

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on April 6, 2010, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Mayor Talis Colberg.

II. ROLL CALL

Assembly members present and establishing a quorum were:

Ms. Lynne Woods, Assembly District No. 1 (*Deputy Mayor*)(*arrived at 6:03p.m.*)
Mr. Pete Houston, Assembly District No. 2
Mr. Ronald Arvin, Assembly District No. 3
Mr. Mark Ewing, Assembly District No. 4
Ms. Cindy L. Bettine, Assembly District No. 5
Mr. Jim Colver, Assembly District No. 6 (*entered telephonically at 6:03 p.m.*)
Mr. Vern Halter, Assembly District No. 7

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Lonnie R. McKechnie, Borough Clerk
Mr. John Duffy, Borough Manager
Ms. Elizabeth Gray, Assistant Borough Manager
Mr. Nicholas Spiropoulos, Borough Attorney
Ms. Brenda J. Henry, Executive Assistant to the Borough Clerk
Ms. Tammy Clayton, Finance Director
Ms. Shaune O'Neil, Public Works Director
Ms. Christine Nelson, Planning and Land Use Director
Mr. Dennis Brodigan, Emergency Services Director
Ms. Linda Brenner, Community Development Director
Ms. Patty Sullivan, Public Affairs Director
Mr. Dave Hanson, Economic Development Director
Ms. Nancy Cameron, Land Management Agent
Mr. Robert Haskell, Chief Animal Care and Regulation Officer

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Colberg inquired if there were any changes to the agenda.

Mr. Duffy:

- requested that Ordinance Serial No. 10-030, that is up for public hearing this evening, should be postponed;
- related that Administration is requesting that the Assembly go ahead and move forward with the public hearing, but to postpone taking any action; and
- noted that this is due to additional action that needs to be taken by the State.

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

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Sara Jansen, a former Assembly Member.

V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

- A. Joint Assembly/School Board Meeting: 03/09/10
- B. Regular Assembly Meeting: 03/16/10

Mayor Colberg inquired if there were any corrections to the Joint Assembly/School Board meeting minutes of March 9, 2010, or the regular assembly meeting minutes of March 16, 2010.

GENERAL CONSENT: The minutes were approved as presented without objection.

VI. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

A. AGENCY REPORTS

1. Reports from cities

(There were no reports provided.)

2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

Mr. John Weetman, Assistant Superintendent:

- spoke to the School District budget booklet that was provided to the Assembly last week;
- stated that Administration worked with several people that included parents and teachers in order to provide input regarding priority ranking of the budget;
- noted that on March 17 the School District approved forwarding the budget to the Assembly;
- stated that the top components are fixed costs, such as charter schools, superintendent office, utilities and other items;
- spoke to page five of the booklet, which demonstrates what full funding for the District would look like;
- stated that page seven, shows the actual total budget that is being proposed in the amount of \$261 million, which includes penny grant funds, nutrition services funds, transportation funds, and the general operating fund;
- related that there is a component built into the penny grant fund that allows for funding of 44 positions; and
- thanked the Assembly for their consideration of the School District budget.

Ms. Terry Irwin, Chief Financial Officer:

- spoke to the legislation that requires the School District to provide specific information within their budget to the Assembly;
- related that this is the first attempt at providing the required information;
- stated that funding needs were compared by different years; and
- requested that the Assembly call if they have any questions.

3. Commission on Salaries and Emoluments – Chair John Wood

Chair John Wood:

- spoke to Commission Resolution Serial No. 10-001 and the accompanying minority reports that were submitted to the Assembly;
- related that the Commission had requested legislation that clarified when meetings can be held;
- spoke to the concerns of the Commission as to why the School Board was included in the review when they are a separate entity;
- noted that the Commission approached the meetings in a more relaxed manner in order to allow all members to fully contribute to the process;
- thanked Assemblymembers Woods and Arvin for their participation in meetings;
- stated that the Commission decided that it was not necessary to provide an in depth report to the Assembly due to the fact that they have access to the minutes, which reflects the action taken and the reason the action was taken; and
- spoke to the hard work of Ms. Brenda Henry in providing support and information that the Commission needed for their review.

4. United States Census Bureau – Ms. Gloria Yates

Ms. Wanda Solomon:

- related that Ms. Yates would not be attending this evening and that she would be speaking in her place;
- spoke to the promotional items that have been shared throughout the Borough in order to raise awareness of participation in the census;
- stated that there are two weeks left for the mail out/mail back forms;
- spoke to forms that have been left at residences that did not have street addresses;
- noted that the Mayors of Wasilla and Palmer have assisted in distribution of census promotional items;
- requested that the Assembly help promote participation in the census; and
- thanked the Assembly for allowing the census program to be represented at the meeting.

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Joint Assembly/School Board Committee on School Issues

Assemblymember Colver:

- stated that they received the update regarding the Susitna Valley Junior/Senior High School insurance settlement;
- noted that there were concerns from the School Board that there should be a debriefing of the settlement process; and
- opined that the Assembly and the School District could learn something from this process.

Mr. Duffy:

- stated that there will be an after action report compiled; and
- noted that the report will outline what worked and what did not work.

Assemblymember Arvin:

- spoke to an outline that has been created relating to maintenance, recreation, and school bond issues;
- noted that discussion has been occurring regarding how to handle this should any of these items go to bond;
- noted that subcommittees will be formed for maintenance, recreation, and for school facility bonds; and
- related that meetings will be scheduled and conducted in order to bring back information to the Assembly.

2. Assembly Public Relations

Assemblymember Bettine:

- spoke to attending the Women's History month luncheon where Senator Lisa Murkowski spoke; and
- related that she thanked Senator Murkowski for attending the presentation of the LEED certification ceremony at Machentanz Elementary; and
- stated that Senator Murkowski was impressed with the LEED certification and long-term sustainability of the school.

Assemblymember Houston:

- spoke to being invited by the Academy Charter School to participate in a domestic violence focus group with seventh graders; and
- stated that it was a good opportunity for the students to receive information regarding domestic violence; and
- opined that it was a good forum with good participation.

Assemblymember Ewing:

- spoke to his report regarding attendance at the National Association of Counties convention; and
- related he would provide a copy for the Assembly at the next break.

C. MANAGER COMMENTS

1. State/Federal Legislation
2. Strategic Planning Issues

Mr. Duffy:

- spoke to the Tourism Summit coming forth on April 10;
- related that the work on the barge dock expansion has begun;
- stated that he is working with Senator Huggins and the Alaska State Department of Transportation to gain access to State funds for bridges;
- noted that the Borough Animal Care Shelter has had another month of 100 percent adoptions;
- further added that not many shelters achieve that standard;
- spoke regarding 50 to 60 local businesses sending letters to the Governor in support of the rail extension project;
- stated that he met with Admiral Barrett, who works in the State pipeline office in Washington, D.C.;
- related that Admiral Barrett received an update on Borough projects and that he was very impressed;
- stated that he intends to further promote our big projects; and
- requested that Mr. Scott Hattenburg provide an update on the Waste Water treatment facility.

Assemblymember Arvin requested elaboration on funding for road bonds and the rail extension.

Mr. Duffy:

- opined that the rail extension will be funded, but not out of the capital budget this year;
- related that Senator Huggins has been promoting Borough road bonds;
- noted that public support is important to these projects; and
- stated that the Assembly will need to continue to pursue these projects.

Assemblymember Ewing queried the amount of funding being requested for these projects.

Mr. Duffy stated that the level of funding being requested is \$57.5 million for the rail extension and \$35 million for road bond matches.

Mr. Scott Hattenburg, of Hattenburg, Dilley and Linnell Engineering Consultants provided a presentation on the Regional Waste Water Treatment and Septage study.

A. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

(There was no report provided.)

B. CLERK COMMENTS

Ms. McKechnie:

- spoke regarding the upcoming meeting schedule;
- stated that the suggested budget hearing dates are within the Clerk's Report; and
- queried if the Assembly would like to set the budget dates.

Assemblymember Colver opined that the schedule for the budget cycle is limiting.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved to strike April 19, 2010, and insert in its place April 24, 2010, for departmental presentations to the Assembly.

VOTE: The motion failed with Assemblymember Ewing, Arvin and Colver in support.

(The Clerk's Report was resumed later in the meeting.)

(The regular meeting recessed at 6:55 p.m. and reconvened at 7 p.m.)

VII. SPECIAL ORDERS (to begin at 7 p.m.)

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

The following person spoke regarding the Alaska Farmland Trust: Mr. Steve Gallagher, Director of the Alaska Farmland Trust.

A. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three minutes per person.)

Mayor Colberg queried if there were any objections to moving Ordinance Serial No. 10-023, Resolution Serial No. 10-020, Ordinance Serial No. 10-024, Resolution Serial No. 10-021, Ordinance Serial No. 10-025, Resolution Serial No. 10-022, Ordinance Serial No. 10-026, and Resolution Serial No. 10-023 together.

There was no objection noted.

1. Ordinance Serial No. 10-023: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$50,000 FROM THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FOR THE EDGERTON ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENTS IN THE LITTLE SUSITNA RIVER WATERSHED PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 30107, FUND 410.
 - a. Resolution Serial No. 10-020: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE EDGERTON ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENTS IN THE LITTLE SUSITNA RIVER WATERSHED, PROJECT NO. 30107.
 - (1) IM No. 10-032

2. Ordinance Serial No. 10-024: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$144,000 FROM THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FOR THE EDGERTON AND SUNRISE ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENTS IN THE LITTLE SUSITNA RIVER WATERSHED PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 30107, FUND 410.
 - a. Resolution Serial No. 10-021: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE EDGERTON AND SUNRISE ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENTS IN THE LITTLE SUSITNA RIVER WATERSHED PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 30107.
 - (1) IM No. 10-033
3. Ordinance Serial No. 10-025: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$75,000 FROM THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FOR THE CASWELL LAKES CULVERT REPLACEMENTS FOR THE FISH PASSAGE PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 30110, FUND 410.
 - a. Resolution Serial No. 10-022: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE CASWELL LAKES CULVERT REPLACEMENTS FOR THE FISH PASSAGE PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 30110.
 - (1) IM No. 10-035
4. Ordinance Serial No. 10-026: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$75,000 FROM THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FOR THE HORSESHOE LAKE CULVERTS REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN ROAD SERVICE AREA NO. 21, PROJECT NO. 30109, FUND 410.
 - a. Resolution Serial No. 10-023: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE HORSESHOE LAKE CULVERTS REPLACEMENT PROJECT IN ROAD SERVICE AREA NO. 21, PROJECT NO. 30109.
 - (1) IM No. 10-036

Ms. O'Neill provided a staff report.

Mayor Colberg 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 Woods moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-023, Resolution Serial No. 10-020, Ordinance Serial No. 10-024, Resolution Serial No. 10-021, Ordinance Serial No. 10-025, Resolution Serial No. 10-022, Ordinance Serial No. 10-026, and Resolution Serial No. 10-023.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

5. Ordinance Serial No. 10-027: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$350,000 FROM THE NATURE CONSERVANCY IN ALASKA FOR THE LITTLE SUSITNA TRIBUTARIES FISH PASSAGE PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 30107, FUND 410.
 - a. Resolution Serial No. 10-024: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE LITTLE SUSITNA TRIBUTARIES FISH PASSAGE PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 30107.
 - (1) IM No. 10-034

Ms. O'Neill provided a staff report.

Mayor Colberg 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 Colver moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-027 and Resolution Serial No. 10-024.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

6. Ordinance Serial No. 10-028: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$73,038 FROM THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FOR THE MAT-SU STREAMBANK AND LAKESHORE REVEGETATION PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 30108, FUND 410.
 - a. Resolution Serial No. 10-025: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE MAT-SU STREAMBANK AND LAKESHORE REVEGETATION PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 30108.
 - (1) IM No. 10-037

Ms. O'Neill provided a staff report.

Mayor Colberg opened the public hearing.

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-028 and Resolution Serial No. 10-025.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

7. Ordinance Serial No. 10-029: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION OF TRACT B, FIELD OF VIEW PARK-ADDITION NO. 3, PHASE 1, ACCORDING TO PLAT NO. 2008-71, IDENTIFIED IN THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH'S LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION

PLAN, ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY IN JUNE 2007, AND THE RIGHT-OF-WAY IDENTIFIED ON THE OFFICIAL STREETS AND HIGHWAYS PLAN (MSB004874).

a. IM No. 10-044

Ms. Brenner provided a staff report.

Mayor Colberg opened the public hearing.

The following person spoke in support of Ordinance Serial No. 10-029: Mr. Greg Vance.

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

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-029.

Assemblymember Colver:

- stated that the Borough cannot demand that subdividers provide right-of-ways; and
- stated that if the Borough wants the right-of-way it needs to be paid for at fair market value.

Assemblymember Houston queried a prior letter from the Borough saying that the Borough agreed to purchase the right-of-way prior to Assembly action.

Ms. Brenner:

- spoke to the history of the project; and
- read a letter from former Director Ron Swanson.

Assemblymember Bettine:

- advised that she will be objecting, as the Borough should not be paying more than the assessed value;
- spoke to how property is assessed; and
- requested that the legislation be voted down in order to enter into negotiations.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Assemblymember Ewing declared a conflict of interest because he owns property in the area.

RULING: Mayor Colberg excused Assemblymember Ewing from voting and discussion on Ordinance Serial No. 10-029.

Assemblymember Arvin:

- spoke to the subdivider working with the Borough with the vision of collector roads; and
- noted that the divider has incurred costs for platting.

VOTE: The motion passed with Assemblymember Bettine opposed.

8. Ordinance Serial No. 10-030: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE LEASE DISPOSAL AT LESS THAN FAIR MARKET VALUE OF THE REAL PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS TRACT 3, POINT MACK SUBDIVISION PHASE 1, FOR THE FUTURE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A WATER AND WASTEWATER FACILITY SITE TO SERVICE GOOSE CREEK CORRECTIONAL CENTER AND TO RECLASSIFY TRACT 3 AS RESERVED USE LANDS.
 - a. IM No. 10-047

Mr. Duffy:

- stated that this is the legislation that he spoke regarding at the beginning of the meeting; and
- requested that the Assembly not take any action on this legislation due to a request of the State.

Ms. Cameron provided a staff report.

Mayor Colberg 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 Bettine moved to postpone Ordinance Serial No. 10-030 to a time certain of April 20, 2010, and to continue the public hearing.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

9. Ordinance Serial No. 10-031: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE BOROUGH-OWNED REAL PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 1 BOGARD ACRES SUBDIVISION TO BE RECLASSIFIED FROM PUBLIC RECREATION LANDS TO RESIDENTIAL LANDS AND SALE OF LOT 1 FOR FUTURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE MAT-SU SCHOOL DISTRICT CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION HOME BUILDING PROGRAM.
 - a. IM No. 10-055

Ms. Cameron provided a staff report.

Mayor Colberg 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 Colver moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-031.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

10. Ordinance Serial No. 10-032: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING A STATE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,967,278, APPROPRIATING BOND PROCEEDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$291,249, APPROPRIATING INSURANCE PROCEEDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,479,518, AND REAPPROPRIATING FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,093,021 FROM THE SITE SELECTION RESERVE TO FUND 400, PROJECT NO. 40167, FOR THE SUSITNA VALLEY JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL.
 - a. Resolution Serial No. 10-026: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE AMENDED BUDGET FOR PROJECT NO. 40160, SUSITNA VALLEY ROOF REPLACEMENT AND APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR PROJECT NO. 40167, SUSITNA VALLEY JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL.
 - (1) IM No. 10-060

Ms. Clayton provided a staff report.

Mayor Colberg 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 Halter moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-032 and Resolution Serial No. 10-026.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

(The regular meeting recessed at 8:12 p.m. and reconvened at 8:25 p.m.)

C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three minutes per person.)

The following persons spoke regarding support of Resolution Serial Nos. 10-018 and 10-019: Mr. Eric Wade, District Manager, Palmer Soil and Water Conservation District; Mr. Don Berberich, Palmer High School Agriculture teacher; Mr. Arthur Keyes, Alaska Farm Bureau past president; Mr. Todd Pettit, Chairman of Palmer Soil and Water Conservation District; Mr. Bill Longbrake, Mr. James McCormick, Ms. Chris McCormick, Ms. Theresa Armistead, Ms. Margaret Heaven, Mr. Steve Roushar, and Ms. Marie Domer, Alaska Farmland Trust President.

The following persons spoke in opposition to public funding Resolution Serial Nos. 10-018 and 10-019: Mr. Roy Carlson, Ms. Amy Thomas, Ms. Jennie Bettine, and Mr. Stephen Stoll.

The following person spoke regarding the Fiscal Year 2011 School District budget: Ms. Colleen Vague, Matanuska-Susitna School Board President.

D. CONSENT AGENDA (Resolution Serial Nos. 10-028 and 10-030 were pulled from the consent agenda and addressed separately. *See pp.12-14*)

1. RESOLUTIONS

- a. Resolution Serial No. 10-027: A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR KNIK MUSEUM STORAGE ROOF REPAIRS, PROJECT NO. 15002, AND APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THE KNIK MUSEUM CABIN ROOF REPLACEMENT, PROJECT NO. 15037.
(1) IM No. 10-054

2. ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUMS

- a. AM No. 10-028: VACATION OF A PORTION OF THE SECTION LINE EASEMENTS, COMMON TO SECTIONS 14 AND 15 AND SECTIONS 15 AND 22, LYING WITHIN LOT 1 CHECKPOINT ALASKA SUBDIVISION, LOCATED IN SECTION 14, 15, AND 22, TOWNSHIP 19 NORTH, RANGE 8 WEST, SEWARD MERIDIAN.

Ms. McKechnie read the above legislation into the record.

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

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

- b. Resolution Serial No. 10-028: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE KNIK ARM BRIDGE. *(Sponsored by Assemblymember Arvin)*
(1) IM No. 10-069

MOTION: Assemblymember Arvin moved Resolution Serial No. 10-028.

Assemblymember Arvin opined that the Assembly needs to put forth a resolution in support of the Knik Arm Bridge.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 10-028 by adding a “whereas” clause at the end to read: “Whereas, there will be a need for road and other infrastructure improvements when the bridge is built;” and to insert a “be it further resolved” clause read: “Be It Further Resolved, that the Borough Assembly supports the Knik Arm Bridge conditioned upon the receipt of Federal or State funds to provide for needed public infrastructure on the Matanuska-Susitna Borough side of the bridge;”

MOTION: Assemblymember Bettine moved a secondary amendment by inserting “including Knik Goose Bay Road, Burma Road, and South Big Lake Road on the Borough end of the Knik Crossing” after the word Improvements

VOTE: The secondary amendment passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Arvin called for the question (to stop debate).

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed as amended without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Bettine moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 10-028 by inserting: “Be It Further Resolved, that the Assembly of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough requests that existing project funds be used to complete a community impact assessment of the Big Lake community as well as initiate the engineering and design of Knik Goose Bay Road, Burma Road, and South Big Lake Road.”

MOTION: Assemblymember Ewing moved a secondary amendment to insert “Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority” after the word “existing.”

VOTE: The secondary amendment passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Arvin moved a secondary amendment to strike “initiate the engineering and design.”

VOTE: The secondary amendment failed with Assemblymembers Ewing, Arvin and Colver in support.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed as amended without objection.

Assemblymember Houston opined that language should be included that includes a statement regarding the Ferry.

Assemblymember Arvin advised that he did not include a reference to the ferry because this is a resolution in support of the bridge not the ferry.

(The regular meeting recessed at 9:34 p.m. and reconvened at 9:44 p.m.)

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to extend the meeting past 10 p.m. not to exceed 11 p.m.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Bettine moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 10-028 to insert a “be it further resolved” clause to read: Be It Further Resolved, that there will be a need for road and other infrastructure improvements including Knik Goose Bay Road, Burma Road, and South Big Lake Road on the Borough end of the Knik Crossing when the bridge is built.”

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

VOTE: The main motion passed as amended without objection.

- c. Resolution Serial No. 10-030: A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE GOVERNOR WORK WITH THE CRUISE SHIP INDUSTRY TO PROVIDE INCENTIVES FOR CRUISE SHIP PASSENGERS TO EMBARK AND DISEMBARK AT ALASKAN PORTS AND ENCOURAGING THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO SUPPORT THE PASSAGE OF THE “ALASKA TOURISM MARKETING TAX CREDIT” BILL (SB138 / HB 167) THAT PROVIDES ADDITIONAL TOURISM MARKETING FUNDING. *(Sponsored by Assemblymember Bettine)*
- (1) IM No. 10-070

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 10-030.

Assemblymember Woods queried how much would be credited back for marketing.

Assemblymember Bettine:

- stated that she did not know; and
- related that if Assemblymember Woods wanted to make an amendment to strike any reference to the senate bill and house bill throughout the legislation that she would be supportive of it.

Discussion ensued regarding the tax credit.

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved a primary amendment to strike any reference to Senate Bill 138 and House Bill 167 throughout the body of the legislation.

Assemblymember Colver opined that Resolution Serial No. 10-030 may be moot due Senate Bill 138 House Bill 167 possibly dying in committee.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Bettine moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No.10-030 by inserting the word “Southcentral” prior to the word Alaskan in the “Now Therefore Be It Resolved” clause to read: Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Assembly of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough requests that Governor Parnell work with the cruise ship industry to provide incentives for cruise ships to stop at Southcentral Alaskan ports to place more visitors in the Southcentral Alaskan tourism market.”

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 10-030 by striking the last further be it resolved clause.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

VOTE: The main motion passed as amended without objection.

Assemblymember Bettine requested that a copy of Resolution Serial No. 10-030 be forwarded to the Governor and the State Legislators as soon as it is finalized.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Resolution Serial No. 10-018: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE ALASKA FARMLAND TRUST PROJECT NO. 20370, TO PURCHASE THE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS OF THE MCCORMICK SOUTH 40-ACRE CONSERVATION EASEMENT.

(1) IM No. 10-059

B. Resolution Serial No. 10-019: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE ALASKA FARMLAND TRUST PROJECT NO. 20370, TO PURCHASE THE DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS OF THE MCCORMICK NORTH 40-ACRE CONSERVATION EASEMENT.

(1) IM No. 10-061

MOTION PENDING: Assemblymember Arvin moved to adopt Ordinance Serial Nos. 10-018 and 10-019.

Assemblymember Woods:

- spoke to her support of the Alaska Farmland Trust program;
- related that 30 years ago she worked for the House Special Committee on Agriculture;
- opined that it is important that farmland be protected in order to provide for long term sustainability;
- opined that farmland is part of the economy and part of building sustainable communities; and
- requested support of the resolutions by the Assembly.

Assemblymember Arvin:

- stated that he has seen the light on the issues, as previously he did not understand why public funds would be spent to preserve this type of land;
- stated that even though it is privately owned, the land use is set and cannot be changed;
- related that he understands the comments of the public that are opposed to spending public funds;
- further added that he also understands the value of this program;
- spoke to concerns with spending property tax money on this program;
- related that if this were to go before the voters, he would be more sure of how to approach this;
- stated that he received a lot of email in opposition and in support;
- noted that he is supportive of the Borough assisting this program in finding alternative funding; and
- opined that there is no track record of community support, but only Assembly support.

Assemblymember Ewing:

- noted that he has conflicting emotions regarding this legislation; and
- further added that he agrees with Assemblymember Arvin, in that this should go before the tax payers if this is going to be an ongoing program.

Assemblymember Houston:

- opined that the Assembly is elected to make hard decisions not to send everything to the ballot; and
- queried if this issue has been put into a survey before the public for comment.

Mr. Duffy stated that it has not.

Assemblymember Woods:

- opined that there has been considerable public input from the community;
- stated that she clearly remembers when the Alaska State Fair sold property to a driver education company that the whole neighborhood turned out upset that the farm land was being disposed of;
- opined that there has been adequate public debate and public involvement;
- further added that there will always be opposition to anything the Assembly does; and
- opined that food production and farming areas needs to be conserved.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- public comments on saving farmland;
- lack of participation by the State;
- past Assembly discussion on the issue;
- the possibility of setting up criteria for the Borough's approach to preserving farmland;
- property owners waiting to come forward to participate in this program;
- the need to measure public response; and
- the need to preserve food sources.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ewing called for the question (to stop debate).

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

VOTE: The motion passed with Assemblymembers Halter, Ewing, Arvin opposed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. INTRODUCTION (For public hearing – 04/20/10, 7 p.m., Borough Assembly Chambers)

1. Ordinance Serial No. 10-033: AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE GOLDEN CIRCLE ROAD PAVING LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 435 AND ESTABLISHING THE METHOD OF TERMINATING ASSESSMENTS AND MAKING REFUNDS TO PROPERTY OWNERS.

- a. Ordinance Serial No. 10-034: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$14,000 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT BONDS FOR THE GOLDEN CIRCLE ROAD PAVING LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 435, AND FIXING DETAILS OF SAID BONDS.
 - (1) IM No. 10-062
2. Ordinance Serial No. 10-035: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$1,254 OF REVENUES FROM PUBLIC DONATIONS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2010 ANIMAL CARE AND REGULATION OPERATING BUDGET, 200-100-606, TO MODIFY EXISTING CAT CAGES TO MEET OR EXCEED THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES STANDARDS FOR HOUSING CATS.
 - a. IM No. 10-045
3. Ordinance Serial No. 10-036: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$6,891 OF REVENUES FROM PUBLIC DONATIONS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2010 ANIMAL CARE AND REGULATION OPERATING BUDGET, 200-100-606, TO CONSTRUCT CAT CAGES, MODIFY THE EXOTICS ROOM TO SUPPORT THESE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED CAT CAGES, AND TO PURCHASE ROLL AWAY CAT CAGES FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY AND HOUSING.
 - a. IM No. 10-046
4. Ordinance Serial No. 10-037: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,958,755 TO THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FISCAL YEAR 2010 OPERATING BUDGET.
 - a. IM No. 10-053
5. Ordinance Serial No. 10-038: AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE JOINT LAND USE STUDY, AND AMENDING MSB 15.24.030, COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND PURPOSES.
 - a. IM No. 10-057
6. Ordinance Serial No. 10-039: AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE LAKE OF THE WOODS, LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN, AND AMENDING MSB 15.24.030, COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND PURPOSES, AND MSB 17.59, LAKE MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION.
 - a. IM No. 10-058
7. Resolution Serial No. 10-029: A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE MANAGER TO WORK WITH THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND VARIOUS USER GROUPS INCLUDING NORDIC SKI AND SNOW MACHINE INTERESTS TO LOCATE A WINTER ONLY SNOW MACHINE CORRIDOR THROUGH THE HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT AREA,

PROVIDING ROUTING, DESIGN, MITIGATION, AND PREVENTATIVE MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE NON-COMPATIBILITY ISSUES BETWEEN USER GROUPS. *(Sponsored by Assemblymember Halter)*

a. IM No. 10-066

Ms. McKechnie read the above legislation into the record.

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk and set the public hearings for April 20, 2010.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved to divide the question to set the public hearing for Ordinance Serial No. 10-029 separately.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

MOTION: First Segment. Assemblymember Colver moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk, with the exception of Resolution Serial No. 10-029, and set the public hearings for April 20, 2010.

VOTE: The first segment passed without objection.

MOTION: Second Segment. Assemblymember Colver moved to introduce Resolution Serial No. 10-029 and set the public hearing for April 27, 2010.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ewing moved a primary amendment to the second segment by striking "April 27, 2010" and inserting in its place "May 4, 2010."

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

VOTE: The second segment passed as amended without objection.

B. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. VACANCY REPORT

Mayor Colberg requested the following confirmations:

Emergency Medical Services Board

Darren Stewart

Kara Boothby, resignation

Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Board

George Shelton, resignation

Planning Commission

Gary Foster

Trapper Creek RSA No. 30

Joan Medbery

Mayor Colberg made the following recommendations:

Emergency Medical Services Board

Brian Wallace
Kara Boothby
Deborah Bloom

Labor Relations Board

Glen Price

Local Emergency Planning Committee

Glenn Stevens

Planning Commission

John L. Anderson

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to approve the Mayor's recommendations and resignations for confirmation this evening.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Bettine moved to set a special meeting on April 13, 2010, at 5:45 p.m. for the purpose of hearing the vacancy report.

Assemblymember Bettine noted her intent is to fill the Planning Commission vacancy.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

(The Clerk's report was resumed.)

Ms. McKechnie:

- spoke to the proposed budget meeting scheduled; and
- queried if the Assembly would like to approve this schedule.

Assemblymember Woods opined that the Assembly should go with the schedule suggested by Administration.

There was no objection noted.

C. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

1. MSB Board/Committee Minutes:

- a. Aviation Advisory Board: 01/14/10, 02/25/10, Resolution Serial No. 10-01
- b. Board of Ethics: 06/03/09, 06/17/09, 07/01/09, 07/29/09, 08/12/09, 08/27/09, 08/28/09, 09/02/09, 09/16/09, 10/20/09, 10/21/09, 11/04/09, 12/09/09, 01/28/10
- c. Borough Area Schools Site Selection Committee: Resolution Serial No. 10-02
- d. Commission on Salaries and Emoluments: 01/20/10, 02/08/10, 02/22/10, Resolution Serial No. 10-001, Minority Reports of Ms. Jay Nolfi and Mr. John Wood
- e. Local Road Service Area Advisory Board: 01/21/10

- f. Planning Commission: 11/02/09, 11/16/09, 12/07/09
 - g. Platting Board: 01/07/10, 02/04/10
 - h. Real Property Asset Management Board: 01/13/10, Resolution Serial Nos. 09-10(SUB)(AM), 10-01, 10-02, 10-03
 - i. Transportation Advisory Board: 06/24/09, 08/26/09, 09/23/09, 12/16/09, Resolution Serial Nos. 09-06, 09-07, 09-08
- 2. Community Council Correspondence:
 - a. Chickaloon Community Council: 09/09/09, 11/11/09, 12/09/09
 - b. Meadow Lakes Community Council: 12/09/09, 01/13/10

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

D. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS

- 1. IM No. 10-064: REPORT ON THE CONCLUSION OF CONTRACT FOR THE SOUTH PALMER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT, TO COLLINS CONSTRUCTION, INC., FOR THE FINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$14,624,579.

The informational memorandum was presented and no comments were noted.

C. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

X. RECONSIDERATION

(There were no reconsiderations presented.)

XI. VETO

(There were no vetoes presented.)

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(There was no executive session held.)

XIII. MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Assemblymember Houston:

- opined that there was good discussion this evening; and
- thanked everyone for their participation.

Assemblymember Halter:

- stated that there were some difficult decisions made this evening; and
- further added that he is hopeful that those affected by the farmland trust decision use it wisely.

Assemblymember Ewing:

- opined that it was a good meeting; and
- thanked the public for their input.

Assemblymember Arvin:

- stated that he spent a lot of time researching the Alaska Farmland Trust legislation;
- noted that he has never been a farmer due to how hard farming is;
- thanked the public for providing testimony; and
- opined it was a good meeting.

Assemblymember Bettine:

- stated that she also felt it was a good meeting; and
- opined that an agriculture work session needs to be scheduled and that input from the State should be solicited.

Assemblymember Woods:

- stated that she has received many comments from her constituents regarding coal mining on Wishbone Hill;
- noted that communities within her district are enthusiastic regarding the Tourism Summit the Assembly has scheduled; and
- stated that she is travelling to Juneau to promote Borough projects.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 11 p.m.


TALIS J. COLBERG, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes approved: 04/20/10