

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on May 11, 2006, 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 Jim Colver for the purpose of holding a public hearing on the budget.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Assembly members present and establishing a quorum were:

Ms. Lynne Woods, Assembly District No. 1  
Mr. Bill Allen, Assembly District No. 2  
Mr. Talis J. Colberg, Assembly District No. 3  
Ms. Mary Kvalheim, Assembly District No. 4  
Ms. Cindy Bettine, Assembly District No. 5  
Mr. Jim Colver, Assembly District 6 (*Deputy Mayor*)  
Ms. Betty Vehrs, Assembly District No. 7

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Michelle M. McGehee, CMC, Borough Clerk  
Mr. John Duffy, Borough Manager  
Ms. Lonnie McKechnie, Executive Assistant to the Borough Clerk  
Ms. Cheyenne Heindel, Financial Analyst  
Mr. Nicholas Spiropoulos, Assistant Borough Attorney

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Deputy Mayor Colver 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 Ms. Nancy Hereford, President of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Employees Association.

**V. PUBLIC HEARING**

A. Ordinance Serial No. 06-006: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING MONIES FROM THE CENTRAL TREASURY AND ESTABLISHING THE RATE OF LEVY FOR ALL BOROUGH FUNCTIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2006, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2007.

Deputy Mayor Colver opened the public hearing.

The following persons spoke regarding the School District laying off members of the Certified Employees Association: Mr. Carl Norman; Ms. Carrie Phillips; Mr. Ron Rucker, President of the Certified Employees Association; Mr. Steve Fee; and Ms. Barbara Bowe.

The following person spoke in support of the proposed Water Safety Instructor position: Ms. Kira Thompson.

The following persons spoke in support of the emergency services budget: Mr. Daniel Sides, Ms. Ginny Gee, Mr. Will Tief, and Ms. Amy McNulty,

The following persons spoke in support of the proposed Park Technician II position: Mr. Warren Templin and Mr. Ken Thomas.

The following person spoke in support of the proposed Planner II position: Ms. Jennifer Carper.

The following person spoke in support of the proposed Emergency Services Coordinator position: Mr. Johnny Murdock.

The following person spoke in support of the proposed Accounting Assistant I position: Ms. Donna Price.

The following person spoke in support of the Manager's proposed budget and the funding of the new positions: Ms. Nancy Hereford, President of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Employees Association.

The following person spoke regarding the Borough's contribution to the School District's budget: Ms. Sarah Welton, School Board President.

The following person spoke in support of funding the Boys and Girls Club: Mr. Nick Nelson.

The following person spoke in support of the proposed Road Maintenance Technician position: Mr. Phil Park.

The following person spoke regarding the Wasilla-Lakes FSA Board of Supervisors budget: Mr. Ken Slauson, Chairman.

*(The special meeting recessed at 7:20 p.m. and reconvened at 7:45 p.m.)*

The following person spoke in support of the Animal Care and Regulation Division's budget: Ms. Ruth Hirsiger.

The following person spoke in support of the proposed staff increases and against the School District laying off employees: Ms. Michelle Church.

There being no others present who wished to testify, Deputy Mayor Colver continued the budget public hearing to May 18, 2006.

## **VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

The following person spoke regarding the School District's budget and the School District laying off members of the Certified Employees Association: Mr. Carl Norman.

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

Assemblymember Woods:

- spoke regarding the Economic Development Workshop; and
- advised that she is receiving comments regarding the Title 17 draft ordinance.

Assemblymember Bettine:

- spoke regarding the May 2, 2006, Special Borough Election;
- requested a prioritized listing of the School District's restoration project list;
- spoke regarding the community councils in her area receiving the draft ordinance of the Title 17 re-write; and
- spoke to the need of advising community councils of the process for draft ordinances.

Assemblymember Allen:

- spoke regarding the School District's restoration project list; and
- requested that the School District prioritize the list with an additional \$2 million so that the Borough will know the impact of their contribution.

Assemblymember Kvalheim thanked the members of the audience for attending and sharing their comments.

Assemblymember Vehrs:

- spoke regarding revenue sharing and property tax relief; and
- thanked the audience members for attending.

Assemblymember Colver:

- spoke regarding the Title 17 re-write on mandatory land use permits;
- addressed concerns with the School District's funding and expenses;
- requested that the Manager submit a formal inquiry to the Alaska State Department of Education asking the amount of special educating funding the School District received in fiscal year 2006 and the projected amount that they will be receiving for fiscal year 2007; and
- spoke regarding property tax relief.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The special meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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TIMOTHY L. ANDERSON, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

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MICHELLE M. MCGEHEE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes approved: 06/06/06