

# 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



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

TURKEY RED CONFERENCE ROOM  
550 SOUTH ALASKA STREET, SUITE 100  
PALMER, ALASKA

ASSEMBLY SPECIAL MEETING

10:00 AM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2019

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### Assembly Planning Session

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Saturday, January 19, 2019, at the Turkey Red Conference Room, 550 South Alaska Street, Suite 100, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by Mayor Vern Halter.

#### II. ROLL CALL

**Present:** 6 - Assemblymember Jim Sykes, Assemblymember George McKee, Assemblymember Ted Leonard, Assemblymember Dan Mayfield, Assemblymember Jesse Sumner, and Assemblymember Tam Boeve

**Excused:** 1 - Assemblymember Matthew Beck

#### III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

The agenda was approved as presented.

#### IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Eric Wyatt, Information and Technology Director.

## **V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

The following person spoke to concerns with governmental transparency:  
Mr. Mike Stoltz.

The following person spoke to concerns with the planning session location:  
Mr. Eugene Carl Haberman.

The following person spoke in support of planning sessions: Ms. Patricia Fisher.

## **VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

### **A. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

#### **1. Assembly Planning Session**

[19-006](#)

Informational Packet

Assemblymember Mayfield moved to enter into the Committee of the Whole.

There was no objection noted and the Assembly entered into the Committee of the Whole at 10:13 a.m.

[Clerk's note: The meeting recessed at 12 p.m. and reconvened at 12:20 p.m.]

Assemblymember Mayfield moved to exit the Committee of the Whole.

There was no objection noted and the Assembly exited the Committee of the Whole at 2:45 p.m.

## VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENT

Ms. Heindel thanked the Assembly for the meeting.

Mr. Spiropoulos stated that it was an interesting meeting. Noted that he has some legal opinions on employees working overtime should the Assembly want to review them. Advised that legislative bodies do not normally address request for proposal details, as they are not an administrative body. Further advised the Assembly to exercise caution because if they are too involved that the Borough could be sued and will lose.

Assemblymember McKee noted that he is only interested in minute details of a request for proposal for an audit.

Mr. Hays stated that if the body has any questions regarding any audits that have been conducted that he has them for review.

Mr. Moosey stated that he appreciates the discussion. Related that work sessions are helpful to him as it helps him understand where each member is on various topics.

Assemblymember Sykes thanked the body for attending. Thanked Ms. Heindel and Mr. Spiropoulos for answering questions. Stated that he is hopeful that the body can agree that police and emergency services are top priorities. Spoke to his deep appreciation for the work session.

**Assemblymember Sykes moved to cancel the February 5, 2019, at 4 p.m. special meeting and reschedule it to March 19, 2019, at 4 p.m. The motion passed by the following vote:**

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

Assemblymember Boeve thanked the body for the meeting.

Assemblymember Sumner stated that he supports a wastewater and septage facility but only as an enterprise fund.

Assemblymember McKee opined that the government should not be involved in economic development.

Mayor Halter thanked Diane Decker for facilitating the planning session. Opined that it has been one of the best discussions the Assembly has had. Stated that he appreciated the list of topics. Thanked Ms. Heindel for answering questions so quickly. Advised Assemblymembers Sumner and Boeve that there will be director presentations regarding budgets as the Borough moves into the budget cycle. Thanked Ms. Kilborn and Ms. Henry for their meeting support. Opined that the discussion has been candid and open. Noted that he appreciated the Facebook policy discussion. Related that it is tough going against 1st amendment rights. Spoke in support of a septage and wastewater facility.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.