

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

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, OCTOBER 17, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, October 17, 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 Matthew Beck, Assemblymember George McKee, Assemblymember Steve Colligan, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, Assemblymember Barbara J. Doty, and Assemblymember Randall Kowalke

Telephonic: 1 - Assemblymember Jim Sykes

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Assemblymember Sykes moved to postpone Resolution Serial Nos. 17-070 and 17-071 to a time certain of November 7, 2017.

The motion passed by the following vote:

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Assemblymember Sykes moved to pull Ordinance Serial No. 17-133, from introduction. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Assemblymember Sykes, and Assemblymember Beck

No: 5 - Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Ms. Bonnie Quill, Executive Director of the Mat-Su Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

There were no minutes of preceding meetings.

VI. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

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

1. Reports From Cities

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

2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

Dr. Monica Goyette, School District Superintendent, reported on the State Standards Assessment Review.

3. Mat-Su Convention and Visitors Bureau

Ms. Bonnie Quill, Executive Director of the Mat-Su Convention and Visitor's Bureau reported on the activities of the Bureau.

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Joint Assembly/School Board Committee On School Issues

Assemblymember Beck reported on the October 2, 2017, committee meeting.

2. Assembly Public Relations

Assemblymember Beck reported on attending the Palmer Invitational Swim Meet.

C. MANAGER COMMENTS

1. State/Federal Legislation

2. Strategic Planning Issues

3. Emergency Preparedness Poster Contest Winners

Ms. Jill Farris, Emergency Preparedness Poster Contest Coordinator, spoke to the poster contest and presented awards to the contest winners: Ms. Laura Nichols, Academy Charter School; Ms. Jamie Staats, Troop Leader on behalf of Girl Scout Troop 915; Ms. Cameron Dillon, Fronteras Charter School; Ms. Jillian Holland, Redington Junior High School; Ms. Kay Musselman, Wasilla High School.

Ms. Heather Ridge, Borough Emergency Management Specialist thanked the winners for their participation.

4. Gold Torrent Presentation

Introduced Mr. Stan Foo, Senior Project Manager with Gold Torrent, reported on the Lucky Shot Project.

Mr. Moosey reported that the Borough had won a facility excellence award from the Alaska Recreation and Park Association for the Jim Creek ATV Trails.

D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

E. CLERK COMMENTS

Ms. McKechnie spoke to the upcoming meeting schedule. And requested to put the Assembly District 5 election certification on the October 24, 2017, Joint Assembly/Planning Commission meeting.

Mayor Halter queried if there was any objection.

There was no objection noted.

F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

[17-061](#)

1. Agriculture Advisory Board: 05/17/17
2. Board of Adjustment and Appeals: 06/08/17
3. Greater Butte RSA Board of Supervisors: 07/13/17
4. MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission: 05/18/17
5. Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Board: 07/24/17
6. Planning Commission: 08/07/17, 08/21/17, Resolution Nos. 17-32, 17-37, 17-38, 17-039, 17-040
7. Platting Board: 08/17/17
8. Port Commission: 06/19/17
9. Chickaloon Community Council: 01/11/17, 02/08/17, 03/08/17, 04/12/17, 05/10/17, 06/14/17, 07/12/17, 08/09/17
10. Greater Farm Loop Community Council: 03/30/17, 04/12/17
11. Lazy Mountain Community Council: Resolution No. 17-01
12. South Knik River Community Council: 06/15/17
13. Susitna Community Council: 08/03/17
14. Talkeenta Community Council: 08/07/17
15. Willow Area Community Organization: 05/01/17, 07/10/17, 08/07/17

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

G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS

[IM 17-163](#)

Notification Of Certification Of 2017 Regular Real Property, Personal Property, Oil And Gas Properties, Exempted Properties, And Board Of Equalization Actions.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[IM 17-173](#)

Reporting Of Conclusion Of Contract For Bid No. 15-093B To F-E Contracting, Inc. For The Dena'ina Elementary School In The Knik Area.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[IM 17-178](#)

Notice Of Removal Of A Remote Cabin On Matanuska-Susitna Borough Property, Tax Account #19N07W22A001, Located On Upper Vern Lake In The Lockwood Lake Area.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[IM 17-182](#) Reporting Of Conclusion Of Contract For Bid No. 15-153B To Jolt Construction & Traffic Maintenance Inc. For Big Lake Intersection Improvements For The Final Contract Amount Of \$2,132,340.58.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

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.)

(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.

The meeting recessed at 6:55 p.m. and reconvened at 7:02 p.m.

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three Minutes Per Person.)

[OR 17-096](#) An Ordinance Amending MSB 17.61, Core Area Conditional Use Permit Requirements, To Prohibit Private Landfills Within The Core Area.

Sponsors: Beck

Ms. McKechnie read the legislation into the record.

Mayor Halter opened the public hearing.

The following persons spoke in support of Ordinance Serial No. 17-096: Mr. Gary Gearhart; Mr. William Fields; Ms. Lisa Kallandar; Mr. Samuel Raynovic; Ms. Kristin Lewis; Mr. Chris Sahlstrom; Ms. Helen Hoffman; Mr. John Harris; Ms. Diane Warta; Ms. Trina Davis; Ms. Stephanie Nowers, Gateway Community Council President; and Ms. Jill Farris.

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

Clerk's Note: Assemblymember Sykes exited the meeting telephonically prior to action on the legislation.

Assemblymember Beck moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 17-096. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: 1 - Assemblymember Sykes

[OR 17-118](#) An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$108,040 From The Alaska State Department Of Military And Veteran's Affairs, Emergency Management Performance Grant Program, And Requesting A Reappropriation Of \$108,040 From The Emergency Management Fiscal Year 2018 Operating Budget To Fund 425, Project No. 45285.

RS 17-069: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For The Alaska State Department Of Military And Veteran's Affairs, Emergency Management Performance Grant, Project No. 45285, Fund 425, For Emergency Management Wages And Benefits.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

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. 17-118 and Resolution Serial No. 17-069. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: 1 - Assemblymember Sykes

[OR 17-119](#)

An Ordinance Approving A Supplemental Appropriation Of \$180,000 From The Central Mat-Su Fire Service Area Fund Balance, Fund 250, To The Fiscal Year 2018 Central Mat-Su Fire Service Area Operating Budget, Fund 250, For Wages And Benefits For Two Regular Full Time Positions; Fire Marshal And Fire Training Officer.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

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 Colligan moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 17-119.

Assemblymember Beck moved a primary amendment to the job descriptions for the Fire Marshal and the CMSFD Training Officer to include a provision that reads: "A per Assembly designation under MSB 2.52.653(A)(4), this position is excluded from membership in an employee labor organization." The primary amendment passed by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

No: 1 - Assemblymember McKee

Absent: 1 - Assemblymember Sykes

The main motion passed as amended by the following vote:

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

Absent: 1 - Assemblymember Sykes

C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three Minutes Per Person.)

The following person spoke to concerns with Resolution Serial No. 17-073: Mr. John Harris.

D. CONSENT AGENDA

1. RESOLUTIONS

[RS 17-073](#) A Resolution Supporting Amendments To MSB 17.73 Multi-Family Development, And To Address Density, Septic Requirements, And Condo-Plat Concerns On Lots With Multi-Family Development.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[RS 17-075](#) A Resolution Approving The Amended Budgets And Transfer Of Funds From Animal Care, A Fiberglass Animal Box, Project No. 45168, To Cat Kennels Replacement, Project No. 10176, In The Amount Of \$25,000 And Amending The Scope Of Work To Allow For Emergency Repairs To The Crematorium.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS

[AM 17-096](#) Award Of Bid 18-029B To Firetrucks Unlimited, LLC. In The Contract Amount Of \$349,900 To Refurbish Two, 2007 Pumper-Tanker Fire Apparatus For Central Mat-Su Fire Service Area.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[AM 17-097](#) Authorization To Purchase From National Auto Fleet Group In The Amount Of \$157,100, A Waste Container Hauling Roll-Off Truck For The Central Landfill.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[AM 17-098](#) Authorization To Purchase From General Fire Apparatus - Rosenbauer, In The Amount Of \$384,677, A Fire Apparatus For Talkeetna Station 11-1.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

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: 6 - Assemblymember Beck, Assemblymember McKee, Assemblymember Colligan, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

Absent: 1 - Assemblymember Sykes

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

[RS 17-070](#) A Resolution Approving State Legislative Priorities For Fiscal Year 2019.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[RS 17-071](#) A Resolution Approving Federal Legislative Priorities For 2019.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

Clerks Note: Resolution Serial Nos. 17-070 and 17-071 were postponed to November 7, 2017, at approval of the agenda.

IX. VETO

There were no vetoes presented.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing November 7, 2017, Assembly Chambers)

[OR 17-114](#) An Ordinance Adopting The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Long Range Transportation Plan And Amending MSB 15.24.030(B)(12), Comprehensive Plan And Purposes.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 17-120](#) An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$235,000 From Midway Road Service Area No. 9 Fund Balance, Fund 270, To Fund 410, Project No. 30036, For Midway Road Service Area No. 9 Capital Projects.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 17-121](#) An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$133,000 From Lazy Mountain Road Service Area No. 19 Fund Balance, Fund 275, To Fund 410, Project No. 30041, For Lazy Mountain Road Service Area No. 19 Capital Projects.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 17-122](#) An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$89,000 From North Colony Road Service Area No. 23 Fund Balance, Fund 278, To Fund 410, Project No. 30044, For North Colony Road Service Area No. 23 Capital Projects.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 17-123](#) An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$58,000 From Caswell Road Service Area No. 15 Fund Balance, Fund 272, To Fund 410, Project No. 30038, For Caswell Road Service Area No. 15 Capital Projects.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 17-124](#) An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$29,000 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

[OR 17-125](#) An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$82,000 From Big Lake Road Service Area No. 21 Fund Balance, Fund 277, To Fund 410, Project No. 30043, For Big Lake Road Service Area No. 21 Capital Projects.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 17-126](#) An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$18,306 From Trapper Creek Road Service Area No. 30 Fund Balance, Fund 284, To Fund 410, Project No. 30050, For Trapper Creek Road Service Area No. 30 Capital Projects.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 17-127](#) An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$46,000 From Alpine Road Service Area No. 31 Fund Balance, Fund 285, To Fund 410, Project No. 30051, For Alpine Road Service Area No. 31 Capital Projects.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 17-129](#) An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$299,000 From Bogard Road Service Area No. 25 Fund Balance, Fund 279, To Fund 410, Project No. 30045, For Bogard Road Service Area No. 25 Capital Projects.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 17-130](#) An Ordinance Amending MSB 15.39, Board Of Adjustment And Appeals, By Adopting MSB 15.39.205, Withdrawal Of Appeal By Appellant; Joint Stipulation For Dismissal Of Appeal.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 17-131](#) An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$108,900 From The Alaska State Division Of Homeland Security And Emergency Management Grant Program, To Fund 425, Project No. 45158, For Animal Rescue Training, Radios, And An Emergency Management Command Vehicle.
RS 17-074: 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 Animal Rescue Training, Radios, And An Emergency Management Command Vehicle.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 17-132](#) An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$260,000 From The Greater Palmer Consolidated Fire Service Area Fund Balance, Fund 259, To Project No. 45215 For The Purchase Of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus And Related Equipment For The Greater Palmer Consolidated Fire Service Area.
RS 17-076: A Resolution Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For Project No. 45215, To Allow For The Purchase Of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus And Related Equipment For The Greater Palmer Consolidated Fire Service Area.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 17-133](#) An Ordinance Amending MSB 2.71.040, Board Of Ethics; Created; Membership.

Sponsors: Halter

B. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing November 21, 2017, Assembly Chambers)

[OR 17-128](#) An Ordinance Creating West Northshore Drive No. 3 Noncontiguous Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 600, Approving The Improvement Plan For The District, Authorizing The Manager To Proceed With The Improvement, And Assessing Equally Among The Properties Within The District The Costs Of The Improvement.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

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 November 7, 2017, and November 21, 2017, respectively.

The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: 1 - Assemblymember Sykes

C. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. VACANCY REPORT

[17-062](#)

Sponsors: Borough Manager

Enhanced 911 Advisory Board

Hans Brinke, resignation

Historical Preservation Commission

Janel Gagnon, resignation

Platting Board

John Shadrach

Transportation Advisory Board

Beth Fread, resignation

Talkeetna Flood Control Service Area No. 7

Shawn Standley, resignation

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

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

Absent: 1 - Assemblymember Sykes

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.

XI. RECONSIDERATION

There were no reconsiderations presented.

XII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Ms. McKechnie thanked Assemblymember Colligan for his support over the years. Noted her special appreciation in the changes to code regarding reapportionment.

Mr. Moosey stated that he has appreciated Assemblymember Colligan's support of him and of Borough staff. Spoke to his appreciation of his input regarding time keeping and E911 services. Noted Assemblymember Colligan's support for construction projects that will last for future generations. Commented that it has been a pleasure to work with him.

Assemblymember McKee spoke to concerns with the proposed amendments for Resolution Serial No. 17-070.

Assemblymember Kowalke expressed his joy in working with Assemblymember Colligan and wished him the best for his future. Thanked the public for their input at the meeting. Spoke to his appreciation of the Gold Torrent presentation. Expressed his gratitude for the support of the voters for the water and sewer tax in Talkeetna.

Assemblymember Mayfield congratulated Assemblymember Elect Leonard and Wasilla City Mayor Bert Cottle on their successful elections. Stated that he hopes to be joining your ranks soon. Stated that Assemblymember Colligan has shown great leadership and that his experience really shows as a good example of a public servant. Thanked Assemblymember Colligan for his service and opined that the Borough is a better place due to his contributions.

Assemblymember Doty noted that Assemblymember Colligan has been very dedicated to his job and that she appreciates his hard work. Stated that she is looking forward to working with Assemblymember Elect Leonard. Spoke to her appreciation of the presentation provided by the School District. Opined that it was a good meeting with good public input. Spoke in support of the Emergency Preparedness Poster Contest.

Assemblymember Colligan stated that he has appreciated the ability to have open and engaging conversations, even when there are differing opinions. Related that Assemblymember Elect Leonard will do a great job. Opined that the Borough is headed for tough times, but that they do not have to be disastrous. Stated that Borough staff are very professional and respectful. Commented that it is not the job of an elected official to run government, but to support staff while they make things happen. Stated that he has enjoyed getting to know Mr. Moosey and Borough staff. Spoke to the growth that the Borough has experienced during his time on the Assembly.

Noted that great staff are a testament to good leadership. Stated that he has always felt supported by the Clerk and her staff and that he has always felt that he is the favorite member of the Assembly even if he is not. Commented that Mayor Halter has an interesting personality and a history of interesting jobs. Spoke to Mayor Halter's quality character and noted that he is well suited for the job of Mayor. Opined that six years of public service is a long time and that he is looking forward to the break.

Assembly Beck stated that he is looking forward to getting to know Assemblymember Elect Leonard. Stated that he considers Assemblymember Colligan a good friend and mentor, who he has a lot of respect for. Related that he is thankful for the opportunity to have been seated next to him at the dais.

Mayor Halter opined that the last six years has passed very quickly and that he has enjoyed the friendly rivalry with Assemblymember Colligan. Congratulated Wasilla City Mayor Bert Cottle on his re-election. Related that the Mat-Su Health foundation bought the property where the Veteran's Memorial is located. Stated that he will miss Assemblymember Colligan.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.