$100,000**
- Replacement Restrooms \$50,000**
- Alcantra Field Repair #3 \$40,000**
- Point MacKenzie Community Council Grant for Point MacKenzie Park \$30,000**

**Assemblymember Beck moved a secondary amendment to add Matanuska River Park Upgrade Design in the amount of \$50,000. The motion failed by the following vote:**

**No:** 4 - Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**Yes:** 3 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, and Assemblymember McKee

**The primary motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**No:** 1 - Assemblymember Beck

**Amendment No. 10**

**Areawide - Assembly (Tab B, page 17) and Mayor (Tab B, page 37)**

**Assemblymember Kowalke moved a primary amendment to the Areawide fund, Mayor and Assembly as follows:**

- **Assembly, Expense Reimbursement Outside Borough (100.100.101.414.200), by striking \$12,750 and inserting in its place \$19,750 for an increase of \$7,000;**
- **Assembly, Travel Tickets (100.100.101.414.400), by striking \$11,250 and inserting in its place \$18,250 for an increase of \$7,000;**
- **Mayor, Expense Reimbursement Outside Borough (100.1100.104.414.200), by striking \$1,300 and inserting in its place \$2300 for an increase of \$1000;**
- **Mayor, Travel Tickets (100.100.104.414.400), by striking \$2500 and inserting in its place \$3,500 for an increase of \$1000;**
- **Assembly, Dues and Fees (100.100.101.426.300), by striking \$41,000 and inserting in its place \$1,465 for a total decrease of \$39,535.**

**The motion failed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 2 - Assemblymember McKee and Assemblymember Kowalke

**No:** 5 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Doty

**Assemblymember Sykes moved to continue budget deliberations to a time certain of May 10, 2017. The motion failed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 2 - Assemblymember Beck and Assemblymember Doty

**No:** 5 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved to set the mill rates at 10.332 areawide and .548 non-areawide. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

**The main motion passed as amended by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

## **VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENT**

Assemblymember Sykes thanked everyone for their participation. He expressed disappointment that there was no discussion regarding the future of the Port.

Mayor Halter congratulated the Assembly and Borough staff for the adoption of the fiscal year 2018 budget. He spoke briefly to the School District funding.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.



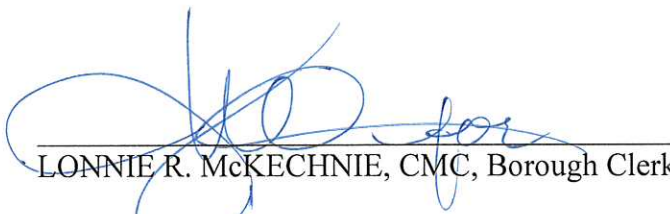
Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

May 3, 2017, Special Assembly Meeting Minutes (8 pages)

  
VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 05/16/17