

I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on December 15, 2015, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 4 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*)
Mr. George McKee, Assembly District No. 3
Mr. Steve Colligan, Assembly District No. 4 (*Joined telephonically at 4:11 p.m.*)
Mr. Dan Mayfield, Assembly District No. 5
Ms. Barbara Doty, Assembly District No. 6
Mr. Randall Kowalke, Assembly District No. 7

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Lonnie R. McKechnie, Borough Clerk
Mr. John Moosey, Borough Manager
Mr. George Hays, Assistant Borough Manager
Mr. Nicholas Spiropoulos, Borough Attorney
Ms. Jessica Kilborn, Deputy Borough Clerk
Mr. Jude Bilafer, Capital Projects Director
Ms. Patty Sullivan, Public Affairs Director
Mr. Eric Phillips, Community Development Director
Ms. Elizabeth Weinant, Department Administrative Specialist
Ms. Nancy Cameron, Land Management Department Agent
Mr. George Hoden, Land Management Department Specialist
Mr. Emerson Krueger, Land Management Department Specialist
Mr. Hugh Leslie, Recreation and Library Manager
Mr. Joe Miner, Ice Rink Manager
Mr. Tim Pickard, Pools Manager
Mr. Johan Jarrard, Health and Safety Manager
Mr. Eric Wyatt, Information Technology Director

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Halter 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. Eric Phillips, Community Development Director.

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

The following person spoke in opposition of the bed tax, in support of the need for a sewer plant for the community, and in support of implementing personal finance classes in the school system to address the needs of the next generation: Ms. Helen Munoz

The following person spoke to audience participation occurring only once on the agenda and voiced concerns on the public process: Mr. Eugene Carl Haberman

VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

Community Development Director Eric Phillips provided an overview of the Community Development Department and issues with pool, the Brett Memorial Ice Arena, trails, and bonding for repairs.

VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Moosey thanked Mr. Phillips for the presentation and commended Mr. Phillips and staff on their efforts with the department.

Assemblymember Sykes

- thanked staff for the presentation;
- voiced the need to consider the health and safety of the community;
- noted there was a lot to ponder regarding the potential bond issue;
- inquired on the status of the financial risk estimate due from the Manager and requested it be provided at the January 12, 2016, meeting; and
- spoke to the need to consider wants versus needs and what could realistically be afforded.

Assemblymember Mayfield

- thanked Mr. Phillips and staff for the presentation and bringing to light the conditions of the facilities; and
- wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Assemblymember Doty

- thanked Mr. Phillips and staff for the presentation;
- spoke to integration between the community and the Borough;
- spoke to the availability of the Matanuska-Susitna Convention and Visitors Bureau marketing tool and noted that there was a lack of information on trails; and
- commented that information could be a point of marketing collaboration between the MSCVB and the Borough.

Assemblymember Colligan

- thanked Mr. Phillips, Mr. Moosey, and staff for the presentation; and
- spoke to the need of maintenance for the facilities.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.



VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:



LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 01/12/16