

I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on May 8, 2014, 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 continued deliberations and possible adoption of the budget ordinance.

II. ROLL CALL

Assembly members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mr. Jim Sykes, Assembly District No. 1
Mr. Matthew Beck, Assembly District No. 2
Mr. Ronald Arvin, Assembly District No. 3 (*Deputy Mayor*)
Mr. Steve Colligan, Assembly District No. 4
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
Ms. Jamie Newman, Deputy Borough Clerk
Mr. John Moosey, Borough Manager
Mr. George Hays, Assistant Borough Manager
Mr. John Aschbrenner, Borough Attorney
Ms. Tammy Clayton, Finance Director
Mr. Dennis Brodigan, Emergency Services Director
Mr. Eric Phillips, Community Development Director
Mr. Larry Macknicki, Director of Information Technology
Mr. Mike Brown, Capital Projects Director
Mr. James Wilson, Internal Auditor
Ms. Cheyenne Heindel, Financial Analyst
Mr. Randy Jones, Systems Administrator
Mr. Hugh Leslie, Recreation and Library Manager
Ms. Elizabeth Weiant, Secretary II

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Assemblymember Colver related that he will be leaving at 6:15 p.m. to give a speech at an 8th grade graduation ceremony and will return as quickly as possible.

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

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor DeVilbiss.

V. DELIBERATIONS AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2015 BUDGET

- A. **Ordinance Serial No. 14-014:** 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, 2014, And Ending June 30, 2015, And Setting The Surcharge Rate For The Wireline And Wireless Enhanced 911 Systems For The Period Of July 1, 2014, Through June 30, 2015.

MOTION PENDING: Assemblymember Colver moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 14-014.

Amendment No. 8

Areawide - Planning (100.130.130.429.300) (Tab A, page 64)
EMS (100.160.300.429.900) (Tab A, page 96)

MOTION: Assemblymember Sykes moved a primary amendment to the Emergency Services and Planning budgets as follows:

- Planning, 429.300, to insert \$197,000, FEMA Flood Mitigation Program Information Appraisal and Support and Grant Writing; and
- EMS, 429.900, to insert \$72,000, FEMA Grant Writer.

MOTION: Assemblymember Halter moved secondary amendment to designate the state of Alaska grant for River Management as the source of funds for the \$197, 000, FEMA Flood Mitigation Program Information Appraisal and Support and Grant Writing.

VOTE: The secondary amendment passed without objection.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

(Assemblymember Colver exited the meeting at 6:15 p.m.)

Amendment No. 9

Areawide - Capital Project/Grants/Pass Throughs (Tab O / Tab B page 16)
100.000.000.446.400)

MOTION: Assemblymember Sykes moved a primary amendment to Capital Projects by inserting the following projects:

- Emergency Services:
 - Access and Repair Lake Louise EMS Building Foundation, \$300,000; and
 - Sutton EMS Garage, \$70,000.

VOTE: The primary amendment failed with Assemblymembers Salmon, Sykes, and Beck in favor and Assemblymembers Halter, Colligan and Arin opposed. (Tie vote.) The motion failed with Mayor DeVilbiss invoking his voting privilege in the negative.

Amendment No. 10

Areawide - Capital Projects (Tab O, page 2)

MOTION: Assemblymember Halter moved a primary amendment to Capital Projects, Community Development, WACO Building Improvements, by striking \$90,000 and inserting in its place \$65,000, and inserting Capital Project, Community Development, Willow Community Center, Heat Source System in the amount of \$25,000.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 11

E-911 – Change to Ordinance Serial No. 14-014 and Revenue (Tab E, page 2)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colligan moved a primary amendment as follows:

- Ordinance Serial No. 14-014, Section 10, by striking "\$1.00" and inserting in its place "\$2.00;" and
- 202.000.000.000.342.700, Enhanced 911 Surcharge, by striking \$1,100,000 and inserting in its place \$2,200,000.

MOTION: Assemblymember Arvin moved a secondary amendment by decreasing 100.160.429.900, in the amount of \$500,000, and increasing 100.160.429.900 in the amount of \$500,000 with funds from the E-911 fund, for the purpose of placing areawide funds with revenue received from the E-911 surcharge.

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 7:16 p.m.)

Amendment No. 12

Land Management (Tab F)

MOTION: Assemblymember Halter moved a primary amendment to the Land Management budget for the Land Management Specialist position for a total increase of \$54,158 and a total decrease in line items by \$54,158, as follows:

- Land Management Specialist:
 - 203.170.141.411.100 & 412's, Wages & Benefits, increase by \$54,158;
 - 203.170.141.411.200 & 412's, Wages & Benefits, decrease by \$27,069;
 - 203.170.141.426.800, Broker/Appraisers Fees, decrease by \$17,000; and
 - 203170.141.426.900, Other Professional, decrease by \$10,089.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 13

Solid Waste Enterprise Fund (Tab K) - Road Service Areas (Tab H)

MOTION: Assemblymember Halter moved a primary amendment to the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund for the Civil Construction Project Manager position for a total increase of \$69,217 and the Road Service Area budget for the Right-of-Way Acquisition Officer position for a total increase of \$66,480 and admin audit in the amount \$56,446, as follows:

- Civil Construction Project Manager:
 - 510.150.401.411.100 & 412's, Wages & Benefits, increase by \$69,217.
- Right-of-Way Acquisition Officer:
 - 265.000.000.368.220, Recovery Service Areas, \$66,480 to increase the revenue;
 - 265.000.000.411.100 and 412's, Wages and Benefits, increase by \$66,480;
 - 270.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$5,805;
 - 271.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$3,563;
 - 272.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$3,516;
 - 273.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$5,055;
 - 274.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$10,952
 - 275.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$766;
 - 276.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by 3,925;
 - 277.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$5,479;
 - 278.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$611;
 - 279.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$5,017;
 - 280.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$3,583;
 - 281.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$7,046;
 - 282.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$6,634;
 - 283.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$2,631;
 - 284.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$1,031; and
 - 285.000.000.443.130, Admin & Audit RSAs, increase by \$866.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 14

Areawide - Education Fund (Tab B and J)

MOTION: Assemblymember Beck moved a primary amendment the Areawide Fund and the Education Fund by increasing the amount allotted to the School District by an additional \$350,000, with the direction that at the end of the 2014-2015 school year that the school district provide a detailed report about the income and expenses for the district's preschool program.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 15

Areawide – Capital Projects (Tab B and O)

MOTION: Assemblymember Halter moved a primary amendment to Capital Projects by inserting Trapper Creek Community Center Parking Lot Upgrade and Double Vault Toilet in the amount of \$75,000 to be funded by State Revenue Sharing.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 16

Areawide – Capital Projects (Tab B and O)

MOTION: Assemblymember Halter moved a primary amendment to Capital Projects by inserting Meadow Lakes Community Parks/Sports - Ball Parks/Softball Field Development in the amount of \$75,000, which is matching funds, to be funded by State Revenue Sharing.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 17

Areawide – Capital Projects (Tab B and O)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colligan moved a primary amendment to Capital Projects by inserting Planning Business License/Permit System SOS, in the amount of \$50,000.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 18

Areawide – Capital Projects (Tab B and O)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colligan moved a primary amendment to Capital Projects by inserting Transportation Planning Regional Coordination between the Borough, the Alaska State Department of Transportation, and the cities within the Borough, in the amount of \$200,000.

VOTE: The primary amendment failed with Assemblymembers Sykes, Colligan, and Beck in favor and Assemblymembers Salmon, Halter, and Arvin opposed. (Tie vote.) The motion failed with Mayor DeVilbiss invoking his voting privilege in the negative.

(Assemblymember Colver re-entered the meeting at 7:50 p.m.)

Amendment No. 19

Areawide - Emergency Services, Rescue Units (Tab B, page 103) (100.160.330.429.900)

MOTION: Assemblymember Halter moved a primary amendment to Emergency Services, Rescue Units, Other Contractual, by inserting an additional \$10,000 for the City of Houston Rescue Service.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 20

Areawide - Capital Project/Grants/Pass Throughs (Tab B and O)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved a primary amendment to Capital Projects by inserting Mat-Su Ski Club for Trail Construction at Government Peak Recreation Area, \$250,000.

MOTION: Assemblymember Arvin moved a secondary amendment by striking “\$250,000” and inserting in its place “\$75,000.”

VOTE: The secondary amendment failed with Assemblymembers Halter and Arvin in support.

MOTION: Assemblymember Arvin moved a secondary amendment by striking “250,000” and inserting in its place “100,000.”

VOTE: The secondary amendment passed with Assemblymembers Colver and Salmon opposed.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved a secondary amendment by striking "\$100,000" and inserting in its place \$175,000.

VOTE: The secondary passed without objection.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed as amended with Assemblymember Salmon opposed.

Amendment No. 21

Areawide - Capital Project/Grants/Pass Throughs (Tab B and O)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved a primary amendment to Capital Projects by inserting Government Peak Chalet Commercial Kitchen Improvements, in the amount of \$200,000.

MOTION: Assemblymember Arvin moved a secondary amendment by striking "\$200,000" and inserting in its place "\$100,000."

VOTE: The secondary amendment failed with Assemblymembers Sykes and Arvin in support.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 22

Areawide - Community Development - Capital Projects/Grants/Pass Through (Tab O)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colligan moved a primary amendment by inserting the words "and Grant Match" at the end of "Recreation Facility Highway Signage" to read: "Recreation Facility Highway Signage and Grant Match" and to designate \$25,000 of the \$50,000 for a grant match to Mat-Su Trails Council Inc. for Eska motorized trail improvements.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 23

Areawide - Capital Projects/Grants/Pass Through (Tab O)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colligan moved a primary amendment to Capital Projects by inserting a grant match to Mat-Su Trails Council Inc. for an at-grade crossing at Puritan Creek Trail, in the amount of \$15,000.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 24

Areawide – Capital Projects (Tab B and O)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved a primary amendment to Capital Projects by inserting Transportation Planning Regional Coordination between the Borough, the Alaska State Department of Transportation, and the cities within the Borough, in the amount of \$100,000

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymembers Salmon, Halter, and Arvin opposed.

(The meeting recessed at 8:40 p.m. and reconvened at 8:50 p.m.)

Amendment No. 25

General Fund - Reconciliation of Fund Balance and Capital Projects (Tab B, page 1 and Tab O)

MOTION: Assemblymember Arvin moved a primary amendment by decreasing the Reserve for School Site Acquisition in the amount of \$1,000,000 and inserting into Capital Projects, Machentanz Elementary School Access, in the amount of \$1,000,000.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 26

Ordinance Serial No. 14-014 - Appropriation for Reservation of Fund Balance

MOTION: Assemblymember Arvin moved a primary amendment to Ordinance Serial No. 14-014, Section 7, Appropriation for Reservation of Fund Balance, in the amount of \$ 24,943,453, which is the amount equal to a minimum of 22.2 percent of all budgeted operating expenditures for the fiscal year 2015 budget, excluding the budgeted operating expenditures of the school district.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Arvin moved to set the mill rates at 9.662 areawide and .52 non-areawide.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

VOTE: The main motion passed as amended without objection.

VI. VETO

- A. Motion To Override Any Possible Mayoral Veto On Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Items (Ordinance Serial No. 14-014)

(There were no vetoes presented.)

VII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

(There were no comments made.)

VIII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Moosey:

- related that he would like to have an engaging conversation about economic development with the Assembly in the future;
- added that the discussion will help to ensure that he moves forward in the right direction;
- spoke to the budget process during his tenure; and
- commended the Assembly on their decorum during budget deliberations this year.

Ms. McKechnie:

- spoke to the reconsideration process; and
- added that if no reconsideration is filed, she will cancel all previously scheduled budget meetings, with the Assembly's permission.

There was no objection noted.

Assemblymember Beck:

- thanked the Manager and staff for helping the Assembly through the budget process; and
- opined that the Assembly adopted a responsible budget that includes many worthwhile projects.

Assemblymember Colligan:

- thanked Ms. Clayton and staff for their work on the budget;
- related that he was pleased with the outline of the budget and the improvements made this year; and
- thanked the body for their support of public safety and E-Government initiatives.

Assemblymember Colver:

- related his pleasure with the body for lowering the mill rate;
- thanked the body for creating the position in the Assessments Division;
- opined that the public appears satisfied with the level of services provided by the Borough; and

- added that the match grant funds allocated for the Government Peak area will help leverage grant applications that are pending with other organizations.

Assemblymember Halter:

- spoke in favor of the positions that were created in the budget;
- related that it was a great budget cycle;
- spoke in support of school funding by the Alaska State Legislature; and
- thanked the body for supporting projects in Assembly District 7.

Assemblymember Salmon:

- spoke in favor of the continuation of the Sexual Assault Response Team and Youth Court; and
- spoke favorably about the accomplishments made in the budget.

Assemblymember Sykes:

- related that he found the budget process enlightening;
- thanked the body for supporting projects in Assembly District 1;
- expressed concern about the anticipated decline in state and federal grants;
- added that one-third of the Borough's budget is dependent on grants; and
- spoke to the importance of education and prevention in relation to sexual assault.

Assemblymember Arvin:

- spoke to the balance and compromise of the Assembly during budget deliberations;
- related that staff presented a clear and realistically lean budget;
- added that he would like to continue discussion on the on-call responder pool and having some full-time responders; and
- spoke to the benefits of investing in outdoor recreation opportunities on future incarceration and rehabilitation costs.

Mayor DeVilbiss:


- spoke to the budget deliberation process;
- spoke about the public process and veto power of the mayor; and
- thanked the Assembly for working together cooperatively and amicably to pass the fiscal year 2015 budget.

Assemblymember Sykes:

- thanked staff for their work in seeing that the public was provided an opportunity to participate in a budget hearing telephonically; and
- thanked staff for posting budget documents online.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting adjourned 9:25 p.m.


LARRY DeVILBISS, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 06/03/14