

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on April 30, 2013, at the Borough School District Administration Building, 501 N. Gulkana Street, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Mayor Larry DeVilbiss for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 13-013 (Budget Ordinance).

**II. ROLL CALL**

Assembly members present and establishing a quorum were:

- Mr. Warren Keogh, Assembly District No. 1
- Mr. Noel Woods, Assembly District No. 2
- Mr. Ronald Arvin, Assembly District No. 3 (*Deputy Mayor*)(*arrived at 6:05 p.m.*)
- Mr. Steve Colligan, Assembly District No. 4
- Mr. Darcie K. Salmon, Assembly District No. 5
- Mr. Jim Colver, Assembly District No. 6 (*arrived at 6:05 p.m.*)
- Mr. Vern Halter, Assembly District No. 7

Staff in attendance were:

- Ms. Lonnie R. McKechnie, Borough Clerk
- Mr. John Moosey, Borough Manager
- Mr. Nicholas Spiropoulos, Borough Attorney
- Ms. Brenda J. Henry, Assistant Clerk
- Mr. George Hays, Assistant Borough Manager
- Mr. Dennis Brodigan, Emergency Services Director
- Ms. Tammy Clayton, Finance Director
- Mr. Marc VanDongen, Port Director
- Mr. Eric Phillips, Community Development Director
- Mr. Hugh Leslie, Recreation and Library Services Manager
- Mr. James Jenson, Public Works Operations and Maintenance Division Manager
- Mr. Stefan Hinman, Media Design Specialist
- Ms. Pam Graham, Grants and Project Coordinator
- Ms. Sonya Conant, Human Resources Director
- Ms. Debra Wetherhorn, Administrative Secretary I
- Ms. Elaine Flagg, Records Micrographic/Scanning Technician
- Ms. Shannon Post, Chief Information Officer

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor DeVilbiss queried if there were any changes to the agenda.

**GENERAL CONSENT:** The agenda was approved as presented without objection.

#### **IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Lebron McPhail, a member of the audience.

#### **V. ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

##### **A. PUBLIC HEARING (Three minutes per person)**

1. Ordinance Serial No. 13-013: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING MONIES FROM CENTRAL TREASURY FOR THE BOROUGH OPERATING FUNDS, ENTERPRISE FUNDS, EDUCATION OPERATING FUND, AND CAPITAL FUNDS AND ESTABLISHING THE RATE OF LEVY FOR ALL BOROUGH FUNCTIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2013, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2014.

Mayor DeVilbiss opened the public hearing.

The following persons spoke in support of funding for a Sexual Assault Response Team: Mr. Don Bennice, Alaska Family Services Executive Director; Ms. Emily Stevens, Mat-Su Regional Hospital Chief Nursing Officer; Ms. Patricia Smith, Mat-Su Regional Hospital Forensic Training Nurse; and Mr. Bert Cottle, Wasilla City Deputy Administrator.

The following persons spoke in support of funding for the Talkeetna Library: Ms. Melinda Dale, Ms. Marion Charles, Mr. Kerry Birdsall, Ms. Peg Foster, Dr. Sandra Ehrlich, Mr. Pete Mathiesen, and Ms. Ruth Strong.

The following person spoke in support of funding for the Health and Human Services Matching Grant Program: Mr. Larry Dearman, Upper Susitna Seniors and Meals on Wheels Representative.

The following persons spoke in support of full funding for the School District: Ms. Terry Snyder and Ms. Roseanne Kempton.

The following persons spoke in support of full funding for the School District and thanked the Assembly for funding the Sutton Library: Ms. Donna Carollo; and Ms. Nancy Bertels, Sutton Librarian.

The following person spoke in support of the Economic Development Department's budget: Ms. Julie Nolan, Mat-Su Small Business Development Executive Director; Mr. John Klapperich; Ms. Beth Fried; and Ms. Kelly Larson.

The following person spoke in support of full funding for the School District and to the need for economic development in the Borough: Mr. Robert Schumacher.

The following persons spoke to the need for economic development: Mr. John Klapperich, Ms. Beth Fried, and Ms. Kelly Larson.

The following person spoke to flex-schedules saving Borough funds and in opposition to the elimination of flex-schedules at the Borough: Ms. Cheron Simeroth.

The following person spoke to the need for financial preparedness in the event of reduced oil production and in support of economic development: Mr. Chris Gates

Mayor DeVilbiss queried if there was any objection to continuing the public hearing on Ordinance Serial No. 13-013 to May 2, 2013, at 6 p.m.

There was no objection noted.

*(The meeting recessed at 7:10 p.m. and reconvened at 7:16 p.m.)*

B. AM No. 13-058: VACATION OF A PORTION OF THE 33-FOOT WIDE SECTION LINE EASEMENT WITHIN PROPOSED LOT 10, BLOCK 4, SKY RANCH AT PIONEER PEAK ADDITION NO. 1, LOCATED IN SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 2 EAST, SEWARD MERIDIAN, ALASKA.

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to adopt AM No. 13-058.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

C. Resolution Serial No. 13-058: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE M/V SUSITNA FOR MAY 2013.

1. IM No. 13-105

MOTION: Assemblymember Salmon moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 13-058.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

## **VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

The following person spoke to the need for a regional waste water septage facility: Ms. Helen Munoz.

The following person spoke to flex-schedules saving Borough funds and in opposition to the elimination of flex-schedules at the Borough: Ms. Cheron Simeroth.

## **VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS**

Mr. Spiropoulos:

- requested that the Assembly to come to speak to him about budget amendments they are considering regarding projects;
- advised that there are severe State statute restrictions regarding how areawide and non-areawide funds may be used; and
- provided examples of areawide and non-areawide and how they have to be funded.

Assemblymember Keogh:

- stated that he has submitted some budget amendments for the budget;
- advised that one is to increase School District funding by three percent; and
- noted that the other is to reestablish the Health and Human Services Community Matching Grants fund.

Ms. McKechnie:

- stated that the ground breaking ceremony for the Rail Extension project is scheduled for June 4, 2013, at 2:30 p.m., which some members may wish to attend;
- advised that June 4 is the same day as the annual evaluation of the Borough Attorney; and
- queried if the Assembly would like to reschedule the evaluation to May 21, 2013, at 4 p.m.

Mayor DeVilbiss queried if there was any objection.

There was no objection noted.

Ms. McKechnie:

- advised that Administration has requested a work session on June 18, 2013, at 3 p.m. regarding the Point MacKenzie townsite and the West-Lakes Public Safety Building; and
- queried if the Assembly would like to schedule that meeting.

Assemblymember Colver advised that day does not work for him.

Ms. McKechnie advised that she could bring back dates at the May 7, 2013, regular Assembly meeting.

Mayor DeVilbiss queried if there was any objection.

There was no objection noted.

Assemblymember Colligan:


- stated that he finds it interesting having a budget analyst;
- likened reviewing the budget and looking for funds to a scavenger hunt;
- stated that he is looking forward to deliberations;
- noted that all members have priorities for their districts;
- opined that the body should keep in mind the Borough as a whole;
- spoke to the E-911 surcharge tax that the State allows the Borough to charge up to two dollars per handset;
- advised that the surcharge is currently at seventy-five cents, with the Borough limit being eighty-five cents, but that the Assembly can amend that amount; and
- advised that he is looking at it as a funding source.

Mayor DeVilbiss:

- stated that when members bring forward amendments to increase the budget without a funding source that he will be looking at vetoing them;
- advised that he likes the mill rate where it is; and
- stated that he will be watching the budget closely.

### VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

  
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LARRY DeVILBISS, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 05/21/13