

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, JANUARY 2, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, January 2, 2108, 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 Ted Leonard, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, and Assemblymember Randall Kowalke

Excused: 1 - Assemblymember Barbara J. Doty

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

The agenda was approved as presented by the following vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Assemblymember Doty

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Nathan Wallace, Palmer City Manager.

V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

[17-081](#)

1. Joint Assembly/School Board Meeting Minutes: 12/12/17
2. Special Meeting Minutes: 12/19/17
3. Regular Meeting Minutes: 12/19/17

Sponsors: Borough Manager

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

The minutes were approved as presented by the following vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Assemblymember Doty

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.

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

2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

There was no report provided.

3. Water Quality Standards, Restoration, and Assessment - Alaska State Department of Environmental Conservation

Ms. Cindy Gilder, Alaska State Environmental Program Manager II, reported on water quality, standards, restoration, and assessment of Borough waters.

[17-087](#)

01/02/18 - Agency Report

Sponsors: Borough Manager

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

1. State/Federal Legislation

2. Strategic Planning Issues

Mr. Moosey reported on a number of large public records requests submitted by a resident and the expense associated with producing that request. Spoke to the excellent leadership by Ms. Cheyenne Heindel in the Finance Department.

Mayor Halter presented the Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to Ms. Cheyenne Heindel.

Assemblymember Doty entered the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

There were no comments provided.

E. CLERK COMMENTS

Ms. McKechnie spoke to the upcoming meeting schedule.

F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

[17-082](#)

1. Central Mat-Su FSA Board of Supervisors: 11/13/17
2. Emergency Medical Services Board: 10/04/17
3. Enhanced 911 Advisory Board: 11/14/17
4. Health and Social Services Board: 03/17/17, 05/18/17, 08/17/17
5. Planning Commission: 12/04/17
6. West Lakes FSA Board of Supervisors: 11/13/17
7. Gateway Community Council: 01/25/17, 03/20/17, 04/11/17, 05/23/17, 09/26/17, 10/10/17, Resolution 17-02
8. Talkeetna Community Council: 11/06/17
9. Trapper Creek Community Council: 11/16/17

Sponsors: Borough Manager

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

G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS

[IM 18-008](#) Reporting Of Conclusion Of Contract For Bid No. 15-168B To Granite Construction Company For The Trunk Road Extension South, Phase 1 Construction For The Final Contract Amount Of \$11,401,808.25.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

The informational memorandum was 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.

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three Minutes Per Person.)

[OR 17-142](#) An Ordinance Establishing A Nonconforming Use Section Within MSB 17.29, And Modifying MSB 17.80, By Eliminating References To Nonconforming Uses In Flood Hazard Areas.

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. 17-142. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

[OR 17-154](#) An Ordinance Accepting And Appropriating \$14,548.57 From Matanuska Telephone Association To Fund 440, Project No. 20323, For Upgrading And Enhancing The Telecommunications And Information Services Within The Matanuska-Susitna Library Network.

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. 17-154. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three Minutes Per Person.)

There was no one present who wished to testify.

D. CONSENT AGENDA

1. RESOLUTIONS

[RS 18-002](#) A Resolution Approving The Amended Scope Of Work To Remove And Replace Siding For Susitna Valley Junior/Senior High School, Project No. 40167.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[RS 18-003](#) A Resolution Supporting The Formation Of A Partnership Between The Mat-Su Borough And Appropriate Stakeholders For The Purpose Of Creating A U-Med District Plan.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS

[AM 18-001](#) Approval Of Change Order To Contract No. 16-079P With TBI Construction Co. In The Amount Of \$48,170 For Freight Elevator Replacement And Elevator Modifications Design/Build At The Dorothy Swanda Jones Building.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[AM 18-002](#)

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[AM 18-003](#) Acceptance of late filed and retroactive Senior Citizen and Disabled Veteran Exemption applications.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[AM 18-004](#) Authorization To Purchase From General Fire Apparatus/Rosenbauer In The Amount Of \$711,314, A Pumper Fire Apparatus For The West Lakes Fire Service Area.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[AM 18-005](#) Award Of Proposal No. 18-064P To F-E Contracting Inc. In The Amount Not To Exceed \$10,539,974 For Construction Manager/ General Contractor Services for Station 6-2 Construction.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

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 Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

IX. VETO

There were no vetoes presented.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. INTRODUCTIONS (For Public Hearing 01/16/18 Assembly Chambers)

[OR 18-002](#) An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$131,000 From Greater Butte Road Service Area No. 26 Fund Balance, Fund 280, To Fund 410, Project No. 30046, For Greater Butte Road Service Area No. 26 Maintenance And Improvements Projects.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 18-003](#) An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$145,000 From Greater Willow Road Service Area No. 20 Fund Balance, Fund 276, To Fund 410, Project No. 30042, For Greater Willow Road Service Area No. 20 Maintenance and Improvements Projects.

Sponsors: Borough Manager

[OR 18-004](#) An Ordinance Approving An Appropriation Of \$15,000 From Talkeetna Road Service Area No. 29 Fund Balance, Fund 283, To Fund 410, Project No. 30049, For Talkeetna Road Service Area No. 29 Maintenance And Improvements Projects.

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 January 16, 2018. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

B. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. VACANCY REPORT

[17-083](#)

01/02/18 - Vacancy Report

Sponsors:

Borough Manager

Board of Adjustment and Appeals

Glen Price

Board of Equalization

David Heier

Board of Ethics

Diana Straub

Health and Social Services Board

Victoria Knapp

Library Board

Paige Moore

Local Emergency Planning Committee

Alyssa Farrar

Norman Straub

Brian Ritchie

Brian Galloway, removal

MSB Fish and Wildlife Commission

John Wood

Andrew Couch

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Board

David Palmer

Edward Strabel

Planning Commission

Eileen Patterson

Waterwater and Septage Advisory Board

Mike Campfield

Butte FSA No. 2

Gregory Nilsson

Greater Palmer Consolidate FSA No. 132

Barry Mothershead

West Lakes FSA No. 136

William Browne

Bogard RSA No. 25

Jennifer Noffke

Meadow Lakes RSA No. 27

Michael Fulton

Talkeetna Sewer and Water Service Area No. 36

Paul Button

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

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

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 presented.

XI. RECONSIDERATION

There were no reconsiderations presented.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (For Matters, Which The Immediate Public Knowledge Of Which Would Clearly Have An Adverse Effect Upon The Finances Of The Borough; And Matters Which By Law, Municipal Charter, Or Ordinance Are Required To Be Kept Confidential; And Matters Involving Consideration Of Government Records That By Law Are Not Subject To Public Disclosure; And Discussion Of Matters Covered By Attorney Client Privilege)

A. M/V Susitna Discussion On Potential Resolution

Assemblymember Beck moved to enter into executive session for matters, which the immediate public knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the Borough; and matters, which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be kept confidential; and matters involving consideration of government records that by law are not subject to public disclosure; and discussion of matters covered by attorney client privilege. In particular, to discuss a potential resolution of the M/V Susitna. Those present in the executive session will be 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 Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

The Assembly entered into executive session at 6:32 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 Leonard, Assemblymember Mayfield, Assemblymember Doty, and Assemblymember Kowalke

The Assembly exited executive session at 6:55 p.m.

XII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Moosey stated that he and Assemblymembers Beck, Mayfield, and Kowalke are going to Juneau the third week of February. Advised that the next planned trip to Washington, D.C. with the Borough's Federal Lobbyist is scheduled for April 9. Stated that there should be a resolution by then, to the outstanding agreement with the Federal Transit Authority.

Assemblymember Sykes spoke to the need to address per student allocation with the State Legislative Delegation. Stated that the Assembly has their work cut out for them. Thanked the body for the good meetings that were held today.

Assemblymember Beck stated that the Alaska State Fair is working to have an operating farm located directly adjacent to the Fairgrounds. Noted that is being funded by a grant as part of the Colony Project. Related that it will be available to student members of 4-H and Future Farmers of America. Welcomed Eileen Patterson as the representative for District 2 on the Planning Commission.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.