

I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on September 29, 2015, at the Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 4 p.m. by Mayor Larry DeVilbiss for the purpose of discussing strategic opportunities and taking up Resolution Serial Nos. 15-097 and 15-098.

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
Mr. Steve Colligan, Assembly District No. 4
Mr. Dan Mayfield, Assembly District No. 5
Ms. Barbara J. Doty, Assembly District No. 6 (*arrived at 4:45 p.m.*)
Mr. Vern Halter, Assembly District No. 7 (*attended telephonically*)

Assemblymembers absent and excused were:

Mr. Ronald Arvin, Assembly District No. 3 (*Deputy Mayor*)

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Lonnie R. McKechnie, CMC, Borough Clerk
Mr. John Moosey, Borough Manager
Mr. Nicholas Spiropoulos, Borough Attorney
Ms. Brenda J. Henry, Assistant Clerk
Mr. Bill Gamble, Emergency Services Director
Mr. Ken Barkley, Emergency Services Deputy Director - Fire
Ms. Lisa Behrens, Emergency Services Deputy Director - EMS
Ms. Mary Miller, Executive Assistant to the Borough Manager
Mr. Eric Wyatt, Information Technology Director
Mr. Eric Phillips, Community Development Director

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Don Carney, a member of the audience.

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

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

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

VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Strategic Opportunities

Mr. Moosey:

- noted that the strategic opportunities information for the meeting has been on the website for two weeks to provide the public an opportunity to review it;
- summarized how it was compiled and the information that was included; and
- introduced Mr. Peter House and Mr. Ceasar Rodgers of Deep Tree, Inc.

Mr. Peter House and Mr. Ceasar Rodgers of Deep Tree, Inc. reported on the strategic opportunities draft.

The Assembly discussed strategic opportunities and asked questions of Mr. House, Mr. Rodgers, and Mr. Moosey.

(Assemblymember Halter exited the meeting at 4:45 p.m.)

(The meeting recessed at 5:25 p.m. and reconvened at 5:48 p.m.)

B. Resolution Serial No. 15-097: A Resolution Approving State Legislative Priorities For 2016.

1. IM No. 15-205

MOTION: Assemblymember Colligan moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 15-097.

MOTION: Assemblymember Mayfield moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 15-097, by inserting: "Old Glenn Pathway Extension to Knik River - \$1.25 Million. The voter approved project will extend the shared use pathway along the west side of the Old Glenn Highway from Plumley Road to the Knik River. This 55 mile-per-hour section of the Old Glenn Highway has no shoulders, no separated pathway, and negotiates a narrow road easement that includes a blind curve. It is a health and safety priority connecting with the separated bike path system on the Palmer/Wasilla Highway and the Old Glenn north of Plumley Road. Construction will include a 10-foot wide paved pathway, increased roadside clear zone and roadside ditches with increased capacity. Preliminary design is nearly finished. Several slivers of right-of-way need to be acquired and a few utility relocates need to be done to facilitate construction."

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

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

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

VOTE: The main motion passed as amended without objection.

C. **Resolution Serial No. 15-098:** A Resolution Approving Federal Legislative Priorities For 2016.

1. IM No. 15-206

MOTION: Assemblymember Colligan moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 15-098.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colligan moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 15-098, by striking “Port MacKenzie Rail Extension - \$125 Million.”

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymember Sykes opposed.

MOTION: Assemblymember Sykes moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 15-098, by inserting: “Old Glenn Pathway Extension to Knik River - \$1.25 Million. The voter approved project will extend the shared use pathway along the west side of the Old Glenn Highway from Plumley Road to the Knik River. This 55 mile-per-hour section of the Old Glenn Highway has no shoulders, no separated pathway, and negotiates a narrow road easement that includes a blind curve. It is a health and safety priority connecting with the separated bike path system on the Palmer/Wasilla Highway and the Old Glenn north of Plumley Road. Construction will include a 10-foot wide paved pathway, increased roadside clear zone and roadside ditches with increased capacity. Preliminary design is nearly finished. Several slivers of right-of-way need to be acquired and a few utility relocations need to be done to facilitate construction.”

VOTE: The primary amendment failed with Assemblymembers Sykes and Beck in support and Assemblymembers Doty, Mayfield, and Colligan opposed (required four votes).

MOTION: Assemblymember Sykes moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 15-098, by striking “Government Peak Recreation Area - \$6.65 million.”

VOTE: The primary amendment failed with Assemblymembers Doty, Sykes, and Mayfield in support and Assemblymembers Colligan and Beck opposed (required four votes).

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

VOTE: The motion failed with Assemblymembers Mayfield and Colligan in support.

VOTE: The main motion passed as amended without objection.

VI. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

(Assemblymember Colligan exited the meeting at 6:22 p.m.)

Mr. Moosey thanked the body for providing their thoughts and ideas for the strategic opportunities.

Mr. Spiropoulos spoke to where funds collected as excise taxes may be spent.

Assemblymember Beck:

- thanked Mr. Moosey for bringing forward the legislative priorities; and
- opined that the body is off to a good start.

Assemblymember Sykes:

- thanked Mr. Moosey for all the information presented this evening;
- opined that this is the most substantive discussion regarding priorities that he can recall;
- commented that it might be important to consult with Directors to see if they have any input regarding strategic opportunities; and
- stated that he is looking forward to the continued work.

Assemblymember Mayfield:

- opined that the body is at a good starting point for priorities; and
- spoke to concerns with indecisiveness.

(Assemblymember Halter exited the meeting at an uncertain time and re-entered the meeting at 6:27 p.m.)

Assemblymember Halter:

- spoke to the flooding in Willow;
- thanked Mr. Casey Cook and Chief Green for patrolling the area and keeping an eye on things; and
- commented that things are looking much better.

Mayor DeVilbiss spoke to his pleasure with the strategic opportunities draft.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.



VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:



LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 12/01/15