

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH REGULAR MEETING  
ASSEMBLY JANUARY 22, 2002

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on January 22, 2002, at the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly Chambers, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Mayor Timothy L. Anderson.

II. ROLL CALL

Assembly members present and establishing a quorum were:

Ms. Sara Jansen, Assembly District No. 2  
Mr. Talis J. Colberg, Assembly District No. 3  
Mr. Dan Kelly, Assembly District No. 4  
Ms. Jody Simpson, Assembly District No. 5  
Mr. Jim Colver, Assembly District No. 6  
Ms. Kelly Ladere, Assembly District No. 7

Assembly members absent and excused were:

Mr. J. Bruce Bush, Assembly District No. 1

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Sandra A. Dillon, Borough Clerk  
Mr. John Duffy, Borough Manager  
Mr. Michael Gatti, Borough Attorney  
Ms. Michelle M. McGehee, Deputy Borough Clerk  
Mr. Jim Swing, Public Works Director  
Ms. Tammy Clayton, Finance Director  
Ms. Sandra Garley, Planning Director  
Mr. Ron Swanson, Community Development Director  
Mr. Kevin Koechlein, Director of Public Safety  
Mr. Karl Borglum, Borough Assessor

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Anderson

- noted that Ordinance Serial No. 02-026, Resolution Serial No. 02-013, and Resolution Serial No. 02-014 would be pulled from the agenda at the request of administration; and
- noted replacement pages to Ordinance Serial Nos. 02-025 and 02-027.

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

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Bill Larkin, a member of the audience.

V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

- A. Special Assembly Meeting: December 11, 2001
- B. Regular Assembly Meeting: December 18, 2001

Mayor Anderson referenced the December 11, 2001, special meeting minutes, and the December 18, 2001, regular meeting minutes respectively and asked for any corrections.

Ms. Jansen noted several typographical errors and inconsistencies in the minutes. [After clerk's research, the typographical errors were corrected.]

Ms Dillon:

- noted that both sets of minutes were contracted and were not received until shortly before the meeting; and
- advised that corrections would be made accordingly.

GENERAL CONSENT: The December 11, 2001, and the December 18, 2001, assembly minutes were approved respectively without objection.

## VI. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

### A Certification of January 15, 2002, Special Borough Election

Ms. Dillon:

- noted that a copy of the election results spreadsheet and the canvass board report were provided in the assembly red folders;
- stated that although the voter turnout was low, the process involved and the effort required is the same as that of a regular election;
- invited Geraldine Keeling, canvass board chairperson, to report to the assembly the canvass board's findings; and
- recognized Ms. Keeling for her years of participation and dedication to the borough election process.

Ms. Gerry Keeling, Canvass Board Chairperson:

- reported that there was a very low voter turnout for the January 15, 2001, special borough election – a total of 1669 voters;
- noted that of the 1669, 1244 were poll voters;
- stated that four of the 1244 poll voters chose to cast a blank ballot;
- commented that there was a low number of questioned voters – 77 total;
- noted that of the 77 questioned ballots cast, 72 counted and 5 did not;
- stated that 348 absentee ballots were cast;
- remarked that 331 of the absentee ballots cast were counted, 17 were not;
- reported that the 17 absentee ballots were not counted due to lack of signature on behalf of the voter or witnesses;
- commented that no personal representative ballots were cast;
- noted that two of the borough's outlying absentee voting sites did not receive absentee voters during the two-week period prior to election day;
- stated that three absentee ballots casts at the Skwentna absentee voting site were not counted as they did not reach the borough by mail in time to be counted;
- advised that the borough may want to review the locations of the absentee voting sites and consider setting outlying areas as specifically by mail;
- reported that precinct 28-035 had an accuvote machine malfunction on election day and consequently hand counted their ballots; and
- noted that a questioned ballot was put through the accuvote machine in precinct 28-029 and that this ballot was easily identified, retrieved, and placed in its appropriate envelope.

Assemblymember Jansen thanked Ms. Keeling and the members of the canvass board for a job well done.

Assemblymember Ladere inquired about the Skwentna absentee voting site in regard to receiving ballots in a timely manner.

Ms. Dillon:

- noted that the Skwentna absentee voting site has difficulties with the postal service which is usually affected by the weather; and
- advised that in order to be counted, all ballots must be postmarked no later than the day of election and received in the clerk's office three calendar days thereafter.

Assemblymember Ladere:

- hopes to address some of the mail issues related to absentee voting in the smaller communities; and
- thanked all election officials for their hard work and dedication.

Ms. Dillon:

- spoke to her efforts to increase the use of voting absentee by mail;
- noted a significant increase in the absentee by mail numbers due to the letter generated from the clerk's office advising of the voting option; and
- anticipates that the absentee by mail database will continue to grow as the number of individuals interested in this voting option increases.

Assemblymember Ladere appreciated the efforts of the clerk in making effective contacts with members of the smaller communities regarding absentee voting by mail.

Ms. Dillon:

- recognized all members of the canvass board; and
- announced that the proposition on reapportionment of assembly districts received 1085 "yes" votes and 558 "no" votes.

Assemblymember Ladere noted that the Meadow Lakes precinct was the only precinct in which the proposition did not pass.

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved to accept the report of the canvass board and to certify the election results as read into the record by the clerk.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

## VII. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

### A. AGENCY REPORTS

#### 1. Reports from the cities

##### Wasilla City

Council Member Cox:

- reported that the council is currently working on their budget; and
- spoke to the March 5, 2002, special city election regarding the sports complex.

Mayor Anderson inquired regarding the status of the proposed railroad line relocation in Wasilla.

Mr. Duffy:

- reported that the railroad has decided not to move forward with the relocation of the rail line in the Wasilla area.

Members of the Assembly requested copies of the position statement from the railroad regarding their decision.

#### 2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

Superintendent Patricia Chesbro:

- reported that the school district is beginning the second semester of the school year;
- commented that the school district is currently working on their budget for the coming year;
- stated that she will be presenting her budget to the school board on February 13, 2002, with public hearings to follow thereafter;
- noted that the school board's budget would be presented to the assembly by April 1, 2002;

- thanked the borough clerk for her presentation to the school board on parliamentary procedure; and
- also thanked the emergency services staff for their efficiency and aid regarding the fire at Tanaina Elementary School.

Assemblymember Jansen inquired regarding the change of principal at Tanaina Elementary School.

Superintendent Chesbro:

- responded that the principal has taken a leave of absence for personal reasons;
- noted that Marie Burton from Cottonwood Creek Elementary School is serving as principal in her place; and
- also noted that there is an administrative intern currently at Tanaina Elementary School.

Assemblymember Colver spoke to concerns of his constituents regarding the fire investigation at Tanaina.

Ms. Chesbro responded that the Alaska State Trooper's investigation is still ongoing.

Assemblymember Colver:

- restated his concerns related to administrative issues at Tanaina Elementary School and his desire to see these issues addressed as soon as possible.

## B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 1. Joint Assembly/School Board Committee on School Issues

Assemblymember Jansen:

- reported that the committee met on January 7, 2002;
- noted those in attendance at the meeting;
- spoke to school board negotiations with their bargaining units;
- stated that the teachers had gone in with a 10 percent increase aggregate total for a one year contract;
- informed that the North Slope Borough offered their teachers a 5 percent plus increase which was subsequently turned down;
- reported that health insurance was also discussed;
- noted discussions regarding the NEA trust availability to provide health insurance for all groups;
- spoke to school issues related to residential zoning;
- commented that the need for a public facility plan update was also addressed; and
- remarked that the committee also discussed the school designator bill.

### 2. Intergovernmental Liaison Committee

Assemblymember Simpson:

- reported that the committee met following a presentation from the manager for the World Trade Center Organization;
- noted that items discussed included regional transportation planning and programming and setting agenda items for upcoming meetings;
- stated that the memorandum of agreement, the creation of the regional transportation advisory board, and the creation of a steering committee to help the Alaska State Department of Transportation with their Request for Proposals (RFP) are all a result of the committee's meeting;
- reported that there was discussion regarding travel to Juneau to follow up on regional transportation – tentatively planned for February;
- commented that the committee also discussed other joint issues; and
- stated that the next committee meeting will be held on February 6 at 4 p.m., in the borough assembly chambers.

## C. MANAGER COMMENTS

Mr. Duffy:

- reported that the borough has filed for approximately \$1.5 million of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant funds for a location study, feasibility study, ferry service, environmental assessment, and preliminary engineering and

design for the port;

- spoke to opening proposals on Thursday for the location study for a mainline rail spur from the Big Lake cutoff down to the port;
- stated that a human resource director has been hired, Patricia Von Au;
- noted several presentations that have been made regarding borough projects and initiatives;
- commented that the packages for the community clean-up for spring 2002 have been sent to all community councils;
- reported that an open house will be held on January 23, 2002, between 4 – 7 p.m., at the Lake Lucille Inn, regarding Alaska Railroad projects;
- informed that the public comment period has closed for the proposed core area zoning ordinance and that the planning department is now reviewing those comments and developing revisions as appropriate;
- stated that revisions to the zoning ordinance may include additional commercial use along the arterials, the creation of an airpark district, the creation of an overlay airpark district, revised definitions, and a proposed interim mining district; and
- referenced a schedule of meetings for open houses regarding the zoning plan.

Assemblymember Ladere inquired regarding the location of the February 4 public hearing on the core area zoning plan.

Mr. Duffy:

- clarified that there would be no public hearing held on February 4, 2002, due to space constraints and scheduling issues; and
- stated that the public hearings are now scheduled at the Palmer High School theater on February 12 and 15, 2002.

Assemblymember Colver inquired if the Wolf Lake Subdivision was included in the zoning airpark concept.

Mr. Duffy:

- responded that it was included;
- congratulated the Sutton and Central fire service areas for their ratings;
- reported that almost all property owners in the Wind Song Subdivision have obtained department of environmental conservation (DEC) approved septic systems; and
- noted that the status report regarding Houston High School has been included in the assembly red folders.

#### D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Mr. Gatti:

- welcomed everyone back after the holidays;
- stated that the legal department has continued to work with the public works department to resolve the Houston High School issue;
- referenced a memorandum from Mr. Carroll, the project manager, included in the assembly red folders;
- reported that the Alaska Supreme Court has upheld the borough's motor vehicle registration tax ordinance which represents approximately \$2.5 million of revenue to the borough; and
- commented that a petition for rehearing has been filed regarding the motor vehicle registration tax ordinance and that the borough is hopeful that the court will maintain its position and uphold the ordinance.

#### E. CLERK COMMENTS

Ms. Dillon:

- noted the current assembly meeting schedule through March;
- reported that the assembly retreat has been rescheduled for January 26, 2002;
- noted meetings to be held in regard to the core area zoning plan on February 26 (introduction) and the March 12 (public hearing);
- queried if the assembly wished to reschedule the March 12 joint assembly/school board meeting in order to accommodate the core area zoning plan public hearing;
- reminded members of the assembly to review the tracking report; and
- commented that code supplements are now available for updates to the assembly code books.

Assemblymember Jansen:

- reminded that the employee luncheon has been scheduled for February 8, 2002, at noon;
- spoke to difficulties in scheduling the assembly retreat and noted her conflict for the meeting on January 26;
- further noted that a zoning meeting is also scheduled for January 26; and
- inquired if it would be possible to reschedule the assembly retreat some time during the first week of February from 4 – 8 p.m.

Mr. Duffy also noted that Assemblymember Bush might not be available to attend the retreat on January 26, 2002.

Ms. Dillon:

- confirmed that Assemblymember Bush would not be in attendance due to personal matters;
- reviewed the meeting schedule for the first week of February; and
- suggested possible dates on which the retreat could be rescheduled.

Discussions continued regarding meeting schedules of the assembly and possible dates on which to hold the assembly retreat.

Mayor Anderson noted that the assembly retreat, currently scheduled for January 26, 2002, would be rescheduled, discussion to continue regarding a feasible date.

Assemblymember Kelly:

- stated that the Wasilla-Lakes Fire Service Area Board of Supervisors has requested a work session with the assembly on February 9, 2002, to discuss various steps and structural changes to the relationship between the central fire department and the Wasilla ambulance service necessary to adequately cope with the large run volume and lack of emergency medical service (EMS) volunteers.

MOTION: Assemblymember Kelly moved to schedule a work session with the Wasilla-Lakes Fire Service Area Board of Supervisors to discuss emergency medical services.

Assemblymember Simpson:

- stated that she supports the idea of holding a work session;
- requested that the minutes from the EMS/fire study group be available prior to any scheduled work session; and
- further requested of the manager that the public safety department provide the statistics regarding the volume of Wasilla ambulance pages

Assemblymember Ladere:

- noted that she would like more information regarding the details on this particular service area;
- inquired why a work session would be held with one specific service area when others may also have similar issues;
- believes the process that has been established to hear these issues should be adhered to for all service areas; and
- stated that she would like to see the committee's recommendations before holding work sessions with the service areas.

Assemblymember Kelly:

- stated that the Wasilla service area covers majority of the ambulance responses in the borough;
- noted that the service area covers multiple districts;
- spoke to a Wasilla ambulance service assistant position; and
- reiterated that the work session has been requested by a large group of individuals.

Mr. Gatti noted that emergency medical services are areawide while fire service is not areawide.

The regular meeting recessed at 6:55 p.m. and reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

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

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

There were no persons to be heard.

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three minutes per person.)

1. Ordinance Serial No. 02-001: AN ORDINANCE CREATING ROLLING ACRES SUBDIVISION NATURAL GAS LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 345, 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. 02-001

Ms. Clayton:

- reported that 35 ballots were mailed to the property owners;
- stated that 28 ballots were returned in favor, representing 80 percent of the ballots issued;
- noted that administration recommends adoption of the ordinance;
- commented that administration also recommends an amendment to the ordinance to eliminate an old lot number and to add a new reference which includes the old lot and the new lot; and
- reported that the new lot owner wishes to participate in the local improvement district.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing.

Mr. Ken Slauson spoke in favor of the local improvement district process if using tax dollars for public infrastructure, but not for private enterprise.

There being no others who wished to be heard, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ladere moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 02-001.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ladere moved to amend Ordinance Serial No. 02-001 to strike the reference to 18N02W30C003 Gov't Lot 4, Section 30, Township 18N, R2W, Seward Meridian, Palmer Recording District, Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, and to insert a reference to 5145, Lot 1 and Lot 2, Morris Subdivision, according to Plat number 2001-94P, Palmer Recording District.

VOTE: The motion, to amend Ordinance Serial No. 02-001, passed without objection.

Assemblymember Ladere:

- stated that she agrees that tax revenue should not be used to further private enterprise; and
- noted, however, that she would continue to be supportive of property owners who favor natural gas local improvements as it is a process consistent with the borough code.

Assemblymember Simpson:

- restated the position of her constituents in opposition to natural gas local improvement districts; and
- noted that the three community councils in her district are also opposed to the process.

VOTE: The motion, as amended, passed with Assemblymember Simpson opposed.

2. Ordinance Serial No. 02-003: AN ORDINANCE CREATING SOUTH ROCKY LAKE AREA NATURAL GAS LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 355, 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. 02-003

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Assemblymember Simpson declared a conflict of interest regarding Ordinance Serial No. 02-003, as she is a property owner in the proposed local improvement district.

RULING: Mayor Anderson ruled that Assemblymember Simpson did have a conflict of interest regarding Ordinance Serial No. 02-003.

[Assemblymember Simpson exited chambers.]

Ms. Clayton:

- reported that 51 ballots were mailed;
- stated that 34 ballots were returned in favor 34, representing 67 percent of the ballots mailed; and
- noted that administration recommends adoption of Ordinance Serial No. 02-003.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing.

The following person spoke in favor of Ordinance Serial No. 02-003: Joe LeBeau.

There being no others who wished to be heard, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 02-003.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

[Assemblymember Simpson returned to chambers.]

3. Ordinance Serial No. 02-005: AN ORDINANCE CREATING SOUTH COLONIAL PARK REVISED ROAD PAVING LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 359, 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. 02-005

Ms. Clayton:

- reported that the ballots for the proposed local improvement district were inadvertently mailed with incorrect information;
- stated that the ballots were re-mailed; and
- requested postponement of the public hearing until February 5, 2002.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing.

There being no one who wished to be heard, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ladere moved to postpone the public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 02-005 to a time certain of February 5, 2002.

VOTE: The motion, to postpone to a time certain, passed without objection.

4. Ordinance Serial No. 02-006: AN ORDINANCE CREATING COTTONWOOD SHORES/ALDER DRIVE ROAD PAVING LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 356, 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. 02-006

Ms. Clayton:

- reported that 70 ballots were mailed;
- noted that 37 ballots were returned in favor, representing 53 percent of the ballots mailed; and
- stated that administration recommends adoption of Ordinance Serial No. 02-006.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing.

The following persons spoke in favor of Ordinance Serial No. 02-006: Alan Churchill and Valen Bair.

There being no others who wished to be heard, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colberg moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 02-006.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

5. Ordinance Serial No. 02-011: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING A \$71,420 SOUTHERN REGION EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL CODE BLUE GRANT AND REAPPROPRIATING \$7,286 FROM THE FISCAL YEAR 2002 AMBULANCE OPERATING BUDGET TO PROJECT NO. 20328, FUND 425, FOR THE PURCHASE OF ESSENTIAL EMS EQUIPMENT.

a. Resolution Serial No. 02-001: A RESOLUTION SETTING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR PROJECT NO. 20328, FUND 425, TO PURCHASE ESSENTIAL EMS EQUIPMENT.

(1) IM No. 02-017

(2) AM No. 02-004: PURCHASE OF CARDIAC MONITOR/DEFIBRILLATORS FROM ZOLL MEDICAL CORPORATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$86,250.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing.

There being no one who wished to be heard, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 02-011, Resolution Serial No. 02-001, and AM No. 02-004.

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved to amend Resolution Serial No. 02-001, to insert the phrase “with related accessories” to the last item in the scope of work, to read, “Automatic external defibrillators; infant/pediatric immobilization kits; airway management trainers; and twelve lead monitor defibrillators with related accessories, \$108,245.”

VOTE: The motion, to amend Resolution Serial No. 02-011, passed without objection.

Assemblymember Simpson inquired as to the project balances.

Mr. Koechlein explained that one project has funds that are currently budgeted for monitor defibrillators and that the other project is an old capital project replacing EMS equipment.

Assemblymember Jansen inquired how high pediatric patient areas are identified.

Mr. Koechlein responded that run data is analyzed, but that there are also areas that simply have higher numbers of incidents involving children, including Sutton and Trapper Creek.

Assemblymember Ladere commented that more EMS equipment is needed boroughwide and encouraged the assembly to support passage of the legislation.

VOTE: The motion, as amended, passed without objection.

6. Ordinance Serial No. 02-012: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MSB 2.08.060(A) AND MSB 2.12.060(A) TO CLARIFY THAT THE MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY ARE INCLUDED IN THE BOROUGH'S LIFE INSURANCE PLAN.

a. IM No. 02-010

Mr. Duffy:

- reported that since 1980, the borough has contracted with Great West Life for a health care plan and life insurance coverage;

- informed that under that contract, borough employees and elected officials received coverage;
- stated that the contract with Great West Life was terminated and other contracts were established which do not have combined services; and
- advised that the code will require amendments to clarify the benefits that elected officials receive.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing.

Mr. Ken Slauson asked the assembly to consider other benefit options extended not only to the elected officials, but also to various borough volunteers.

There being no others who wished to be heard, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 02-012.

Assemblymember Ladere stated that she liked Mr. Slauson's commentary and hoped that benefit options would be considered for borough volunteers.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

7. Ordinance Serial No. 02-013: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MSB 3.04.131 RELATING TO THE FIXED ASSET CAPITALIZATION POLICY.

a. IM No. 02-011

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing.

There being no one who wished to be heard, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 02-013.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

8. Ordinance Serial No. 02-014: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$51,000 FROM THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, AND REAPPROPRIATING \$51,000 FROM TALKEETNA SEWER AND WATER OPERATING BUDGET, FUND 293, TO FUND 415 FOR TALKEETNA WATER AND SEWER REPAIRS, UPGRADE, AND EXPANSION, PROJECT NO. 25037.

a. Resolution Serial No. 02-002: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LOAN FROM THE REVOLVING LOAN FUND, FUND 600, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$51,000 TO THE TALKEETNA SEWER AND WATER SERVICE AREA, FUND 293, FOR REPAIRS, UPGRADE, AND EXPANSION.

b. Resolution Serial No. 02-003: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE TALKEETNA WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEM ANALYSIS, AND AUTHORIZING THE MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION.

(1) IM No. 02-012

Mr. Swing:

- referenced a letter from the Talkeetna Sewer and Water Service Area Board of Supervisors noting their approval to borrow \$51,000 from the revolving loan fund; and
- reported that arrangements were made not to repay the principal on the loan for the first two years in order to allow the service area to become more self-sufficient.

Assemblymember Jansen inquired how the borough could project that the service area would become more self-sufficient.

Mr. Swing:

- noted that there has been a budgeted increase in fees allotted in the three-year financial plan; and

- stated that the service area could also initiate a tax so that additional revenues would be available to sustain their viability.

Discussion followed regarding delay of repayment of the principal.

Ms. Clayton stated that the assembly approves the terms on loans in the form of resolution.

Assemblymember Ladere:

- stated that she has been advised that some people have not paid their service fees; and
- inquired regarding the difference in revenue if everyone who benefited from the services paid their fees.

Mr. Swing:

- responded that there is one property owner that he is aware of who has not paid the \$15 monthly fee;
- stated that service to this lot cannot be turned off as there is currently no hookup on the vacant lot;
- commented that the borough has the ability, and does in fact turn off service when individuals are not paying fees; and
- noted that collection agencies have been used in an effort to collect outstanding fees;

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing.

There being no one who wished to be heard, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ladere moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 02-014, Resolution Serial No. 02-002, and Resolution Serial No. 02-003.

Assemblymember Ladere:

- spoke to sewer leakages, the need for a remedy, adequate funds to address the issue, and environmental impacts that now face the community and the borough; and
- encouraged the assembly to support the proposed legislation.

Discussion continued regarding the environmental impacts posed as a result of leakage and funding to address the issue.

Mr. Swing:

- indicated that the service area is attempting to apply for loans for construction and design purposes; and
- advised that any loans secured may be repayable through the acquisition of grants;

Assemblymember Colver inquired if funding could be obtained through the Village Safe Water Program.

Mr. Swing:

- stated that there is some question as to whether or not this service area is eligible for bush-area designed grants;
- noted that the borough is looking into its eligibility; and
- further noted that these grant funds would not require a match.

Assemblymember Ladere stated that she believes the Talkeetna sewer system was established through the Village Safe Water Program.

VOTE: The motion, to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 02-014, Resolution Serial No. 02-002, and Resolution Serial No. 02-003, passed without objection.

9. Ordinance Serial No. 02-015: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$400 FROM INTEREST INCOME FOR THE ONE PERCENT FOR ART PROGRAM FOR SWANSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

a. IM No. 02-013

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing.

There being no one who wished to be heard, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 02-015.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

10. Ordinance Serial No. 02-016: AN ORDINANCE REAPPROPRIATING \$12,604 FROM NON-AREAWIDE CAPITAL PROJECTS, PROJECT 25012, FUND 435, TO FUND 200, NON-AREAWIDE FUND, CENTRAL LANDFILL DIVISION OPERATING BUDGET.

a. IM No. 02-015

Mr. Duffy:

- noted that the funds would allow improved safety and traffic management at the central landfill;
- stated that passage of the legislation would allow the Valley Center for Recycling Solutions to move forward with their operations without interfering with the operations of the central landfill; and
- commented that improvements would also be made to the entrance into the landfill.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing.

There being no one who wished to be heard, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 02-016.

Assemblymember Jansen encouraged support of the ordinance.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

11. Ordinance Serial No. 02-017: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING AN ADDITIONAL NET AMOUNT OF \$5,310,784 FROM STATE, FEDERAL, AND OTHER REVENUE SOURCES TO FUND 204, EDUCATION OPERATING FUND, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002.

a. IM No. 02-016

Mr. Duffy:

- reported that the school district will receive \$4.7 million in federal state grants, as well as other grant funds, and local revenues; and
- stated that the school district is requesting that the budget in May be modified to accept the funds.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing.

There being no one who wished to be heard, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 02-017.

Assemblymember Jansen:

- questioned how the borough could have a different beginning budget for the school district as opposed to the district's beginning budget figure.

Ms. Clayton:

- advised that the school district found an additional \$132,916 in revenue after the assembly approved the budget and therefore, the school district increased their beginning budget accordingly; and
- commented that someone from the school district was to be in attendance at the meeting in order to report on the matter.

Discussion ensued regarding whether or not it is possible for the school district to increase their budget without assembly approval.

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved to postpone Ordinance Serial No. 02-017 to a time certain of February 5, 2002, and to request that a representative from the school district be available to discuss the issue.

Assemblymember Simpson requested a legal opinion from Mr. Gatti regarding the possibility of the school district amending their budget after adoption of the budget by the assembly.

VOTE: The motion, to postpone Ordinance Serial No. 02-017 to a time certain of February 5, 2002, passed without objection.

#### C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three minutes per person.)

Mr. Byron Williams spoke to the public hearing time allotted regarding core area zoning plan.

Mr. Ken Slauson spoke to and encouraged support for the pending motion to schedule a work session with the Wasilla-Lakes Fire Service Area Board of Supervisors and the assembly.

There being no others who wished to be heard, Mayor Anderson closed audience participation.

The regular meeting recessed at 8:07 p.m. and reconvened at 8:17 p.m.

#### D. CLERK COMMENTS (Continued from p. 7)

MOTION: Assemblymember Kelly moved to schedule a work session with the Wasilla-Lakes Fire Service Area Board of Supervisors to discuss emergency medical services. (Motion already pending, see p. 7)

Discussion continued regarding whether or not to hold a work session with the Wasilla-Lakes Fire Service Area Board of Supervisors to discuss emergency medical services.

Mr. Duffy:

- noted that a report would be forthcoming to the assembly in February from the EMS/fire study group; and
- suggested that a work session could be held as late as March and there would still be sufficient time to include ideas into the budget.

Discussion continued regarding boroughwide EMS issues, the status of the EMS/fire study group, the need for a comprehensive plan that includes all departments, and the specific request from the Wasilla-Lakes Fire Service Area to schedule a work session with the assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved the previous question.

VOTE: The motion, to stop debate, failed with Assemblymember Jansen in favor.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved a primary amendment to the main motion to include an invitation to all service areas to participate in the work session.

RULING: Mayor Anderson ruled the motion out of order.

The regular meeting recessed at 8:37 p.m. and reconvened at 8:39 p.m.

Mayor Anderson noted that Assemblymember Colver's motion could be in order if the wording of the motion was clarified.

Assemblymember Colver clarified the intent of his motion to include any service area and EMS personnel interested in attending the work session.

Discussion ensued regarding the time at which the EMS/fire study group would be presenting their findings to the assembly, the nature of the Wasilla-Lakes Fire Service Area issues, and the possibility of setting two work sessions –

one with the Wasilla-Lakes Fire Service Area and EMS only and the second to include any fire service area and EMS personnel interested in attending.

WITHDRAW: Assemblymember Colver withdrew his primary amendment to the main motion.

Discussion continued regarding an appropriate time to schedule a work session with the Wasilla-Lakes Fire Service Area and EMS personnel.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ladere moved a primary amendment to schedule the work session with the Wasilla-Lakes Fire Service Area Board of Supervisors on March 19, 2002, from 3 – 5 p.m.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

VOTE: The main motion, as amended, passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ladere moved to schedule a work session on public safety issues for March 26, 2002, from 3 – 5 p.m., for all fire service areas and EMS personnel interested in attending.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

Assemblymember Kelly requested that the naming process for the new fire training tower on Knik Road begin, to follow with the dedication.

Mayor Anderson noted that the assembly still needed to finalize the issue of scheduling the assembly retreat.

Members of the assembly concurred that the assembly retreat would be scheduled on February 7, 2002, from 3 – 7 p.m.

## F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

### 1. MSB Board/Committee Minutes:

- a. Greater Willow Road Service Area No. 20: 06/28/01, 09/27/01
- b. Midway Road Service Area: 12/06/01
- c. Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Board: 12/11/01
- d. Planning Commission: 12/03/01, 12/17/01
- e. Port Commission: 12/10/01

### 2. Community Council and Other Correspondence:

- a. Big Lake Community Council: 12/12/01
- b. Butte Community Council, Inc: 10/10/01, 11/14/01
- c. Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association: 11/17/01

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

## G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS

### 1. IM No. 02-021: CLARIFICATION OF AMENDMENTS TO ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 01-155 AND NULLIFICATION OF ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 01-156.

Assemblymember Colver requested clarification regarding the amendments made to Ordinance Serial No. 01-155.

Ms. Dillon clarified that when amendments to the ordinance were made at the time it initially came forward to the assembly, the amendments changed the direction of the appropriation and nullified Ordinance Serial No. 01-156.

Ms. Clayton stated that former Assemblymember DeVilbiss made the initial amendment to the ordinance and that it

was his desire to show that the match would come from existing road capital projects.

Assemblymember Colver inquired regarding the construction of the salted sand storage facility.

Mr. Swing stated that construction of the facility would take place this summer.

Assemblymember Colver stated that he would not be supporting further funding for fall construction projects as construction generally does not occur as planned.

The informational memorandum was presented and no comments other than noted were given.

## IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## X. NEW BUSINESS

### A. INTRODUCTION (Suggested public hearing - 02/05/02)

1. Ordinance Serial No. 02-018: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$517,379 FROM THE AREAWIDE FUND BALANCE (FUND 100) FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AND REMODELING THE BRETT MEMORIAL ICE ARENA AND THE WASILLA MIDDLE SCHOOL OUTDOOR ICE RINK, FUND 440, PROJECT 15009. (Sponsors: Assemblymembers Kelly and Colver)

a. Resolution Serial No. 02-004: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AND REMODELING THE BRETT MEMORIAL ICE ARENA AND REHABILITATING AND MAKING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WASILLA MIDDLE SCHOOL OUTDOOR ICE RINK FOR USE BY THE PUBLIC.

(1) IM No. 02-014

2. Ordinance Serial No. 02-019: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO ENSURE CONTINUED AND CONSISTENT MANAGEMENT IN THE HATCHER PASS AREA.

a. IM No. 02-018

3. Ordinance Serial No. 02-020: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$50,000 FROM THE WASILLA-LAKES FIRE SERVICE AREA FUND BALANCE, FUND 250, TO THE FIRE SERVICE CAPITAL PROJECT FUND 405, PROJECT 45095, TO PURCHASE TWO USED OR LEASED VEHICLES AND RELATED EQUIPMENT.

a. Resolution Serial No. 02-005: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000 FOR THE FIRE SERVICE CAPITAL PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 45095, TO PURCHASE TWO USED OR LEASED VEHICLES AND RELATED EQUIPMENT.

(1) IM No. 02-019

4. Ordinance Serial No. 02-021: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$250,000 FROM THE SERIES B, GENERAL OBLIGATION PARKS, RECREATION, AND TRAILS BONDS TO FUND 440, PARKS, RECREATION, AND TRAILS PROJECTS, PROJECT 15021, FOR IMPROVEMENTS AND STREAMBANK RESTORATION OF BOROUGH-OWNED LAND AT THE MOUTH OF THE DESHKA RIVER.

a. Resolution Serial No. 02-006: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO BOROUGH-OWNED LAND AT THE MOUTH OF THE DESHKA RIVER.

(1) IM No. 02-020

5. Ordinance Serial No. 02-022: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$179,600 FROM THE SERIES B, GENERAL OBLIGATION PARKS, RECREATION, AND TRAILS BONDS TO FUND 440, PARKS, RECREATION, AND TRAILS PROJECTS, PROJECT 15022, FOR IMPROVEMENTS AND UPGRADES TO THE PALMER AND WASILLA POOLS.

a. Resolution Serial No. 02-007: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR IMPROVEMENTS AND UPGRADES TO THE PALMER AND WASILLA POOLS USING SERIES B, GENERAL

**OBLIGATION PARKS, RECREATION, AND TRAILS BONDS.**

(1) IM No. 02-023

6. Ordinance Serial No. 02-023: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$1,653,200 FROM THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION TO FUND 420, PROJECT NO. 25038, LANDFILL EXPANSION.

a. IM No. 02-024

7. Ordinance Serial No. 02-024: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MSB 23.05.070(E), TO CHANGE THE REPORTING PERIOD FROM CALENDAR YEAR TO FISCAL YEAR FOR THE "ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH'S REAL PROPERTY ASSETS."

a. IM No. 02-027

8. Ordinance Serial No. 02-025: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$240,000 FROM THE AREAWIDE FUND BALANCE, FUND 100, TO FUND 400, PROJECT NO. 40138, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SITE IN THE PALMER AREA (MSB003448).

a. Ordinance Serial No. 02-027: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF 23.29 ACRES DESCRIBED AS TRACT 4, SHERROD PARK SURVEY, PLAT 71-94, PALMER RECORDING DISTRICT FOR \$390,000, FOR THE SHERROD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPLACEMENT SITE AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE LAND AS "RESERVED USE LANDS" (MSB003438).

(1) IM No. 02-032

9. Ordinance Serial No. 02-026: AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING MSB 3.04.095, ESTABLISHING A GENERAL FUND BALANCE POLICY AND RESERVES OF THE GENERAL FUND BALANCE.

a. IM No. 02-033

**B. INTRODUCTION (Suggested public hearing - 02/19/02)**

a. Ordinance Serial No. 02-007: AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE UPPER LAZY MOUNTAIN AREA NATURAL GAS LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 337 AND ESTABLISHING THE METHOD OF TERMINATING ASSESSMENTS AND MAKING REFUNDS TO PROPERTY OWNERS.

b. Ordinance Serial No. 02-008: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$133,000 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT BONDS FOR THE UPPER LAZY MOUNTAIN AREA NATURAL GAS LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 337, AND FIXING DETAILS OF SAID BONDS.

(1) IM No. 02-007

2. Ordinance Serial No. 02-009: AN ORDINANCE CONFIRMING THE ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR THE SCHROCK/PITTMAN AREA NATURAL GAS LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 322 AND ESTABLISHING THE METHOD OF TERMINATING ASSESSMENTS AND MAKING REFUNDS TO PROPERTY OWNERS.

a. Ordinance Serial No. 02-010: AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$431,000 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT BONDS FOR THE SCHROCK/PITTMAN AREA NATURAL GAS LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 322, AND FIXING DETAILS OF SAID BONDS.

(1) IM No. 02-008

Ms. Dillon read the above legislation into the record.

**MOTION:** Assemblymember Jansen moved for introduction of the legislation as read into the record by the clerk and set the public hearings for February 5 and February 19, 2002, respectively.

**VOTE:** The motion passed without objection.

## C. CONSENT AGENDA

(Resolution Serial No. 02-015, AM No. 02-002, and AM No. 02-007 were pulled from the consent agenda.)

[Resolution Serial Nos. 02-013 and 02-014 were pulled at agenda setting, see p. 1]

### 1. RESOLUTIONS

a. Resolution Serial No. 02-009: A RESOLUTION REVISING THE SCOPES OF WORK AND BUDGETS AS ADOPTED IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2002 BUDGET, CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND 435, PROJECT NO. 10148 (SECURITY SYSTEM), TO DECREASE THE TOTAL FUNDS BY \$5,437, AND PROJECT NO. 10146 (CREMATORY AND BUILDING), TO INCREASE THE TOTAL FUNDS BY \$5,437, FOR THE ANIMAL CARE AND REGULATION SHELTER.

(1) IM No. 02-022

b. Resolution Serial No. 02-010: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPES OF WORK AND BUDGETS FOR THE WASILLA-LAKES, BUTTE, WILLOW, AND GREATER PALMER FIRE SERVICE AREAS BUILDING REPAIR AND REHABILITATION PROJECTS.

(1) IM No. 02-025

c. Resolution Serial No. 02-011: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PROPOSED LAND EXCHANGE AT INDEPENDENCE MINE BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION AND GOLD CORD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

(1) IM No. 02-026

d. Resolution Serial No. 02-012: A RESOLUTION REVISING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET AS ADOPTED IN RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 00-062, WHICH SET THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR PROJECT NO. 45068, FUND 405, TO PURCHASE FIRE EQUIPMENT AND RADIOS.

(1) IM No. 02-029

h. Resolution Serial No. 02-016: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE.

(1) IM No. 02-039

### 2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS

a. AM No. 02-001: ELIMINATION OF UTILITY EASEMENT, MIDWAY ESTATES NO. 2, LOT 10B, BLOCK 1, PLAT NO. 80-19, LOCATED WITHIN SECTION 7 TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 1 EAST, SEWARD MERIDIAN, ALASKA, SOUTH LAKES COMMUNITY COUNCIL AREA.

c. AM No. 02-003: AWARD OF PROPOSAL NO. 02-086, TO PUBLIC SAFETY CONSULTANTS, IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$40,940; 911 SYSTEMS ANALYSIS AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT.

d. AM No. 02-005: AWARD OF BID NO. 02-084, TO ACME PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMPANY, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$57,838, PLAYGROUND MATTING.

Ms. Dillon read the above legislation into the record.

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved for adoption of the above legislation as read into the record by the clerk.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

g. Resolution Serial No. 02-015: A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE REGION ENCOMPASSING THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH AND

THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE.

(1) IM No. 02-038

MOTION: Assemblymember Colberg moved for adoption of Resolution Serial No. 02-015.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colberg moved to amend Resolution Serial No. 02-015, second WHEREAS clause on page two, to insert the phrase “and Port Commission”, to read, “WHEREAS, the borough’s transportation advisory board, planning commission, and port commission shall make recommendations on regional transportation projects to the regional transportation advisory board.”

Assemblymember Simpson requested clarification regarding the legislation.

Mr. Duffy:

- stated that he was trying to reiterate in the legislation that the way transportation projects would be reviewed would still remain in effect;

Assemblymember Simpson inquired if the port commission currently reviews transportation projects.

Mr. Duffy responded that that the port commission reviews port related, marine transportation projects.

VOTE: The motion, to amend, passed without objection.

b. AM No. 02-002: AUTHORIZING A MEMBER OF THE ASSEMBLY TO ATTEND THE 2002 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACo) CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON D.C. (Sponsor: Assemblymember D. Kelly)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colberg moved to approve AM No. 02-002.

Assemblymember Colberg stated that he couldn’t support the action memorandum as he does not feel it is a necessary item of business.

Assemblymember Simpson concurred with Assemblymember Colberg’s position.

Assemblymember Kelly:

- spoke in favor of the action memorandum;
- believes that the amount of PILT funds received from the federal government and the efforts that the National Association of Counties (NACo) has expended to represent the borough is worth participation in the organization.

Discussion ensued regarding representation and receipt of funding from federal sources.

Assemblymember Kelly stated that funds expended to attend the conference are expected to be less than requested.

VOTE: The motion passed with Assemblymembers Simpson and Colberg opposed.

e. AM No. 02-006: AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FROM ASSEMBLY OPERATING BUDGET (100-100-101) TO HIRE A FACILITATOR FOR ASSEMBLY RETREAT

MOTION: Assemblymember Simpson moved to approve AM No. 02-006.

Assemblymember Simpson stated that she did not feel an outside facilitator was necessary and questioned if someone from the staff could be made available to facilitate the meeting.

Mr. Duffy stated that a member of the staff could be made available.

Assemblymember Jansen:

- spoke in favor of obtaining an outside facilitator for the meeting;
- noted reasons for supporting the action; and
- advised that an outside facilitator could be contracted to provide a full report of the meeting.

VOTE: The motion passed with Assemblymember Colberg opposed.

[Mayor Anderson noted that the main motion, as amended, for Resolution Serial No. 02-015 was still on the floor and asked for a vote to clarify the record, see p. 23]

VOTE: The motion, to adopt Resolution Serial No. 02-015 as amended, passed without objection.

f. AM No. 02-007: RENEWAL OF FEDERAL LOBBYIST SERVICES.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colberg moved to approve AM No. 02-007.

Assemblymember Colberg:

- opined that he would like the borough to contract with a different federal lobbyist, rather than Mr. Silvers;
- voiced concerns regarding requests made and questions asked by the assembly which were not addressed; and
- reiterated his desire to be provided with an itemized statement of work completed and time spent on each task.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for a federal lobbyist, Mr. Silvers' effectiveness, the time frame associated with securing a new federal lobbyist, and clarification with Mr. Silver regarding the assembly's desire to receive comprehensive reporting.

Mr. Duffy:

- noted that he has spoken with Mr. Silvers and has clarified the views of the assembly;
- stated that he has found Mr. Silver's effective;
- commented that a federal lobbyist's effectiveness could only be gauged by the amount of federal funds received through representation; and
- commented that it is important to secure a lobbyist who understands the needs of Alaska.

Discussion continued and Assembly Jansen inquired of Mr. Duffy the process that would be followed if the contract was not renewed.

Mr. Duffy stated that he would request permission to go out for a request for proposals (RFP).

Members of the assembly concurred that a clear outline of expectations should be provided to Mr. Silvers and that a performance schedule should be established.

Mr. Duffy stated that he would bring a sample report back to the assembly for their review.

VOTE: The motion, to approve AM No. 02-007, passed with Assemblymember Colberg in opposition.

## D. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

### 1. VACANCY REPORT

Mayor Anderson made the following recommendations:

Bid Review Panel

William Larkin

Emergency Medical Services Board

Clarence Weeks Jr.

James Johnson

Local Emergency Planning Committee

Sandy Gaither

Sutton Fire Service Area No. 4  
Mark E. Bertels  
Big Lake Fire Service Area No. 21  
Michael T. Graves  
North Colony Road Service Area No. 23  
William T. Foster  
Willow Fire Service Area No. 35  
Laurie L. McCutcheon

Mayor Anderson requested the following confirmations:  
Historical Preservation Commission  
Charlene Schmidtkunz  
Katherine Love

Mayor Anderson requested confirmation of the following resignations:  
Library Board  
Greg Hope  
Local Emergency Planning Committee  
Michael Hendrickson  
Fairview Road Service Area No. 14  
Wilma Mae Gonzales

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved to confirm the mayor's appointments up for confirmation this evening and to accept the resignations as presented.

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion passed without objection.

E. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

XI. RECONSIDERATION

XII. VETO

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XIV. MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Assemblymember Colver:

- commented that he attended an open house regarding the Wasilla-Fishhook Road rehabilitation between Bogard Road and Seldon Road;
- suggested to the design engineer at the meeting to address street lights at intersections of residential streets and an update of the traffic analysis at the Seldon Road intersection to account for traffic created by the opening of the new school; and
- requested that administration get comments regarding street lighting;
- spoke to concerns of his constituents regarding the fire at Tanaina Elementary School;
- requested assembly authorization to use the operating budget travel funds to go to Washington, D.C., with the goal of working on economic development and transportation projects;
- inquired if any other assembly members were interested traveling to Washington, D.C. (Assemblymember Ladere indicated she would be interested)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved that the assembly authorize Assemblymember Colver and Assemblymember Ladere to travel to Washington, D.C., through the use of their operating travel budget.

Assemblymember Jansen voiced concerns regarding the presentation of a united front of the assembly's views and opined that lobbying trips should be coordinated through the manager's office and through the borough's lobbyists to

ensure presentation of those views.

Assemblymember Ladere stated that she intends to gather information to be brought back to the assembly regarding USDA grant availability.

VOTE: The motion passed with Assemblymembers Kelly and Simpson opposed.

Assemblymember Ladere:

- spoke to postal service limited availability to some of the smaller communities in the borough;
- stated that she and the manager would be traveling to the northern end of the Susitna Valley and hopes to identify some way to accommodate their need, including the implementation of a trails service areas if necessary;
- commented that she would like to see the borough review the benefits that are provided to volunteers throughout the state and to look at non-cost benefits that the borough has the capability of providing [At the 2/5/02 assembly meeting, Assemblymember Ladere corrected this comment to say that she will volunteer to gather this information and bring it to the assembly at the end of March]; and
- spoke to the issue of water and sewer regarding the need to secure the borough's potable water, to review the quality of the water, and to address sewer issues.

Assemblymember Kelly:

- reiterated comments made by Assemblymember Ladere regarding the borough's water and sewer needs;
- appreciated the support of the assembly regarding his participation at the NACo conference; and
- spoke to the necessity of an updated traffic analysis at the intersection of Bogard Road and Seldon Road and opined that traffic is significantly reduced during off-peak school operating hours.

Assemblymember Simpson reiterated her request to the manager to have the department of public safety provide statistics on Wasilla ambulance re-pages.

Assemblymember Colberg:

- expressed his pleasure working with the planning director, Sandra Garley, in regard to the core area zoning plan;
- stated concerns related to a flyer circulated by the borough on the core area zoning plan;
- cautioned that the flyer could be construed as a position of advocacy on the part of the borough; and
- noted concerns regarding the expenditure of assembly operating budget travel funds.

Assemblymember Jansen:

- spoke to coordinating the employee luncheon;
- commented that it is up to the borough to educate the public regarding the core area zoning plan;
- stated that the zoning plan still requires work;
- noted concerns related to public perception of an already completed plan;
- remarked that assembly members personal fund contributions to the employee luncheon would be in the amount of \$150 per member; and
- reiterated that the employee luncheon is scheduled for February 8 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Mayor Anderson:

- opined that the employee luncheon is a great idea;
- commended the planning department for their efforts regarding the core area zoning plan;
- stated that he had attended both core area zoning open houses;
- spoke to his attendance at a meeting in Cottonwood Shores to address traffic;
- noted his attendance with the assistant manager, David Germer, in Trapper Creek regarding economic development;
- stated that he will be attending a Gateway Community Council meeting on Friday; and
- spoke to the assembly retreat and setting short-term and long-term goals.

## XV. ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 10:37 p.m.

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TIMOTHY L. ANDERSON, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

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SANDRA A. DILLON, Borough Clerk

Minutes approved: February 5, 2002