

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on Tuesday, January 5, 2016, 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 (*attended telephonically*)
Mr. Matthew Beck, Assembly District No. 2 (*Deputy Mayor*)
Mr. George McKee, Assembly District No. 3
Mr. Steve Colligan, Assembly District No. 4
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
Mr. Bill Gamble, Emergency Services Director
Mr. Eric Wyatt, Information Technology Director
Mr. James Wilson, Internal Auditor

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 Ms. Helen Munoz, a member of the audience.

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three minutes per person.)

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

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

The following person related that Mr. Nathan Wallace, the new city of Palmer Manager, is present if the Assembly has any questions regarding E911 Dispatch Services: Mayor Delena Johnson, city of Palmer.

VI. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. E911 Dispatch Services

Mr. Eric Wyatt reported on how dispatch services are contracted and administered; and how they are intertwined with information technology.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colligan moved to direct the Manager to work with the Attorney to look into state statute regarding how E911 funding can be expanded to include all emergency services.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

Mr. Nathan Wallace, Palmer City Manager, spoke to Palmer's current contract for dispatch services.

B. Briefing On Municipal Advisory Gas Project Review Board

Mr. James Wilson briefed the body on the Municipal Advisory Gas Project Review Board.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION *(For Matters, Which The Immediate Public Knowledge Of Which Would Clearly Have An Adverse Effect Upon The Finances Of The Borough; And Matters Which By Law, Municipal Charter, Or Ordinance Are Required To Be Kept Confidential; And Matters Involving Consideration Of Government Records That By Law Are Not Subject To Public Disclosure; And Discussion Of Matters Covered By Attorney-Client Privilege.)*

A. Port Repairs And Possible Litigation

MOTION: Assemblymember Beck moved to enter into executive session for matters, which the immediate public knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the Borough; and matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be kept confidential; and matters involving consideration of government records that by law are not subject to public disclosure; and discussion of matters covered by attorney-client privilege. In particular, to discuss port repairs and possible litigation. Those present during the executive session were the Mayor, the Assembly, the Attorney, the Manager, the Clerk, the Port Director, and the Finance Director.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection and the Assembly entered into executive session at 7:24 p.m.

MOTION: Assemblymember Beck moved to exit executive session.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection and the Assembly exited executive session at 7:56 p.m.

VIII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Spiropoulos:

- advised that he has reviewed the draft request for proposal (RFP) for E911 dispatch services;
- noted that there are sometimes issues with the way that RFP's are written as opposed to what is really intended;
- related that it is not always possible for him to catch those discrepancies because he is not a subject matter expert; and
- commented that his office will be reviewing the RFP for dispatch services very closely.

Ms. McKechnie:

- noted that it was requested to reschedule the Assembly planning session to a date prior to the budget cycle; and
- proposed the date of January 30, at 10 a.m.

Mayor Halter queried if there was any objection.

There was no objection noted.

Ms. McKechnie:

- advised that she would determine a suitable location for the planning session; and
- queried if the body would like to focus on the remaining projects from the strategic plan or fiscal impacts and expenses and financial forecasts.

Assemblymembers Doty and Kowalke spoke in support of focusing on fiscal impacts and needs.

Assemblymember Colligan opined that State mandated items also need to be discussed.

Assemblymember Mayfield:

- spoke in support of focusing on the planning portion; and
- agreed that an economic discussion is important, but opined that it could occur prior to a regular meeting.

Mayor Halter requested that the Clerk investigate the new Chalet at Hatcher Pass as a place to hold the planning session.

Assemblymember Doty stated that she would like to discuss the salary and position category survey.

Assemblymember Colligan:

- spoke to a letter from a constituent regarding flood plains; and
- noted that the delineation of flood plains has impacts.

Assemblymember Doty opined that an article needs to be put out that outlines the technology that is used to delineate flood plains.

Assemblymember Beck:

- thanked staff for the presentations that were provided this evening; and
- spoke in support of the hard work of the body.

Assemblymember Kowalke stated that he is looking forward to a resolution for consolidated dispatch.

Mayor Halter:

- thanked the body for attending the meeting;
- noted that a copy of the RFP for the E911 dispatch will be provided to the body; and
- thanked staff for the presentations that were provided this evening.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.



VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:



LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 01/26/16