

# 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  
Ted Leonard, District 4  
Dan Mayfield, District 5  
Jesse Sumner, District 6  
Tam Boeve, District 7

## MEETING MINUTES

### ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS

350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

ASSEMBLY REGULAR MEETING

6:00 PM

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2019

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, November 19, 2019, 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:** 7 - Assemblymember Jim Sykes, Assemblymember Matthew Beck, Assemblymember George McKee, Assemblymember Ted Leonard, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, Assemblymember Jesse Sumner, and Assemblymember Tam Boeve

### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Assemblymember Beck stated that he would like to pull the reconsideration of Ordinance Serial No. 19-088 from the agenda.

Mayor Halter queried if there was any objection.

There was no objection noted.

**Assemblymember Boeve moved to remove Ordinance Serial No. 19-127 from introduction and set it for introduction on January 7, 2020, with the public hearing on January 21, 2020.**

**Assemblymember Sumner moved to reconsider removal of Ordinance Serial No. 19-127 from introduction. The motion passed by the following vote:**

- Yes:** 4 - Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, and Assemblymember Sumner
- No:** 3 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Boeve

**The motion to remove Ordinance Serial No. 19-127 from introduction and to introduce on January 7, 2020, with public hearing on January 21, 2020, passed by the following vote:**

- Yes:** 4 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Boeve
- No:** 3 - Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, and Assemblymember Sumner

### IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Halter Presented Borough seals to outgoing Assemblymembers Sykes and Beck.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Steve Brown, Executive Director of Valley Community Recycling Solutions.

### V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

**19-179**

A. Joint Assembly/Planning Commission Meeting: 10/08/19

B. Regular Assembly Meeting: 10/15/19

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

The minutes were approved as presented.

## **VI. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE**

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

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

There were no reports provided.

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

There was no report provided.

### **B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

There was no report provided.

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

There was no report provided.

### **C. MANAGER COMMENTS**

**19-185**

Emergency Medical Services Reorganization Update

Mr. Ken Barkeley, Department of Emergency Services Director and Ms. Tracey Loscar, Emergency Services Manager reported on the Emergency Medical Services reorganization.

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

## **2. Strategic Planning Issues**

Mr. Moosey presented Government Financial Officers Association Certificates of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018, to Ms. Cheyenne Heindel, Finance Director and Ms. Barbara Baumgartner, Comptroller.

Ms. Heindel reported on the Borough's bond rating.

Mr. Steve Brown, Valley Community Recycling Solutions Executive Director, reported on the change of directors for the recycling facility.

## **3. Governor Dunleavy's Office Update**

Mr. Todd Smoldon, Director of Governor Dunleavy's Mat-Su Office, reported on the activities of the State.

## **D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

Mr. Spiropoulos reported on the activities of his office.

## **E. CLERK COMMENTS**

Ms. McKechnie spoke to the upcoming meeting schedule.

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

19-182

Agriculture Advisory Board: 09/18/19, Resolution No. 19-06  
Aviation Advisory Board: 08/07/19, Resolution No. 19-02  
Big Lake RSA Board of Supervisors: 06/12/19, 08/14/19, Resolution No. 19-01  
Board of Adjustment and Appeals: 09/11/19, BOAA 19-04 Final Decision  
Joint Central Mat-Su and West Lakes FSA Board of Supervisors: 09/09/19  
Enhanced 911 Advisory Board: 08/13/19  
Greater Butte RSA Board of Supervisors: 07/25/19  
Greater Palmer FSA Board of Supervisors: 08/13/19  
Historical Preservation Commission: 08/22/19  
Library Board: 05/18/19, 08/17/19  
Local Road Service Area Advisory Board: 08/15/19  
Planning Commission: 09/16/19, Resolution Nos. 19-20, 19-22, 19-23  
Platting Board: 09/05/19, 09/19/19  
Police Powers Task Force: 09/04/19, 10/02/19, 10/16/19  
Port Commission: 06/17/19, 07/15/19, 09/16/19  
South Colony RSA Board of Supervisors: 07/17/19  
Willow FSA Board of Supervisors: 01/10/19, 02/21/19, 04/11/19, 05/09/19, 07/11/19, 08/08/19  
Chase Community Council: 07/17/19  
Louise/Susitna/Tyone Community Association: 09/28/19  
Meadow Lakes Community Council: 04/10/19, 05/08/19, 06/12/19, 07/10/19, 08/14/19, 09/11/19  
South Knik River Community Council: 05/16/19, 08/15/19, 09/19/19  
Susitna Community Council: 09/05/19  
Talkeetna Community Council: 09/03/19  
Trapper Creek Community Council: 09/19/19  
Willow Area Community Organization: 09/04/19

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

## G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS

- IM 19-169 Reporting Of Conclusion Of Contract For Bid No. 18-127B To Valley General Construction, LLC. For Larry Trail Improvements.
- IM 19-170 Reporting Of Conclusion Of Contract For Bid No. 19-012B To Dirtworks Inc. For Ryan's Creek Drive And Lazy Lake Drive Improvements.

- IM 19-171** Reporting Of Conclusion Of Contract For Bid No. 19-066B To Western Construction & Equipment, LLC. For East Pintail Drive.
- IM 19-172** Reporting Of Conclusion Of Contract For Bid No. 19-103B To Western Construction & Equipment LLC. For Seldon Road Reclamation And Paving.
- IM 19-175** Reporting Of Conclusion Of Contract For Bid No. 19-027B To Northern Asphalt Construction Inc. For West Grand Bay Drive And South Canter Place Upgrades.
- IM 19-177** Reporting Of Conclusion Of Contract For Bid No. 18-102B To Northern Asphalt Construction Inc. For Alma Drive Improvements.
- IM 19-189** Reporting The Conclusion Of Contract For Bid No. 18-096B With Orion Construction, Inc. For The Wasilla Pool Improvements Project, Project No. 15041, For the Final Contract Amount of \$5,891,612.05.  
The informational memorandums were presented and no comments were noted.

## **VII. SPECIAL ORDERS**

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

There were no persons to be heard.

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

**OR 19-119** An Ordinance To Approve A Supplemental Appropriation Of \$50,000 From The Unrestricted Net Assets In The Solid Waste Enterprise Fund, Fund 510, To Solid Waste Budget Line 510.150.416 426.900 For An Update To The Landfill Development Sequencing Plan, Landfill Gas Plan, And Leachate Management Plans.

RS 19-086: A Resolution Establishing The Scope Of Work And Budget For A Supplemental Appropriation Of \$50,000 From The Unrestricted Net Assets In The Solid Waste Enterprise Fund, Fund 510, To Solid Waste Budget Line 510.150.416 426.900 For An Update To The Landfill  
Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Mayor Halter reopened the public hearing.

The following persons spoke in opposition to Ordinance Serial No. 19-119: Mr. Howard Hinden and Mr. Michael Weeks.

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

**MOTION PENDING: Assemblymember Beck moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 19-119 and Resolution Serial No. 19-086. The motion passed without objection.**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Boeve

**OR 19-116** An Ordinance Approving The Transfer Of Real Property Identified As Lot 1, Homesteaders Community Center Subdivision, Houston, Alaska, To Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc. For The Purpose Of Future Operations And Management Of Facilities Controlled By Mid-Valley Seniors, Inc. (MSB007512).

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

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 Boeve moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 19-116. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Boeve

**OR 19-121** An Ordinance Authorizing The Matanuska-Susitna Borough To Issue Areawide Taxable General Obligation Bonds, In One Or More Series, To Refund And Defease Certain Outstanding General Obligation Bonds Of The Borough; Fixing Certain Details Of Such Bonds; And Authorizing Their Sale.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 19-121. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Boeve

**OR 19-123** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating A Grant In The Amount Of \$25,000 From The Alaska State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Management Grant Program, To Fund 425, Project No. 45158, For Emergency Operations Center Training.

RS 19-089: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Alaska State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Management Grant, Project No. 45158, Fund 425, For Emergency Operations Center Training.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

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. 19-123 and Resolution Serial No. 19-089. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Boeve



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

The meeting recessed at 7:16 p.m. and reconvened at 7:22 p.m.

The following person spoke in opposition to Resolution Serial No. 19-090: Ms. Jana Weltzin, Attorney for Mr. Happy Farms.

The following person thanked Assemblymembers Sykes and Beck for their service. Spoke to concerns with Resolution Serial No. 19-091: Ms. Cindy Bettine.

The following person spoke to concerns with Resolution Serial No. 19-091: Ms. Sam Hanson.

### D. CONSENT AGENDA

#### 1. RESOLUTIONS

**RS 19-094** A Resolution Amending The Budget For Project No. 45066, Fund 405, To Further Support The Purchase/ Replacement Of Apparatus And Associated Equipment For Central Mat-Su Fire Service Area.

**RS 19-095** A Resolution Amending The Budgets For Project Nos. 45066 And 45076, Fund 405, To Further Support Upgrades For The Central Mat-Su Fire Service Area Training Complex.

#### 2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS

**AM 19-120** Authorization To Purchase A Fire Apparatus From General Fire Apparatus/Rosenbauer In The Contract Amount Of \$491,381 For The Willow Fire Service Area.

**AM 19-121** Assembly Regular And Joint Meeting Schedule For 2020.

**AM 19-122** Vacate A Portion Of The Section Line Easements Within Sections 20 And 29, Township 20 North, Range 9 East, Seward Meridian, Alaska.

**AM 19-124** Authorization To Enter Into A Lease With Dominion Voting For Election Equipment In The Amount Of \$70,840 For The First Year, With An Annual Increase Of 2 Percent Over The Next Seven Years. Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to approve the consent agenda as read into the record by the Clerk. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Boeve

**RS 19-090** A Resolution Requesting The Alaska Marijuana Control Board Reconsider The Limited Cultivation Facility License Granted To Mr. Happy Farms, LLC.

**Sponsors:** Sumner

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

**Assemblymember Boeve moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 19-090. The motion failed by the following vote:**

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

**No:** 5 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Boeve

**RS 19-091** A Resolution Supporting The Update Of The Lake Management Plan Process And Implementation Of Plans.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

**Assemblymember Mayfield moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 19-091. The motion failed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 2 - Assemblymember Beck, and Assemblymember Boeve

**No:** 5 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, and Assemblymember Sumner

**AM 19-107** Approval Of Contract Amendment No. 1 To Contract No. 18-100B With Orion Marine Contractors, Inc. In The Amount Of \$94,763.48 For Port Mackenzie Dock Repairs, Phase II, Project No. 70012, To Modify The Tasks, Resolve The Contractor's Additional Work Claim, And Report The Conclusion Of The Contract For The Final Contract Amount Of \$2,140,826.48.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

**Assemblymember McKee moved to adopt AM No. 19-107. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Boeve

**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**IX. VETO**

There were no vetoes presented.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing 12/03/19, Assembly Chambers)**

- OR 19-040** An Ordinance Amending And Updating Title 23, Real Property.  
RS 19-027: A Resolution Amending The Land And Resource Management Division Policy And Procedures Manual; And Amending The Fiscal Year 2020 Schedule Of Rates And Fees, Effective July 1, 2019.
- OR 19-114** An Ordinance Modifying A Special Condition Of The Mass Excavation Interim Materials District To Accommodate The Glenn Highway Expansion Project.
- OR 19-124** An Ordinance Waiving The Provision Of MSB 8.40.030 For Denny Investments 2020 State Liquor License Renewal.
- OR 19-125** An Ordinance Authorizing The Land Reclassification For A 5 Acre Home Site Within A Portion Of The Northwest 1/4 Southwest 1/4, Section 13, Township 19 North, Range 5 West, Seward Meridian, As Residential; And Approving The Owner's Request To Subdivide And Purchase The Fee Simple Estate Of The Home Site (MSB 007476 (Subdivide) & MSB001235 (Sale)).
- OR 19-126** An Ordinance Approving A Reappropriation Of \$50,000 From The Fiscal Year 2020 Community Development Department Operating Budget 203.170.141, To Fund 440, Project No. 15040, Settlers Bay Coastal Park Project.  
RS 19-093: A Resolution Amending The Budget For The Settlers Bay Coastal Park, Fund 440, Project No. 15040, For Park Ongoing Development.
- OR 19-127** An Ordinance Adopting MSB 3.08.225, Competition.  
[Clerk's Note: Ordinance Serial No. 19-127 was removed from introduction.]

**OR 19-128** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating 2018 Cook Inlet Earthquake Disaster Relief Monies In The Amount Of \$612,899.33 From The Federal Emergency Management Agency And \$204,299.78 From The Alaska State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Management, To Fund 445, Project Nos. 55026 And 55027.

RS 19-096: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For A Portion Of The 2018 Cook Inlet Earthquake Disaster Relief Monies, Project Nos. 55026 And 55027.

**OR 19-130** An Ordinance Appropriating \$1,058.06 In Fiscal Year 2020 Project Income And \$775 In Anticipated Fiscal Year 2020 Project Income For The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Project No. 20395.

RS 19-097: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget,

**OR 19-132** An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$5,800,000 In Insurance Proceeds To Fund 445, Project No. 55026, School Infrastructure.

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

**Assemblymember Beck moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk and to set the public hearings for December 3, 2019, excepting Ordinance Serial No. 19-127. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Sumner, and Assemblymember Boeve

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

### **1. VACANCY REPORT**

## Vacancy Report

Board of Adjustment and Appeals  
Claudia Roberts  
Health and Social Services Board  
Mary Frances Hoyle  
Planning Commission  
Jason Ortiz  
Talkeetna FSA No. 24  
Larry Dearman, resignation  
Lazy Mountain RSA No. 19  
Lorene Lynn  
Trapper Creek RSA No. 30  
Ryan Marsolais, resignation

The following terms begin January 1, 2020:

Agriculture Advisory Boardd  
Dick Zobel  
Eric "Moe" Johnson  
Board of Adjustment and Appeals  
Terry Nicodemus  
Larry Schmidt  
Board of Equalization  
Timothy Vereide  
Board of Ethics  
Vicki Randolph  
Emergency Medical Services Board  
Dustin Sprenger  
Enhanced 911 Advisory Board  
Anthony April  
Brent Johnson  
Dwayne Shelton  
Historical Preservation Committee  
Deborah Burlinski  
Library Board  
Diane Holl-Rambo  
Ann Yadon  
Local Emergency Planning Committee  
Beatrice Adler  
Ray Hollenbeck  
Kathy Watkins  
Micah Weinstein  
Office of Administrative Hearings

Scott Sterling  
Parks, Recreation & Trails Advisory Board  
Cindy Bettine  
Planning Commission  
Patricia Chesbro  
Chris Elder  
Stafford Glashan  
Platting Board  
John Shadrach  
Port Commission  
Bryan Scoresby  
Timothy Anderson  
Transportation Advisory Board  
Antonio Weese  
Wastewater & Septage Advisory Board  
Daniel Tucker  
Ronald Phillips  
Butte FSA No. 2  
Mitzi Van Asdlan  
Caswell FSA No. 135  
Kenneth Eggleston  
Central Mat-Su FSA No. 130  
Brian Davis  
Dan Tucker  
West Lakes FSA No. 136  
Steven Simpson  
Larry Fetchenhier  
Big Lake RSA No. 21  
Michael Kangas  
Bogard RSA No. 25  
Gary Hessmer  
Greater Talkeetna RSA No. 29  
John Strassenburgh  
Greater Willow RSA No. 20  
Thomas Phillips  
South Colony RSA No. 16  
Philip Cobb

**Assemblymember Beck moved to confirm the appointments and resignations as requested by the Mayor. The motion passed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Assemblymember Sykes, Assemblymember Beck,  
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard,  
Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Sumner, and  
Assemblymember Boeve

**C. OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

There was no 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.

**XI. RECONSIDERATION**

**OR 19-088** An Ordinance Amending MSB 2.71.090 And MSB 3.08.230, To Prohibit Elected Officials From Employment, Holding Contracts, Or Having Any Interest In Contracts With The Borough While In Office And For Three Years After Leaving Office Unless The Assembly Waives The Restriction In Advance.

**Sponsors:** Sumner

[Clerk's Note: Reconsideration was removed from the agenda at approval of the agenda.]

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

Mr. Spiropoulos spoke to his appreciation of working with Assemblymembers Sykes and Beck. Stated that it has been a good six years working with them. Encouraged them to stop by and visit from time-to-time.

Mr. Moosey extended his congratulations to Assemblymember Sykes for his years of public service. Stated that he does not know anyone who examines Borough issues more thoroughly. Noted that he is always prepared and always asks questions. Opined that he has served the Borough and his constituents well. Congratulated Assemblymember Beck on his years of service. Spoke to his positive attitude and never failing encouragement of staff. Opined that he has been a great example of what an assembly member should be. Noted that he always looks on the positive side of tough issues and finds a way to work together.

Ms. McKechnie noted that Assemblymembers Beck and Sykes have been on the Assembly for half of her career. Noted that she has enjoyed listening to Assemblymember Beck and Ms. Henry's occasional banter. Stated that both members will be missed. Thanked them for their service to the community.

Assemblymember Sumner noted that the last year has gone by quick. Spoke to his appreciation of having served with Assemblymembers Sykes and Beck. Stated that he intends to request the newly elected Assembly Members be included in the executive session tomorrow.

Assemblymember Leonard stated that he hoped that the Assembly understands how critical it is to work with Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority (AIDEA) in opening up the west Susitna area. Noted that memorandums of agreement are critical for moving into public/private partnerships. Spoke to having attended a recent AIDEA meeting at which Mr. Moosey did a great job in presenting the importance of opening up that land for development. Related that he has worked in municipal government for about 20 years and that he has never seen more dedicated and hardworking people than Assemblymember Sykes and Beck. Noted that it has been his privilege to work with them. Commented that it is hard work and that they never shied away from it. Noted that Assemblymember Sykes put in an overabundance of time. Opined that Assemblymember Beck genuinely cares about his constituents. Spoke to his appreciation of being seated next to him at the dais. Stated that he has appreciated Assemblymember Beck's assistance with his mic button.

Assemblymember McKee stated that he is going to miss Assemblymembers Sykes and Beck. Noted that they have not always agreed,



but he knows that they are hardworking and dedicated and that is what is important. Thanked them for their dedication. Spoke to concerns with a bridge over the Big Susitna River.

Assemblymember Boeve reminded the body that there are families that were impacted by the McKinley fire that are now dealing with snow. Noted that the metal debris removal should be complete by next week. Related that there are families out there that are in inadequate housing and that is a real concern. Thanked Assemblymember Beck for his service. Related that she met him five years ago and that her respect for him grows with each interaction. Stated that Assemblymember Sykes' attention to detail and tireless service to his community is priceless. Thanked them for their friendship and support. Commented that they will be missed.

Assemblymember Mayfield noted that he learned a lot from Assemblymember Sykes and Beck during his first year. Opined that any words he could say to describe their service to the Borough would be inadequate. Thanked them for their service, friendship, and leadership. Noted that they are both compassionate people. Noted that Assemblymember Beck is a true gentleman and that Assemblymember Sykes attention to detail is unmatched.

Assemblymember Sykes spoke to his appreciation of all the kind words that have been said. Opined that Mr. Spiropoulos is a phenomenal municipal attorney who is smart and always prepared. Noted that Ms. McKechnie runs a tight ship who works hard to ensure a fair electoral process. Thanked Ms. Henry for her quick response to his many requests and commented on how efficient she is. Stated that Mr. Moosey is an asset to the Borough and a good choice. Noted that when he was first elected, that he made an effort to meet as many Borough employees as possible in order to see how things worked. Suggested that Assembly members speak to as many employees as needed to get the information required to make informed decisions. Stated that employees are dedicated and understand that they are there to serve the public. Noted that Assemblymember Sumner's construction experience post-earthquake was invaluable. Stated that he has known Assemblymember Leonard's wife for a long time. Spoke in appreciation of his financial experience. Noted that Assemblymember Boeve has been involved in her community for a very long time and that she dedicates quite a bit of time caring for her community. Thank her for her continued service. Stated that when he first met Assemblymember McKee he wondered who this cantankerous person was. Stated that he finds him to be very thoughtful with a lot of life experience and a great sense of humor. Advised him to keep his mind open. Noted that he and Assemblymember Mayfield met as candidates. Related that the Pt. MacKenzie Community Council had not had an assembly member at their meetings in a long time, so he had adopted

them. Noted that he continued until Assemblymember Mayfield was elected and he was the one that started going to meetings. Noted that he is very active in his own community and has a lot of insurance experience that was invaluable during the ferry negotiations. Noted that he and Assemblymember Beck met when they were both running for office. Stated that all the nice things said about him are true. Noted that it is very easy to have a relationship with him and that he is always considerate in the things he says. Related that he and Mayor Halter have known each other since he was on the Planning Commission. Noted that he is hard to persuade, but that if you have a good argument then it might be possible to sway him. Opined that he is a good mayor who is respectful and has a great sense of humor. Opined that it has been a terrific experience being on the Assembly. Noted that it is better to work together to make things happen, as single-minded agendas are no good. Spoke to the need for more public outreach. Noted that he is not a fan of social media, but folks do get their information there more now than ever. Noted how easy it is to spread information that is not accurate. Spoke to the need to be proactive and give residents information that is accurate. Noted that folks do not trust the government and that it has to be earned. Spoke to the positive growth in the Borough. Stated that he has enjoyed his work the last six years. Thanked everyone for their hard work and the public for participating in meetings.

Assemblymember Beck stated that he is humbled by all the kind comments. Stated that he is grateful to be a small part of something so great. Noted that being a part of the assembly has been incredible and that he has enjoyed the robust debates. Stated that his overall experience has been positive. Related that when he was first elected, that his brother had advised him that as an elected official, people will say and feel things about him that are not friendly, but to let it go. Spoke to the joy in his heart for his time on the Assembly. Stated that he has never met anyone who loves Borough more than Mr. Moosey. Related that when he went to see him in the hospital, he was working on Borough business. Noted that he was very dedicated. Thanked the Mayor for the opportunity to be deputy mayor. happy to have done it and enjoyed it. Spoke to his appreciation of sitting next to Ms. Henry at the dais and that at times it felt as though they were the old men in the balcony on the Muppet Show. Thanked the body for the positive working relationship over the years.

Mayor Halter spoke to his appreciation of the hard work of Assemblymembers Sykes and Beck. Noted that they both brought a lot to the Assembly. Opined that the newly elected officials have big shoes to fill, as they have been extremely dedicated and worked hard for their constituents. Noted that it is always good to have a diverse Assembly. Wished them well in their future endeavors.

### **XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session held.

### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

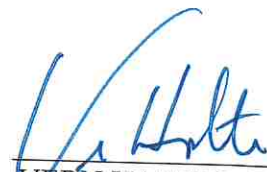


Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

November 19, 2019, Assembly Regular Meeting Minutes

(19 pages)

  
VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 12/03/19