

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH SPECIAL MEETING ASSEMBLY OCTOBER 22, 2002

I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on October 22, 2002, at the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly Chambers, Palmer, Alaska. The special meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Mayor Timothy L. Anderson. The purpose of the special meeting was to review applications for the borough attorney position.

II. ROLL CALL

Assembly members present and establishing a quorum were:

Ms. Sara Jansen, Assembly District No. 2 (Deputy Mayor)
Mr. Talis J. Colberg, Assembly District No. 3
Ms. Mary Kvalheim, Assembly District No. 4
Ms. Jody Simpson, Assembly District No. 5
Ms. Kelly Lankford Ladere, Assembly District No. 7

Assembly members absent:

Mr. Bruce Bush, Assembly District No. 1
Mr. Jim Colver, Assembly District No. 6

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Sandra A. Dillon, Borough Clerk
Mr. John Duffy, Borough Manager
Ms. Patricia Von Ah, Human Resources Manager

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Su Valley High School students, Brian Colbert and Brian Flanders.

IV. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Review of Applications for the Borough Attorney Position

Ms. VonAh discussed the matrix she distributed, which reflected the results of the ranking of the candidates by the individual assembly members. She also distributed general information concerning interviews as well as sample interview questions.

Discussion ensued regarding the materials distributed and how best to proceed.

MOTION: Assemblymember Jansen moved to schedule telephone interviews with the top five candidates (Scott Brandt-Erichsen, Todd Sherwood, Teresa Williams, Steven Schweppe, and Michael Marsh).

GENERAL CONSENT: The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion continued with Ms. VonAh concerning her proposed interview questions and whether some of the questions should be requested in writing. Ultimately, the assembly selected a number of the questions to be in writing and the remaining questions would be asked at the time of the telephone interviews.

Concluding the discussion, the consensus of the assembly was that Ms. VonAh would notify the five candidates that they have been selected for telephone interviews, provide them with the questions requested in writing and give them a time certain to respond, and the clerk would schedule a special meeting for the phone interviews during the week of November 18. After the telephone interviews the assembly would select three of the applicants for face-to-face interviews and the clerk would set a special meeting for those interviews.

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Brian Colbert (Su Valley High Student) shared his concerns about the school cafeteria food. He noted that the food is prepared in Wasilla and then reheated at the school for the students. He questioned whether the food could be prepared at the school in order to provide a fresher meal.

Several members of the assembly suggested he attend a school board meeting and share his concerns. Mayor Anderson explained the general cost savings when the food is prepared at one location. He also suggested that Mr. Colbert contact Linda Stohl, the school district's nutrition services supervisor at the school district, for a further explanation of the process.

VI. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Assemblymember Ladere reported on meeting last evening regarding unresolved issues related to the lack of maintenance of the Willow section of the Parks Highway.

Assemblymember Jansen commended the administration for the new borough road map.

Ms. Dillon queried the assembly members as to a preferred date for the joint MSB/MOA meeting based on several options presented. October 31, 2002, from 2 to 4 p.m. was selected. The clerk will advise the Anchorage clerk of this date.

Mr. Duffy advised that the EDA grant for the landfill was officially received, and that a press conference for presentation of the award by Senator Frank Murkowski will be held in Anchorage on Saturday, October 26, 2002. The place of the meeting has yet to be identified. [Information obtained after this meeting noticed that the press conference will be held at 3 p.m. in the Whitby Room of the Captain Cook Hotel.]

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

TIMOTHY L. ANDERSON, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

SANDRA A. DILLON, Borough Clerk