



Mayoral Signature and Clerk Attestment

For

January 22, 2020, Joint Assembly/School Board Meeting Minutes

(5 pages)


VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 02/18/20

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

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

Tim Hale, District 1
Stephanie Nowers, District 2
George McKee, District 3
Ted Leonard, District 4
Dan Mayfield, District 5
Jesse Sumner, District 6
Tam Boeve, District 7



Thomas Bergey, District 1
Jim Hart, District 2
Ole Larson, District 3
Sarah Welton, District 4
Ryan Ponder, District 5
Kelsey Trimmer, District 6
Jeff Taylor, District 7

MEETING MINUTES

BREAKROOM NEXT TO ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS
350 EAST DAHLIA AVENUE, PALMER

JOINT ASSEMBLY/SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

4:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Joint Assembly/School Board meeting was held on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, at the Borough Breakroom next to Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 4 p.m. by Mayor Vern Halter.

II. ASSEMBLY ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Assemblymember Tim Hale, Assemblymember Stephanie Nowers, Assemblymember George McKee, Assemblymember Ted Leonard, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, Assemblymember Jesse Sumner, and Assemblymember Tam Boeve

SCHOOL BOARD ROLL CALL

School Board President Thomas Bergey, School Board Member Jim Hart, School Board Member Ole Larson, School Board Member Sarah Welton, School Board Member Kelsey Trimmer, and School Board Member Jeff Taylor.

School Board Member Ryan Ponder was absent and excused.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Assemblymember Boeve moved to postpone Item F. School Major Maintenance, to March 24, 2020. The motion passed by the following vote:

**Yes: 7 - Assemblymember Hale, Assemblymember Nowers,
Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Leonard,
Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Sumner, and
Assemblymember Boeve**

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 spoke to the need for emergency preparedness: Ms. Madeline Ortiz, Palmer High School Freshman.

VI. JOINT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Youth 360 Program - Dr. Alfgeir Kristjansson (Requested by School Board)

Dr. Afgeir Kristjansson presented on the Youth 360 Program, which works to increase health and wellness for youth in the Borough.

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

Dr. Monica Goyette, School District Superintendent, presented the School District's proposed budget.

C. Borough Update on Houston Middle School Retrofit (Requested by School Board)

Mr. Moosey provided an update regarding the Houston Middle School retrofit progress.

D. Palmer Combined Bus Routes (Requested by School Board)

Dr. Monica Goyette, School District Superintendent, reported on the Palmer combined bus routes.

E. Mat-Su Central School Update (Requested by School Board)

Dr. Monica Goyette, School District Superintendent, provided an update on Mat-Su Central School.

F. School Major Maintenance (Requested by School Board)

[Clerk's note: Item F. School Major Maintenance was postponed to March 24, 2020, at approval of the agenda.]

G. School Bond Debt Reimbursement (Requested by School District)

The body discussed school bond debt reimbursement.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

The following person spoke to concerns with the location of the current meeting and opined that the planning session should be cancelled: Mr. Eugene Carl Haberman.

VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENT

School Board Member Trimmer spoke in support of the meeting configuration for the joint meeting.

School Board Member Larson thanked the Assembly for hosting the meeting. Spoke to the Student Government throughout the School District.

School Board Member Taylor spoke to his appreciation of the meeting. Spoke to the need to support students families in order for students to be successful.

School Board Member Welton spoke in appreciation of the presentations. Spoke to her history of working in the mental health field. Spoke to recent school activities. Noted the importance of working with students and their parents.

School Board Member Hart apologized for arriving late. Thanked the body for the meeting.

School Board President Bergey spoke to his appreciation of the Youth 360 presentation. Stated that he especially appreciated the parental participation component. Announced Classified Employees Association negotiations are moving forward. Stated that he is looking forward to continued negotiations. Spoke to his appreciation of the joint meeting.

Assemblymember Nowers spoke to her appreciation of the presentation of the Youth 360 program. Stated that she is looking forward to it being implemented. Spoke to the important role of teachers in the lives of the children they educate. Stated that it is nice to see children recognized for their academic achievements.

Assemblymember Boeve thanked the body for the meeting. Noted her appreciation of the Youth 360 presentation. Spoke to her involvement with that program over the last year. Opined that it is important to implement this program in all communities.

Assemblymember Sumner spoke to his desire to use School District unassigned funds to assist with the retrofit of Houston Middle School. Thanked the body for the meeting.

Assemblymember McKee opined it is unrealistic to discuss finances at this time as the Governor's budget has not been adopted. Stated that he does not trust the School District to change the culture for his grandkids.

Assemblymember Leonard spoke to his appreciation of the meeting location. Spoke to how the school bond debt reimbursement has evolved. Noted that the Assembly has always supported funding for the School District.

Assemblymember Mayfield spoke to his history of supporting funding for education. Spoke in support of the Youth 360 program. Spoke to his hope that the State Legislature will move more quickly than they have in the past. Thanked the body for the meeting.

Mayor Halter spoke to his appreciation of the joint meetings. Spoke to his appreciation of the meeting location and set up. Stated that he enjoyed the Youth 360 program and the statistics that were provided for a 30-year period. Noted that he is eager to get Houston Middle School repaired.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.




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