

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on February 7, 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

Assembly members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mr. Jim Sykes, Assembly District No. 1
Mr. Matthew Beck, Assembly District No. 2 (*Deputy Mayor*) (*entered telephonically at 6:38 p.m.*)
Mr. George McKee, Assembly District No. 3
Mr. Dan Mayfield, Assembly District No. 5
Ms. Barbara Doty, Assembly District No. 6
Mr. Randall Kowalke, Assembly District No. 7

Assembly members absent and excused were:

Mr. Steve Colligan, Assembly District No. 4

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Halter queried if there was any objection to him presenting a proclamation to Mr. Bill Gamble, immediately following the pledge.

There was no objection noted.

GENERAL CONSENT: The agenda was approved as amended without objection.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Layla Lesley, a member of the audience.

V. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

A. Proclamation in recognition of Mr. Bill Gamble.

Mayor Halter read the proclamation into the record.

VI. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

(There were no minutes presented.)

VII. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

A. AGENCY REPORTS

1. Reports from cities

Wasilla City

Mayor Bert Cottle reported on the activities of the city.

2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

(There was no report provided.)

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Joint Assembly/School Board Committee on School Issues

Assemblymember Sykes reported on the most recent meeting of the Committee.

2. Assembly Public Relations

(There were no reports provided.)

C. MANAGER COMMENTS

1. State/Federal Legislation
2. Strategic Planning Issues
3. Mat-Su Community Health Needs Assessment

Ms. Elizabeth Ripley, Executive Director and Dr. Melissa Kemberling, Director of Programs, both of the Mat-Su Health Foundation, reported on the Mat-Su Community Health Needs Assessment.

4. Recycling Update

Mr. Terry Dolan, Public Works Director, provided a recycling update.

5. 2017 Property Appraisal Annual Report

Mr. Brad Pickett, Borough Assessor, provided the 2017 Property Appraisal Report.

6. ~~Employee Health Care Benefits~~

(This item was moved to the March 7, 2017, regular Assembly meeting agenda under Manager's report.)

(Assemblymember Beck was no longer on the teleconference at this time.)

Mr. Moosey referred to the draft property tax cap ordinance and summarized his intent for the legislation.

D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

(There was no report provided.)

E. CLERK COMMENTS

Ms. McKechnie advised that Mr. Moosey requested to change the topic of “Service Level Reductions” to “E-911 Dispatch Migration” for the February 21, 2017, special Assembly meeting.

Mayor Halter queried if there was any objection.

There was no objection noted.

F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

1. Agriculture Advisory Board: Resolution Nos. 16-08, 16-10, 17-01
2. Aviation Advisory Board: 07/06/16, 12/08/16
3. Knik RSA Board of Supervisors: 10/12/16
4. Local Road Service Area Advisory Board: 12/15/16
5. Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Board: 11/30/16, 12/29/16, Resolution No. 17-01
6. Platting Board: 12/15/16
7. Transportation Advisory Board: 11/30/16
8. Wastewater and Septage Advisory Board: 09/08/16
9. Joint West Lakes and Central Mat-Su FSA Board of Supervisors: 12/12/16
10. North Lakes Community Council: 10/29/15, 04/21/16, 05/26/16
11. Point MacKenzie Community Council: 08/11/16
12. Trapper Creek Community Council: 11/17/16, 12/15/16

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

G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS

(There were no informational memorandums provided.)

VII. SPECIAL ORDERS

A. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (Three minutes per person.)

(There were no persons to be heard.)

(The meeting recessed at 7:25 p.m. and reconvened at 7:31 p.m.)

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three minutes per person.)

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 17-012:** An Ordinance Requesting A Reappropriation Of \$4,874,486.64 From The Fire Service Area Capital Projects Budget, Fund 405, Project Nos. 10027, 10031, 10140, 45066, 45101, And 45268, To Project No. 10183, Fund 405, To Allow For The Construction Of The New Central Fire Station No. 6-2, Training Complex And Warehouse.
 - a. **Resolution Serial No. 17-008:** A Resolution Amending The Budgets For Project Nos. 10027, 10031, 10140, 45066, 45101, And 45268, And Approving The Scope Of Work And Budget For Project No. 10183 To Allow For The Construction Of The New Central Fire Station No. 6-2, Training Complex And Warehouse.
 - (1) IM No. 17-021

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.

MOTION: Assemblymember Sykes moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 17-012 and Resolution Serial No. 17-008.

VOTE: The motion passed with Assemblymember McKee opposed.

C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three minutes per person.)

The following person spoke in opposition to the proposed trapping legislation and to the need to enforce the Borough's leash law: Mr. Johnathan Zeppa.

The following person spoke to concerns with the public process: Mr. Eugene Carl Haberman.

The following person spoke to the need for a regional wastewater treatment facility: Ms. Helen Munoz.

(Assemblymember Beck was back on the teleconference at this time.)

D. CONSENT AGENDA

1. RESOLUTIONS

- a. **Resolution Serial No. 17-012:** A Resolution Supporting Alaska State House Bill No. 6, Establishing The Jonesville Public Use Area. *(Sponsored By Assemblymember Sykes)*
 - (1) IM No. 17-027

b. **Resolution Serial No. 17-013:** A Resolution Approving State Legislative Priorities For Fiscal Year 2018.

(1) IM No. 17-032

2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS

a. **AM No. 17-010:** Award Of Bid No. 17-057B, To Wolverine Supply, Inc. In The Contract Amount Of \$1,353,000 To Remove And Replace Windows At Palmer, Houston, And Wasilla Middle Schools And Wasilla High School.

b. **AM No. 17-011:** Award Of Bid No. 17-063B, To North Star Excavation And Asphalt In The Contract Amount Of \$150,561.88 For West Butte Trailhead Parking Lot Improvements.

c. **AM No. 17-012:** Vacate Any Public Interest In The Southerly 90.25 Foot Right-Of-Way Of East Fireweed Road, In Lot 1, Terrace Business Park, Plat No. 1983-32, Located Within Section 16, Township 17 North, Range 1 East, Seward Meridian, Alaska.

Ms. McKechnie read the above legislation into the record.

MOTION: Assemblymember Sykes moved to approve the consent agenda as read into the record by the Clerk.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(There was no unfinished business.)

IX. VETO

(There were no vetoes presented.)

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. INTRODUCTIONS (For public hearing – 02/21/17 Assembly Chambers)

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 17-014:** An Ordinance Approving A Reappropriation Of \$25,000 From The Alpine Road Service Area No. 31 Fiscal Year 2017 Operating Budget, Fund 285, To Fund 410, Project No. 30051, For Alpine Road Service Area No. 31 Capital Projects.

a. IM No. 17-024

2. **Ordinance Serial No. 17-015:** An Ordinance Amending MSB 3.04.131, Relating To The Fixed Asset Capitalization Policy.

a. IM No. 17-025

3. **Ordinance Serial No. 17-016:** An Ordinance Amending MSB 5.25.145, To Annex Property In The Carney Road Area Into The West Lakes Fire Service Area No. 136.
 - a. **Resolution Serial No. 17-011:** A Resolution Finding The Annexation Of Properties In The Carney Road Area Into The West Lakes Fire Service Area No. 136 Serves The Public Interest Without The Placement Of The Question On The Ballot. *(Sponsored By Assemblymember Doty)*
 - (1) IM No. 17-026

4. **Ordinance Serial No. 17-018:** An Ordinance Authorizing The Borough To Issue Areawide General Obligation Bonds, In One Or More Series, To Finance The Construction, Acquisition, Improvement, And Equipping Of Parks And Recreational Capital Facilities, And Related Capital Improvements In The Borough; Fixing Certain Details Of Such Bonds; And Authorizing Their Sale.
 - a. IM No. 17-029

5. **Ordinance Serial No. 17-019:** An Ordinance Amending MSB 15.24.030(B)(5), Updating The City Of Houston Comprehensive Plan.
 - a. IM No. 17-030

6. **Ordinance Serial No. 17-020:** An Ordinance Authorizing The Borough Manager To Sign All Documents Necessary To Dispose Of The Borough-Owned Excess Land Acquired For The Port Mackenzie Rail Extension Project, Described As Tract 22A, Alaska State Land Survey No. 80-111, Recorded As Plat No. 82-80, Palmer Recording District, Third Judicial District, State Of Alaska, To Be Placed In An Upcoming Land Sale With A Minimum Bid Amount Of \$650,000.
 - a. IM No. 17-028

- B. INTRODUCTIONS (For public hearing – 03/21/17, Assembly Chambers)
 1. **Ordinance Serial No. 17-008:** An Ordinance Creating West White Birch Drive Road Paving Local Improvement District No. 588, 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.
 - a. IM No. 17-017

 2. **Ordinance Serial No. 17-009:** An Ordinance Creating East Mountain Goat Circle Road Paving Local Improvement District No. 591, 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.
 - a. IM No. 17-018

 3. **Ordinance Serial No. 17-010:** An Ordinance Creating A Portion Of Doc McKinley Avenue Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 592, 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.

a. IM No. 17-019

4. **Ordinance Serial No. 17-011:** An Ordinance Creating West Ord Lane Natural Gas Local Improvement District No. 594, 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.

a. IM No. 17-020

Ms. McKechnie read the above legislation into the record.

MOTION: Assemblymember Sykes moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk and set the public hearings for February 21, 2017, and March 21, 2017, respectively.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. VACANCY REPORT

Mayor Halter requested the following resignation and appointments for confirmation:

Board of Equalization

Thomas Healy

Thomas Vereide

Emergency Medical Services Board

Suzanne Stehlik

Health and Social Services Board

Michelle Sturgeon

Library Board

Maire Rhode

Local Emergency Planning Committee

Cole Justice

Heather Ridge

Planning Commission

Michael Kish, resignation

Port Commission

Tim Anderson

West Lakes FSA No. 136

Corwin Matthews

Circle View & Stampede Estates Flood & Water

Kevin Foster

MOTION: Assemblymember Sykes moved confirm the resignation and appointments as requested by the Mayor.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

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 was no reconsideration presented.)

XII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Assemblymember McKee:

- advised that he had written a letter to the Manager requesting information on the employee health care system;
- noted that he would like to have the data prior to the budget cycle; and
- queried the status of the insurance settlements regarding the port and the ferry.

Mr. Moosey reported on the status of the insurance claims.

Assemblymember Sykes:

- stated that the State Board of Fisheries meeting will be in Anchorage, beginning February 20, for 10 days at the Sheraton Hotel;
- noted the importance of the public providing testimony if they are impacted by or have any interest in fisheries; and
- spoke to Resolution Serial No. 17-012, which is in support of House Bill No. 6 that will establish the Jonesville Public Use Area.

Assemblymember Kowalke:

- thanked everyone for a productive meeting;
- welcomed Mr. Otto Feather, who is the Interim Emergency Services Director;
- listed the numerous drainage areas that are in his District; and
- stated that he will be attending the State Fisheries Board meeting and providing testimony.

Assemblymember Mayfield:

- welcomed Mr. Otto Feather and stated that he is looking forward to working with him;
- noted that the severance tax legislation will be before the body at the next meeting;

- encouraged the body to get familiar with the legislation and prepare amendments if they feel any are necessary; and
- thanked the body for the meeting.

Assemblymember Doty:

- spoke to having attended the Smart Communities event;
- stated that she has been looking at ambulance collections and how to best proceed with billing;
- spoke to having attended two council meetings within her Assembly District;
- implored the body to look at solutions for road projects that need to be done for safety purposes;
- spoke to her desire to encourage community councils to be better organized; and
- spoke to a meeting she attended at which there was a presentation of new software for emergency rooms across the state and how to best implement it.

Assemblymember Beck apologized for the technical difficulties he encountered while attending telephonically.

Mayor Halter:

- stated that he enjoyed hearing about the Mat-Su Community Health Needs Assessment;
- advised that he will be attending the Alaska Municipal League Conference and will not be at the next meeting;
- related that he will be meeting with Governor Walker to address budget concerns; and
- spoke in support of amending the tax cap as proposed by Mr. Moosey.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(There was no executive session held.)

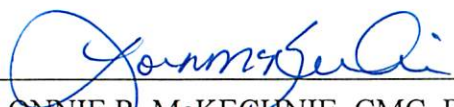
XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.



VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:



LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 03/07/17

Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes

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