

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on May 7, 2012, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Mayor Larry DeVilbiss for the purpose of deliberations and possible adoption of Ordinance Serial No. 12-012 (fiscal year 2013 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*)
- Mr. Steve Colligan, Assembly District No. 4 (*arrived at 6:14 p.m.*)
- Mr. Darcie K. Salmon, Assembly District No. 5
- Mr. Jim Colver, Assembly District No. 6
- Mr. Vern Halter, Assembly District No. 7

Staff in attendance were:

- Ms. Lonnie R. McKechnie, Borough Clerk
- Mr. John Moosey, Borough Manager
- Mr. Don Moore, Assistant Borough Manager
- Mr. Nicholas Spiropoulos, Borough Attorney
- Ms. Jamie Newman, Deputy Borough Clerk
- Ms. Tammy Clayton, Finance Director
- Ms. Shaune O'Neil, Public Works Director
- Ms. Eileen Probasco, Acting Planning and Land Use Director
- Mr. Dennis Brodigan, Emergency Services Director
- Ms. Patty Sullivan, Public Affairs Director
- Ms. Cheyenne Heindel, Financial Analyst
- Mr. Don Dyer, Community Development Director

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor DeVilbiss 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 Mr. Dan Kennedy, a member of the audience.

V. DELIBERATIONS AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2013 BUDGET.

- A. Ordinance Serial No. 12-012: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING MONIES FROM THE 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, 2012, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2013.

MOTION PENDING: Assemblymember Arvin moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 12-012, appropriating monies from the 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, 2012, and ending June 30, 2013.

Amendment No. 1

Fire Service Areas: Wasilla-Lakes FSA: (250.000.000.411 and 412) (Tab G, Page 24)

MOTION: Assemblymember Halter moved a primary amendment to the Fire Service Area Fund, Wasilla-Lakes Fire Service Area, by inserting salaries and benefits for four Firefighters/Fire Engineers and a Deputy Fire Chief, in the total amount of \$529,295, as follows:

- 4 Firefighters/Fire Engineers
 - Salary - 250.000.000.411.100 = \$206,777
 - Benefits – 250.000.000.412.100 – 700 = \$203,037
- 1 Deputy Fire Chief
 - Salary – 250.000.000.411.100 = \$ 62,835
 - Benefits – 250.000.000.412.100 – 700 = \$ 56,646

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 2

Fire Service Areas: West Lakes FSA (Tab G, page 14)

MOTION: Assemblymember Salmon moved a primary amendment to the Fire Service Area Fund, West Lakes Fire Service Area, by striking the mill rate of “1.67” and inserting in its place “1.56. “

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 3

Fire Service Areas: Greater Palmer Consolidated FSA (Tab G, page 64)

MOTION: Assemblymember Keogh moved a primary amendment to the Fire Service Area Fund, Greater Palmer Consolidated Fire Service Area, by striking the mill rate of “.95” and inserting in its place “.92.”

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved a secondary amendment by striking “.92” and inserting in its place “.88.”

VOTE: The secondary amendment passed with Assemblymembers Keogh, Woods, and Salmon opposed.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymembers Keogh and Woods opposed.

Amendment No. 4

Road Service Areas: Big Lake RSA (Tab H, page 58)

MOTION: Assemblymember Salmon moved a primary amendment to the Road Service Area Fund, Big Lake Road Service Area, by striking the mill rate of “2.74” and inserting in its place “2.57.”

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 5

Road Service Areas: Lazy Mountain RSA (Tab H, page 46)

MOTION: Assemblymember Keogh moved a primary amendment to the Road Service Area Fund, Lazy Mountain Road Service Area, by striking the mill rate of “2.68” and inserting in its place “2.51.”

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment 6

Non-Areawide Services: Community Development – Sutton Library (200.170.503) (Tab D, page 24)

MOTION: Assemblymember Keogh moved a primary amendment to the Non-Areawide Services, Community Development, Sutton Library, by inserting a library assistant (0.25 FTE) in the total net amount of \$18,618, as follows:

- Reducing Temp Wages – 411.200: strike \$12,497 and insert it its place \$6,749, for a total decrease of \$5,748;
- Increase Permanent Wages – 411.100: strike \$98,335 and insert in its place \$111,370, for a total increase of \$13,035; and
- Increase Benefits – 411.100 – 700: increase benefits a total of \$11,331.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 7

Capital/Areawide: (Tab O, page 1)

MOTION: Assemblymember Keogh moved a primary amendment to Capital Projects, Grant/Pass Through, by inserting \$65,000 for a block grant for the city of Palmer from the Areawide Fund.

MOTION: Assemblymember Halter moved a secondary amendment by inserting \$65,000 for a block grant for the city of Wasilla and \$35,000 for a block grant for the city of Houston.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved to postpone the primary and secondary amendments to a time certain of May 8, 2012.

VOTE: The motion failed with Assemblymembers Colver, Colligan, and Woods in favor.

VOTE: The secondary amendment passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colligan moved a secondary amendment by striking \$65,000 and inserting in its place \$75,000 for the block grant to the city of Wasilla.

VOTE: The secondary amendment passed without objection.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

(The meeting recessed at 7:09 p.m. and reconvened at 7:18 p.m.)

Amendment No. 8

Areawide Fund and Fire Service Areas: (Tab B & G)

MOTION: Assemblymember Arvin moved a primary amendment to the Areawide Fund and the Fire Service Areas to increase the hourly rate of all On-Call Responders by \$3 per hour and direct the EMS Director to allocate \$290,036 from other line items in the EMS budgets in the Areawide Fund (100.160's) to cover 50 percent of the increase and increase State Shared Revenue by \$290,036 and to allocate funds in the amount of \$436,161 from the fund balances in the services area budgets without affecting the mill rates, as follows:

Areawide Fund:

- State Shared Revenue – 100.000.000.335.350: increase \$290,036;
- Responder Wages – 100.160.300.411.400: increase \$1,500;
- Benefits – 100.160.300.412's increase \$254;
- Responder Wages – 100.160.330.411.400: increase \$63,000;
- Benefits – 100.160.330.412's: increase \$10,334;
- Responder Wages – 100.160.336.411.400: increase \$276,957;
- Benefits – 100.160.336.412's: increase \$45,427;
- Responder Wages – 100.160.338.411.400: increase \$37,500;
- Benefits – 100.160.338.412's: increase \$6,150;
- Responder Wages – 100.160.339.411.400: increase \$6,000;
- Benefits – 100.160.339.412's: increase \$984;
- Responder Wages – 100.160.344.411.400: increase \$60,000;
- Benefits – 100.160.344.412's: increase \$9,842;
- Responder Wages – 100.160.346.411.400: increase \$21,000;
- Benefits – 100.160.346.412's: increase \$3,446;
- Responder Wages – 100.160.347.411.400: increase \$29,400;
- Benefits – 100.160.347.412's: increase \$4,822;
- Responder Wages – 100.160.349.411.400: increase \$3,000; and
- Benefits – 100.160.349.412's: increase \$456.

Caswell FSA:

- Responder Wages – 248.000.000.411.400: increase \$5,100; and
- Benefits – 248.000.000.412's: increase \$836.

West-Lakes FSA:

- Responder Wages – 249.000.000.411.400: increase \$100,500; and
- Benefits – 249.000.000.412's: increase \$16,485.

Wasilla Lakes FSA:

- Responder Wages – 250.000.000.411.400: increase \$205,187; and
- Benefits – 250.000.000.412's: increase \$33,655.

Butte FSA:

- Responder Wages – 251.000.000.411.400: increase \$21,300; and
- Benefits – 251.000.000.412's: increase \$3,504.

Sutton FSA:

- Responder Wages – 253.000.000.411.400: increase \$6,300; and
- Benefits – 253.000.000.412's: increase \$1,033.

Talkeetna FSA:

- Responder Wages – 254.000.000.411.400: increase \$9,000; and
- Benefits – 254.000.000.412's: increase \$1,476.

Willow FSA:

- Responder Wages – 258.000.000.411.400: increase \$27,000; and
- Benefits – 258.000.000.412's: increase \$4,428.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Assemblymember Keogh declared a conflict of interest as his son is an on-call paramedic emergency responder and has been for several years.

RULING: Mayor DeVilbiss ruled that Assemblymember Keogh had a conflict of interest and would be recused from voting on the issue.

(Assemblymember Keogh exited the meeting.)

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

(Assemblymember Keogh re-entered the meeting.)

Ms. Post presented a staff report.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the positions requested in the budget for the Information Technology Department;
- the cost of LIDAR software development;
- opportunities to recoup the cost of data through the establishment of user fees;
- the mapping technology of other jurisdictions;
- the lack of data in Alaska that meets national mapping standards; and
- staffing levels within the Information Technology Department.

Amendment No. 9

Capital Projects: (Tab O, page 3)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colligan moved a primary amendment to the Capital Projects by striking the project titled "Reverse 911 and Telecommunication Equipment" and inserting in its place "Spatial Data Improvements."

MOTION: Assemblymember Keogh moved to postpone the primary amendment to a time certain of the May 8, 2012.

VOTE: The motion failed with Assemblymember Keogh in favor.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymember Keogh opposed.

(The meeting recessed at 8:45 p.m. and reconvened at 8:55 p.m.)

Amendment No. 10

Capital Projects/Grants/Pass: (Tab O)

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved a primary amendment to the Capital Projects by inserting \$282,000 for the Port, as follows:

- Cathodic Anode Protection: \$250,000
- Safety Ladder Repair: \$17,000
- Sheetpile Interlock Repair: \$6,000
- Gangway Angle Repair: \$6,000
- Abutment Bearing Repair: \$3,000

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 11

Capital Projects/Grants/Pass: (Tab O, Page 1)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colligan moved a primary amendment to the Capital Projects, Grants/Pass Through, Youth Court, by striking “\$25,000” and inserting “\$75,000” for an increase of \$50,000.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Arvin moved to continue Ordinance Serial No. 12-012 to a time certain of May 8, 2012, at 6 p.m.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

The following person thanked the Assembly for funding the increase in pay for emergency responders: Ms. Sandy Hoeft.

VII. VETO

A. MOTION TO OVERRIDE ANY POSSIBLE MAYORAL VETO ON FISCAL YEAR 2013 BUDGET ITEMS (ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 12-012)

(There were no vetoes presented.)

VIII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Ms. McKechnie spoke to advertising requirements under the Alaska Open Meetings Act should the Assembly wish to schedule additional budget meetings.


Assemblymember Halter thanked staff for answering questions on the budget.

Assemblymember Arvin thanked staff for their availability in responding to questions about the budget.

Mayor DeVilbiss spoke to concerns regarding sustainability and increased expenses.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.


LARRY DEVILBISS, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 06/05/12