

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on March 2, 2010, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Mayor Talis Colberg.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Assembly members present and establishing a quorum were:

Ms. Lynne Woods, Assembly District No. 1 (*Deputy Mayor*)  
Mr. Pete Houston, Assembly District No. 2  
Mr. Ronald Arvin, Assembly District No. 3  
Mr. Mark Ewing, Assembly District No. 4  
Ms. Cindy L. Bettine, Assembly District No. 5  
Mr. Jim Colver, Assembly District No. 6  
Mr. Vern Halter, Assembly District No. 7

Staff in attendance were:

Mr. John Duffy, Borough Manager  
Ms. Elizabeth Gray, Assistant Borough Manager  
Mr. Nicholas Spiropoulos, Borough Attorney  
Ms. Cheryl D. Marino, Deputy Borough Clerk  
Ms. Brenda J. Henry, Executive Assistant to the Borough Clerk  
Ms. Tammy Clayton, Finance Director  
Ms. Shaune O'Neil, Public Works Director  
Ms. Christine Nelson, Planning and Land Use Director  
Mr. Dennis Brodigan, Emergency Services Director  
Ms. Linda Brenner, Community Development Director  
Ms. Patty Sullivan, Public Affairs Director  
Mr. Dave Hanson, Economic Development Director

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Colberg 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 Mayor Vern Rupright, city of Wasilla.

## V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

### A. Regular Assembly Meeting: 02/16/10

Mayor Colberg inquired if there were any corrections to the regular meeting minutes of February 16, 2010.

GENERAL CONSENT: The minutes were approved as presented without objection.

## VI. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

### A. AGENCY REPORTS

#### 1. Reports from cities

##### Wasilla City

Mayor Vern Rupright:

- stated that the Wasilla City Council will be holding a meeting with the city of Wasilla Planning Commission on March 15;
- related that they will be unveiling Phase I of the new Comprehensive Plan, which is the first for the City in 15 years;
- advised that the City is moving forward with developing the land around the Menard Sports Complex, in conjunction with the airport, in order to construct additional roads;
- advised that the City would like to regain control of the old fire house in order to move forward with the Comprehensive Plan;
- spoke to the planned usage of the Meta Rose Square building;
- noted that in the lower area of the Meta Rose Square there will be a court room installed for use by the Youth Court Program; and
- stated that everything is going well for the City.

##### Palmer City

*(There was no report provided.)*

##### Houston City

*(There was no report provided.)*

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

*(There was no report provided.)*

#### 3. Mat-Su Convention and Visitors Bureau – Ms. Bonnie Quill

Ms. Bonnie Quill, Executive Director:

- stated that the bureau delivered the fiscal year 2011 budget to the Borough, which is a continuation of the funding formula that is currently in place;
- noted that they are predicting a flat visitor season and will be expanding the in-state marketing accordingly;
- related that bookings are similar to last year with no reported decreases;
- invited the Assembly to the Visitor Industry Luncheon on March 12, 12 p.m. at Evangelo's;
- stated that Mr. Ron Pack from the Alaska Travel Industry Association will be providing a presentation regarding Travel Intentions Research;
- advised that 50,000 of the 2010 Visitor's Guide were mailed out to preferred visitors;
- stated that the Valley Values website is continuing to promote specials to in-state residents;
- noted that the website, alaskavisit.com, is a valuable tourism promotion tool;
- related that due to an assessment, the website has been revamped and the new website will launch in early April;
- stated that MSCVB is now on Facebook and Twitter, with updates and posts daily;
- advised that the Gateway Destination Visitor Plan is underway;
- spoke to the grant that was awarded last year for the National Scenic Byway Program plan;
- related that the upcoming Tourism Summit will have a presentation regarding the gateway plan;
- stated that they are focusing on growing the meeting market, as well as tourism;
- stated that Congress has recently passed the Travel Promotion Act; and
- further added that there will now be a program that promotes the United States as an international travel destination.

4. Alaska Association of Conservation Districts – Mr. Steve Hicks

Mr. Steve Hicks:

- stated that there are 12 conservation districts statewide, with three located in the Borough;
- related that conservation districts work to protect fish and wildlife habits, as well as water and soil quality;
- spoke to some of the conservation projects that have been conducted in the Borough;
- related that conservation education is targeted at youth in order for them to learn about soils and basic plants;
- further added that the youth also work with others in the community to learn what soil technicians do;
- stated that the Palmer Conservation District is partnering with Future Farmers of America to promote an "Enviro-thon," which encourages youth to work toward conservation of renewable resources;
- noted that they also work with youth in the field, where the students learn to plot a site and work on eradication; and
- requested funding from the Borough to assist with the operating costs for the conservation districts.

## B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

#### Assemblymember Arvin:

- stated that the enrollment figures indicated that there will be a \$100 per student increase in allocation this year;
- further added that the intensive needs multiplier will increase from 11 to 13;
- noted that this will mean additional funds coming from the State in relation to those items;
- related that high school proms are not held on the same night for specific reasons;
- stated that part of the reasons are due to facility availability, which determines when the prom is held for each school; and
- noted his surprise that Colony High School holds their prom at the Eagan Center in Anchorage.

#### Assemblymember Colver:

- spoke to House Bill 350;
- stated that this legislation would change Alaska Statute 14.17.410(b)(2), public school funding, by reducing the four mill tax levy rate to 2.7 mills when calculating the required local effort;
- further added that Alaska Statute 14.17.410(c), which currently provides for 50 percent of the annual increase in assessed value in a city or borough over the 1999 base year, would change so the current assessed value would be compared to the prior year's assessed value;
- related that due to the rapidly increasing assessed value, the deductions were getting quite large even though the District was building schools and growth was occurring;
- stated that Senator Green and Senator Wilkin introduced the legislation that will change the assessed value rule; and
- opined that the Assembly should continue to monitor the situation.

### 2. Assembly Public Relations

#### Assemblymember Ewing:

- stated that the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) decided to allocate funding to education;
- noted that part of that education includes a fire and fire safety commercial, which is being released soon;
- noted that the LEPC has been working with Ms. Patty Sullivan on the commercial; and
- stated that the LEPC has also recently created a logo.

#### Assemblymember Bettine:

- spoke to attending a town hall meeting hosted by Representative Newman and Senator Huggins;
- stated that Representative Stolz was also in attendance;
- related that she asked how funding for the road bonds is proceeding;

- stated that Representative Stoltz commented that it was going to require a lot of work due to the fact that the voters only approved 30 percent of the total cost of road bonds, and that it would have been better if it were 50 percent; and
- noted her disappointment in that comment.

B. MANAGER COMMENTS

1. State/Federal Legislation
2. Strategic Planning Issues

Mr. Duffy:

- spoke to a separate written report that will be provided to the Assembly regarding his trip to Washington, D.C.;
- related that Senator Begich brought up the agriculture processing plant without prompting;
- opined that this will be a tough year for funding due to the economy;
- advised that the road bonds were heavily promoted;
- further added that there was discussion regarding the rail project;
- spoke to attendance at meetings with several federal agencies that will be summarized in the aforementioned report;
- advised that the Susitna Valley High School insurance claim has been settled; and
- noted that he will provide a memorandum regarding the settlement to the Assembly.

A. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Mr. Spiropoulos stated that if he was unavailable and the Assembly had any questions regarding the gravel ordinance that they could also speak with Ms. Lisa Thomas.

B. CLERK COMMENTS

Ms. Marino:

- spoke regarding the upcoming meeting schedule;
- stated that the Assembly had requested to form a working group to come up with ideas for library funding; and
- queried if the Assembly would still like to move forward with that idea.

There was no objection noted.

Assemblymember Ewing requested that Administration provide a report of the mill rate currently in place that provides funding to libraries.

F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

1. MSB Board/Committee Minutes:
  - a. Caswell FSA No. 135: 09/09/09
  - b. Enhanced 911 Advisory Board: 12/08/09

- c. Local Emergency Planning Committee: 10/21/09
  - d. Real Property Asset Management Board: 12/09/09
  - e. Wasilla-Lakes FSA No. 130: 01/11/10
  - f. West Lakes FSA No. 136: 10/12/09
- 2. Community Council Correspondence:
    - a. Buffalo Mine/Soapstone Community Council: 05/07/09
    - b. Chase Community Council: 06/17/09
    - c. Willow Area Community Organization: 05/04/09, 06/01/09, 07/06/09

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

## G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS

*(There were no informational memorandums presented.)*

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

### A. INTRODUCTION (For public hearing – 03/16/10, 7 p.m., Borough Assembly Chambers)

- 1. Ordinance Serial No. 10-019: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE FAIR MARKET VALUE SALE OF BOROUGH-OWNED REAL PROPERTY, INCLUDING ANY IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, FOR LOTS 7 AND 9, BLOCK 13, ALASKA RURAL REHABILITATION CORPORATION (ARRC) NO. 1, AND LOTS 10 AND 11, BLOCK 4, FELTON ADDITION TO PALMER TOWNSITE AND AUTHORIZING THE MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH A SALES PRICE AT OR ABOVE FAIR MARKET VALUE (OLD SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AND OLD CITY MORGUE BUILDING).
  - a. IM No. 10-031
- 2. Ordinance Serial No. 10-020: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING AN ADDITIONAL \$8,586 FROM THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES FOR THE SHIRLEY TOWN DRIVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 35359, FUND 430.
  - a. Resolution Serial No. 10-014: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND AMENDED BUDGET FOR THE SHIRLEY TOWN DRIVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 35359.
    - (1) IM No. 10-041
- 3. Ordinance Serial No. 10-021: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MSB 2.12.082, AGENCY REPORTS; TO PROVIDE A PLACE FOR BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMUNITY COUNCILS TO REPORT TO THE ASSEMBLY. *(Sponsored by Assemblymember Bettine)*
  - a. IM No. 10-049

4. Ordinance Serial No. 10-022: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING  
MSB 2.12.081, PERSONS TO BE HEARD. (*Sponsored by Assemblymember Bettine*)  
a. IM No. 10-050

Ms. Marino read the above legislation into the record.

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk and set the public hearings for March 16, 2010.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

1. VACANCY REPORT

Mayor Colberg requested the following confirmations:

Animal Care and Regulation Board  
Paula English, resignation from alternate position  
Paula English, confirmation to permanent position  
Board of Equalization  
Vitaly Kudryn  
Emergency Medical Services Board  
Dolores "Jo" Pendleton  
Library Board  
Virginia Robson  
Planning Commission  
Pio Cottini

Mayor Colberg made the following recommendations:

Aviation Advisory Board  
Eric Feige  
Borough Area School Site Selection Committee  
Randy Dellar  
Health and Social Services Board  
Jane Conrad  
Local Emergency Planning Committee  
Kevin Munson  
Planning Commission  
John L. Anderson  
Caswell Lakes RSA No. 15  
Clinton Buck

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to approve the Mayor's recommendations and resignations up for confirmation this evening.

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to divide the question to address the confirmation of Mr. Pio Cottini to the Planning Commission separately.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

MOTION: First Segment. Assemblymember Woods moved to approve the Mayor's recommendations up for confirmation this evening, with the exception of Mr. Pio Cottini to the Planning Commission

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

MOTION: Second Segment. Assemblymember Woods moved to approve Mr. Pio Cottini to the Planning Commission.

Assemblymember Woods:

- related that she received an onslaught of email from her constituents that are against appointing Mr. Cottini; and
- noted that it is her duty as an elected official to listen to the concerns of the constituents in her district; and
- objected to Mr. Cottini being appointed to the Planning Commission.

Assemblymember Colver:

- opined that Mr. Cottini is a good citizen;
- noted that as of late, the Assembly has had issues with appointments to the Planning Commission;
- stated that he cannot support Mr. Cottini being appointed to the Planning Commission; and
- opined that he would be better suited for the Planning Board.

Mayor Colberg:

- spoke to the email alerts that were sent out to oppose Mr. Cottini;
- stated that the body has had this type of opposition before;
- spoke to the need for compromise; and
- noted that it is the job of the Mayor to appoint people to boards and commissions.

VOTE: The motion failed with Assemblymembers Ewing, Halter, and Arvin in favor.

*(The regular meeting recessed at 6:47 p.m. and reconvened at 7 p.m.)*

## **VII. 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. 10-017 (previously 09-069): AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A WASILLA DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS DISTRICT, AND AMENDING MSB 27.10.065, MSB 27.15.020, AND MSB 27.15.130 TO APPLY THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS ADOPTED IN THE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS DISTRICT TO PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLATS OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS DISTRICT.
  - a. IM No. 10-029 (previously 09-102)
  - b. IM No. 10-040

Ms. Eileen Probasco provided a staff report.

Mayor Colberg opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ewing moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 10-017.

Assemblymember Arvin queried if the legislation should be postponed due to the staff's concerns of a conflict.

Mr. Spiropoulos:

- stated that if the Assembly wanted to postpone the legislation that it should be either indefinitely or to a time certain; and
- noted that postponement would allow the Assembly time for discussion.

Assemblymember Arvin queried if the city of Wasilla wanted this legislation.

Ms. Probasco stated that the Wasilla City Council will be having that discussion.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ewing moved to postpone Ordinance Serial No. 10-017 to a time certain of April 16, 2010 and to refer the legislation back to the Planning Commission.

Assemblymember Ewing noted that this would allow time for the recommended changes to go to the city of Wasilla for them to address the legal concerns.

Assemblymember Woods queried if that would be adequate time for the city of Wasilla to respond.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ewing moved a primary amendment strike "April 16" and insert in its place "May 18."

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

VOTE: The motion to postpone to a time certain of May 18, 2010, and to refer the legislation back to the Planning Commission passed without objection.

2. Resolution Serial No. 10-011: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A MOTORIZED OFF-ROAD RECREATION CORRIDOR ALONG THE APPROXIMATE ROUTE OF THE CARLE WAGON TRAIL AS IT ENTERS THE HATCHER PASS MANAGEMENT AREA (HPMA), GOVERNMENT PEAK SUBUNIT, AT MILE 1 EDGERTON-PARKS ROAD TO THE EXISTING MOTORIZED CORRIDOR GOING FROM THE GOLD MINT TRAIL PARKING AREA TO THE TOP OF HATCHER PASS AND SUPPORTING A MOTORIZED OFF-ROAD RECREATION CORRIDOR FROM THE CARLE WAGON ROAD AS IT ENTERS THE HPMA, GOVERNMENT PEAK SUBUNIT WEST TO THE AREA OPEN TO MOTORIZED USE BEYOND GOVERNMENT CREEK IN THE HPMA, HILLSIDE SUBUNIT. *(Sponsored by Assemblymembers Ewing and Arvin)*

a. IM No. 10-039

Ms. Nelson provided a staff report.

Mayor Colberg opened the public hearing.

The following persons spoke in opposition to Resolution Serial No. 10-011: Mr. Ed Strabel, Mr. Darin Marquardt, Mr. David Musgrave, Mr. Mark Strabel, Mr. George Ferry, Mr. Andrew Weaver, Ms. Jill Valarius, Mr. Jeremiah Millen, Mr. Brian Winnestaffer, Mr. David Holladay, Ms. Mimi Peabody, Mr. Will Peabody, Mr. Ed Kessler, Ms. Erin Kessler, and Mr. Lin Turner.

The following persons spoke in support of Resolution Serial No. 10-011: Mr. Paul Wilson, Mr. Bart Riley, Mr. Gary Loyer, Mr. Pat Kukertz, Mr. Rick Carver, Mr. Gary Brown, Mr. Stephen Lee, Mr. Glenn Goodman, Mr. Kevin Hite, Mr. Todd Clark, Mr. Gus Gustafson, Mr. Jim Turner, Mr. Dane Crowley, Mr. Bart Riley, Ms. Diane Scherrer, Ms. Whitney Turn, Mr. Chris Tomsen, and Mr. Scott Egbert.

*(The regular meeting recessed at 9 p.m. and reconvened at 9:15 p.m.)*

MOTION: Assemblymember Houston moved to extend the meeting past 10 p.m. and not to exceed 11 p.m.

VOTE: There was no objection noted.

MOTION: Assemblymember Bettine moved to suspend the rules to take up the consent agenda and then resume the public hearing for Resolution Serial No. 10-011.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

D. CONSENT AGENDA (Resolution Serial No. 10-013 was pulled from the consent agenda and addressed separately. *See pp. 12*)

1. RESOLUTIONS

a. Resolution Serial No. 10-012: A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE BUDGETS FOR THE GREATER PALMER CONSOLIDATED FIRE SERVICE AREA EXTERIOR PAINTING OF STATION 33, PROJECT NO. 45115; GARAGE DOOR REPLACEMENT STATION 35, AND EXTERIOR PAINTING OF STATION 35, PROJECT NO. 10166, AND APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE GREATER PALMER CONSOLIDATED FIRE SERVICE AREA EXTERIOR BUILDING REPAIR AND CEMENT SIDING OF STATION 35, PROJECT NO. 10166.

(1) IM No. 10-042

2. ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUMS

a. AM NO. 10-016: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$217,472 TO HATTENBURG DILLEY & LINNELL FOR PHASE III, CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION SERVICES, PERMITTING AND REQUIRED TESTING DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE OF THE TALKEETNA PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, PROJECT NO. 25037.

b. AM NO. 10-017: AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND AND EXTEND THE 2009 COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH AND THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF FORESTRY FOR WILDFIRE FUEL REDUCTION.

c. AM NO. 10-020: AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE AN AMBULANCE FOR TALKEETNA AMBULANCE SERVICE AREA FROM BRAUN NORTHWEST, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$159,425.

d. AM NO. 10-022: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS TO ALLOW UP TO \$1,300,000 IN REIMBURSABLE SERVICES RELATING TO CONSTRUCTION OVERSIGHT AND COMMISSIONING AT THE GOOSE CREEK CORRECTIONAL CENTER.

Ms. Marino read the above legislation into the record.

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to approve the consent agenda as read into the record by the Clerk.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

- b. Resolution Serial No. 10-013: A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE GOVERNOR AND STATE LEGISLATURE TO APPROPRIATE \$50,000,000 IN FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM IN ALASKA STATUTE 14.56.355, PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION AND MAJOR EXPANSION MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM.
- (1) IM No. 10-048

MOTION: Assemblymember Arvin moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 10-013.

Assemblymember Arvin:

- opined that the Assembly should not be asking for such a large amount of funds for libraries, due to other funding requests; and
- opined that it sends a bad message to do so.

Assemblymember Woods:

- stated that the legislation that adopted this program was passed by the State Legislature in 2008;
- noted that it has taken from that time until now, in order to come up with the criteria for the program;
- opined that the legislation could move forward without a dollar amount; and
- stated that there is a need for funding libraries within the Borough.

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 10-013 to strike "\$50,000,000" throughout the body of the legislation.

Assemblymember Arvin:

- stated that he would support the amendment; and
- noted that he had concerns regarding the dollar amount.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

VOTE: The main motion passed as amended without objection.

*(The public hearing for Resolution Serial No. 10-011 resumed.)*

The following person spoke in support of Resolution Serial No. 10-011: Mr. Paul Smith, Mr. Craig Saunders, Mr. Kellen Turner, Mr. Bob Zeigler, Mr. Patrick O'Connor, Mr. Peter Probasco, Mr. Bradley Johnson, Ms. Dena Turner, Mr. Daniel Turner, Mr. Kenny Barber, Mr. Bill Folsom, Ms. Tara Randolph, Mr. Mike Randolph, Mr. Mark Ficcaglia, Mr. Dave Anthony, Mr. Joe Trost, and Mr. Wayne Todd.

The following persons spoke in opposition to Resolution Serial No. 10-011: Mr. River Bean, Ms. Sarah Bean, Ms. Hannah Waterstrat, Mr. Dan Harrison, Mr. Mark Groenwald, Ms. Ellen VanVess, Mr. Bill Mohrwinkl, Mr. Dave Werner, Mr. Chris Gierymski, Ms. Robin Turk, Ms. Judy Olson, Mr. Mark Mastellar, Ms. Jo Clark, Mr. Norm Stout, Ms. Wendy Stout, Ms. Cindi Squire, and Ms. Tracey Houser.

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to suspend the rules to extend the meeting past 11 p.m. and not to exceed midnight.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection

The following persons spoke in opposition to Resolution Serial No. 10-011: Mr. Ben May, Mr. Don Ford, Ms. Dory McDannold, Mr. Marc Cottini, and Mr. Gene Backus.

The following persons spoke in support of Resolution Serial No. 10-011: Mr. Lee Peterson, Mr. Daniel Russell, Mr. Jerry Leavitt, and Mr. Mike LaDuke.

There being no others present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ewing moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 10-011.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ewing moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 10-011:

- by inserting the following whereas clause at the beginning of the resolution to read: "Whereas, these access corridors would relieve congestion along the road system and parking areas in Hatcher Pass and would provide the most cost effective and lowest impact means of increasing access to the current motorized recreation areas of Hatcher Pass;"
- by striking the first whereas clause in its entirety and inserting in its place the following: "Whereas, a superior access would be provided for snowmachiners to the Hatcher Pass area, giving them more direct access from the Palmer-Wasilla area;"
- by striking the second whereas clause in its entirety;
- by striking the last sentence in the third whereas clause to read: "Whereas, the traditional motorized access for residents in the Fishhook area would be accommodated and enhanced;"
- in the fourth whereas clause by striking the word "accesses" and inserting in its place "access corridors" and by striking the word "motorized" to read: "Whereas, these access corridors would provide a critical link for a world class trail system that would extend form the Chickaloon-Nelchina trails in the east to the Susitna Valley trails in the west;"
- by striking the fifth whereas clause in its entirety;
- by striking the sixth whereas clause in its entirety;
- in the seventh whereas clause by striking the following words: "this area could become multiuse recreation center serving all the residents of the valley regardless of lifestyle, motorized or non-motorized" and inserting in its place the words "the recreational potential of Hatcher Pass and the Fishhook area would be enhanced" to read as follows: "Whereas, none of the plans the Matanuska-Susitna Borough has for a downhill ski area and a cross country ski area would be substantially impacted by these accesses and with

proper planning the recreational potential of Hatcher Pass and the Fishhook area would be enhanced;”

- by inserting the following as the last whereas clause to read: “ Whereas, approximate routing of a corridor is suggested by this resolution is to allow for these accesses in the Hatcher Pass Management Plan Revision now under way by the Alaska State Department of Natural Resources. Nothing in this resolution is intended to specify a trail alignment other than providing access from the Fishhook area to the current motorized recreation areas in Hatcher Pass and from the Fishhook area to the motorized areas in the hillside subunit;”
- by striking the first “Be It Resolved” clause in its entirety; and
- by striking the last “Be It Further Resolved” clause in its entirety and inserting in its place “Be It Further Resolved, by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly that the Alaska State Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land and Water, be informed that the Assembly supports revision of the Hatcher Pass Management Plan to include these motorized corridors in the Government Peak subunit;”

MOTION: Assemblymember Ewing moved a secondary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 10-011 to form a working group regarding motorized access to Hatcher’s Pass.

Discussion ensued regarding forming a working group regarding motorized access to Hatcher’s Pass.

WITHDRAW: Assemblymember Ewing moved to withdraw his secondary amendment.

There was no objection noted.

Assemblymember Woods:

- opined that the primary amendment is too large and undefined;
- stated that she would like user groups to form a working group to work out the details; and
- stated that she would not support the amendment.

Assemblymember Halter noted his agreement with Assemblymember Woods.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ewing moved to postpone Resolution Serial No. 10-011 to a time certain of June 1, 2010.

Assemblymember Houston opined that the Assembly should set this legislation aside and assign a committee to conduct a review.

Assemblymember Bettine:

- stated that she does not support the motion to postpone to a time certain;
- opined that it makes more sense for user groups to work through a draft process;

- further added that any Assembly resolution should be created off the entire Hatcher's Pass Management Plan and not parts of it; and
- opined that the legislation should be postpone indefinitely.

Assemblymember Colver:

- noted that he is in favor of postponing the legislation;
- opined that it is important to review the draft, as this is a top priority project;
- further added that debate is healthy; and
- stated that there is a need to open up motorized and multi-use access corridors.

Assemblymember Arvin:

- stated that he is worried that if the legislation is postponed indefinitely, that the Borough will lose motorized access; and
- opined that the Assembly needs to take action now as the draft plan has been released.

VOTE: The motion to postpone to a time certain of June 1, 2010, failed with Assemblymember Ewing and Bettine in support.

[Clerk's note: Assemblymember Bettine indicated that she voted incorrectly with regard to the motion to postpone to a time certain. A new vote was not taken.]

MOTION: Assemblymember Bettine moved to postpone Resolution Serial No. 10-011 indefinitely and to set a date for an Assembly work session on April 13, 2010, regarding the Department of Natural Resources draft Hatcher Pass Management Plan.

Assemblymembers Colver and Halter noted their support of the motion to postpone indefinitely

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

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

VOTE: The motion to postpone Resolution Serial No. 10-011 indefinitely and to schedule a work session regarding the State Department of Natural Resources Hatcher Pass Management Plan on April 13, 2010, passed with Assemblymembers Arvin and Ewing in opposition.

Assemblymember Bettine queried if the Assembly could set the time for the April 13, 2010, Hatcher Pass Management Plan work session.

MOTION: Assemblymember Bettine moved to set the start time for the April 13, 2010, Hatcher Pass Management Plan work session at 5 p.m.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three minutes per person.)

The following person spoke regarding the Alaska Farmland Trust: Mr. Steve Gallagher.

The following persons spoke regarding Resolution Serial No. 10-011: Mr. Andrew Weaver and Mr. Neil Fox.

C. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

X. RECONSIDERATION

*(There were no reconsiderations presented.)*

XI. VETO

*(There were no vetoes presented.)*

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

*(There was no executive session held.)*

XIII. MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Assemblymember Houston:

- opined that the work session regarding the Hatcher's Pass Management Plan is appropriate;
- further added that the Assembly needs to carefully consider all types of access; and
- stated that input from user groups should be solicited.

Assemblymember Ewing:

- noted that the meeting was well attended by the public; and
- stated that it is always important to hear from both sides of an issue.

Assemblymember Arvin:

- spoke to concerns regarding how the material extraction work session was conducted; and
- stated that he appreciated all the public testimony that was provided.

Ms. Marino:

- stated that the way the work session was conducted was an error on her part; and
- apologized that the Assembly had difficulties with the work session.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting adjourned at 11:59 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
TALIS J. COLBERG, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes approved: 03/16/10