

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on May 8, 2007, at the Central Mat-Su Public Safety Building, 101 W. Swanson Avenue, Wasilla, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Deputy Mayor Lynne Woods.

II. ROLL CALL

Assembly members present and establishing a quorum were:

Ms. Lynne Woods, Assembly District No. 1 (*Deputy Mayor*)
Mr. Bill Allen, Assembly District No. 2
Ms. Michelle R. Church, Assembly District No. 3
Ms. Mary Kvalheim, Assembly District No. 4
Ms. Cindy L. Bettine, Assembly District No. 5
Mr. Robert Wells, Assembly District No. 6
Mr. Tom Kluberton, Assembly District No. 7

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Michelle M. McGehee, CMC, Borough Clerk
Mr. John Duffy, Borough Manager
Mr. Nicholas Spiropoulos, Borough Attorney
Ms. Amanda E. Charles, Executive Assistant to the Borough Clerk
Ms. Joell Church, Records Management Officer
Ms. Cheyenne Heindel, Revenue and Budget Manager

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Deputy Mayor Woods inquired if there were any changes to the agenda.

Assemblymember Allen requested that a proclamation be added to the agenda.

There was no objection noted.

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

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Deputy Mayor Woods.

V. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

- A. A Proclamation in Recognition of Diane Kaplan, named "Distinguished Grantmaker of 2007" by the Council of Foundations.

Deputy Mayor Woods:

- read the proclamation into the record; and
- stated that the proclamation will be presented to Ms. Kaplan this weekend by Mayor Menard.

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three minutes per person.)

- A. Ordinance Serial No. 07-007: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING MONIES FROM THE CENTRAL TREASURY OF THE BOROUGH OPERATING FUNDS, ENTERPRISE FUNDS, AND CAPITAL FUNDS AND ESTABLISHING RATE OF LEVY FOR ALL BOROUGH FUNCTIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2007, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2008.

The following persons spoke in favor of Ordinance Serial No. 07-007: Ms. Lisa Espey, Mr. Adam Cardwell, Ms. Karel LaWalter, Mr. Jason Dinneen, Ms. Julie Ede, Ms. Cheron Mane-Simeroth, Mr. Bill Cramp, Mr. Ken Farina, Ms. Crissy Butts, Mr. Johnny Murdock, Ms. Karen Harris, Ms. Mimi Peabody, Ms. Holly Thorssin, Ms. Jamie Frost, Mr. Wesley Tegler, Ms. Bettina Meleur, Ms. Lucy Klebesadel, Ms. Leah Jones, Ms. Carrie Gray Wolfe, Mr. Bob Bechtold, Ms. MaryAnn Cockle, Ms. Lauren Krier, Ms. Cheryl Metiva, Ms. Melissa Holmes, Mr. Marty Metiva, and Ms. Rebecca Knight.

There being no others present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed.

(The regular meeting recessed at 7:25 p.m. and reconvened at 7:36 p.m.)

- B. Ordinance Serial No. 07-054: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING MONIES FROM THE CENTRAL TREASURY FOR THE EDUCATION OPERATING FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2007, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2008.

The following persons spoke in favor of Ordinance Serial No. 07-054: Ms. Ellen Varosi, Ms. Sandra Patrick, Mr. Thomas Gervais, Mr. Darin Markwardt, Ms. Wendy Taylor, Ms. Beatrice Hitchcock, Ms. Verona Berg, Ms. Barbara Gerard, Ms. Alysia Loughlin-Bushey, Mr. Eric Robson, Ms. Andrea Messenger, Ms. Mary McMahon, Mr. Dane Crowley, Ms. Maureen Strawn, Mr. Eric Feige, Ms. Joyce Boyd, Ms. Colleen Hamblen, and Mr. Bob Elyard.

There being no others present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed.

VII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

(There were no persons present who wished to address the Assembly.)

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Resolution Serial No. 07-055: A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF THE ALASKA GASLINE INDUCEMENT ACT (AGIA). (*Sponsored by: Mayor Menard and Assemblymember Bettine*)

1. IM No. 07-118

MOTION: Assemblymember Bettine moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 07-055.

Assemblymember Bettine spoke to passing the resolution unanimously.

MOTION: Assemblymember Kvalheim moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 07-055, to insert a new “Further Be It Resolved” clause to read as follows: Be It Further Resolved, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly supports the inclusion of a gasline extension in the Borough to lower the cost of gas delivery for the benefit of the residents, and requests inclusion of this project in any legislation considered; and

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Wells moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 07-055, the fifth “Whereas” clause to strike the words “the necessary” to read as follows: Whereas, the Alaska Gasline Inducement Act (AGIA) introduced by Governor Palin provides elements to achieve the timely development of a natural gas pipeline; and

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Wells moved a primary amendment to Resolution Serial No. 07-055, the second “Further Be It Resolved” clause to insert the words “and Governor” to read as follows: Further Be It Resolved, that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly Supports passage of the Alaska Gasline Inducement Act (AGIA) and urges the 25th Legislature of Alaska and the Governor to complete passage of AGIA by the end of the current legislative session.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

Assemblymember Bettine queried the timeline associated with the project.

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

VOTE: The motion to stop debate passed without objection.

VOTE: The main motion passed as amended without objection.

VIII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Assemblymember Wells spoke regarding his upcoming trip to Juneau.

Assemblymember Bettine:

- spoke regarding the May 10, 2007, RSA Task Force meeting; and
- queried the Manager on how the Borough is tracking what is happening in Juneau and how the assembly members find out about updates.

Assemblymember Allen stated that the lobbyist in Juneau gives daily updates.

Assemblymember Bettine asked for information on contacting the lobbyist.

Mr. Duffy:

- spoke to daily updates; and
- stated that Assemblymember Bettine could call the delegation's work chairs of the committees, and Cathy Wasserman at AML.

Assemblymember Bettine spoke to the need for the formation of a PAC.

Assemblymember Church spoke to contacting the Legislature and the School Board.

Assemblymember Kluberton requested that the Manager draft an ordinance that would guide the development of large-scale power generation or industrial facilities in the borough; addressing, but not limited to, air quality impacts, water quality impacts and siting environment issues.

Assemblymember Allen requested a meeting on Monday, May 14, 2007, to meet with Assemblymember Bettine, Mr. Duffy, and Ms. Clayton regarding sales tax.

Assemblymember Kvalheim:

- commented on the innovative purchasing alliance; and
- mentioned taking the names of the individuals that spoke on sales tax.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

ATTEST:

CURTIS D. MENARD, Borough Mayor

MICHELLE M. MCGEHEE, CMC, Borough Clerk