

I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on May 22, 2003, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Mayor Timothy L. Anderson for the purpose of addressing Ordinance Serial No. 03-003, adoption of the budget.

II. ROLL CALL

Assembly members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mr. J. Bruce Bush, 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. Jody Simpson, Assembly District No. 5
Mr. Jim Colver, Assembly District No. 6 (Deputy Mayor)
Ms. Kelly Ladere, Assembly District No. 7

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Sandra A. Dillon, CMC, Borough Clerk
Mr. John Duffy, Borough Manager
Ms. Teresa Williams, Borough Attorney
Ms. Michelle M. McGehee, Deputy Borough Clerk
Ms. Janice Case, Borough Clerk's Secretary
Mr. Jim Swing, Public Works Director
Ms. Tammy Clayton, Finance Director
Ms. Kelli Veech, Comptroller
Mr. Ron Swanson, Community Development Director
Mr. Jack Krill, Emergency Services Director
Ms. Susan Dickinson, Interim Planning Director

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

GENERAL CONSENT: The agenda was approved as presented.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Betty Vehrs, a member of the audience.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Ordinance Serial No. 03-003: 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, 2003, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2004.

Mayor Anderson, Assemblymember Colver, and Mr. Duffy reported regarding the Alaska State Legislature's budget actions during their recent trip to Juneau.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 03-003, appropriating monies from the central treasury and establishing the rate of levy for all borough functions for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2003, and ending June 30, 2004.

Technical Amendments:

- Page B-11, 000-000-311-500, Vehicle State Tax Revenue: Proposed at \$1,973,520, amended by \$160,000 for an adjusted amount of \$2,133,520.
- Page B-16, 000-000-446-400, Transfer to Capital Projects: Proposed at \$2,662,277, amended by \$160,000, for an adjusted amount of \$2,822,277.
- Page B-35, 100-111-426-900, Other Professional Charges: Proposed at \$6,500, amended by \$4,500, for an adjusted amount of \$2,000.
- Page B-35, 100-111-429-500, Labor Services: Proposed at \$13,500, amended by \$6,000, for an adjusted amount of \$7,500.
- Page B-35, 100-111-434-000, Computers under \$5,000: Proposed at \$5,000, amended by \$2,500, for an adjusted amount of \$2,500.
- Page B-35, 100-111-434-100, Other Equipment under \$5,000: Proposed at \$5,000, amended by \$2,500, for an adjusted amount of \$2,500.
- Page B-36, 100-111-451-100, Equipment over \$5,000: Proposed at \$4,000, amended by \$4,000, for an adjusted amount of zero.
- Page B-36, 100-111-451-300, Furniture over \$5,000, Proposed at \$2,500, amended by \$2,500, for an adjusted amount of zero.
- Page D-19, 150-401-411.xxx, Permanent Wages: Proposed at \$20,948, amended by \$4,490, for an adjusted amount of \$25,438.
- Page D-19, 150-401-412.xxx, Benefits: Proposed at \$113,654, amended by \$1,166, for an adjusted amount of \$114,820.
- Page D-29, 150-416-411.xxx, Permanent Wages: Proposed at \$12,015, amended by \$499, for an adjusted amount of \$12,514.
- Page D-29, 150-416-412.xxx, Benefits: Proposed at \$6,941, amended by \$130, for an adjusted amount of \$7,071.
- Page D34, 160-606-411.xxx, Permanent Wages: Proposed at \$389,592, amended by \$2,909, for an adjusted amount of \$392,501.
- Page D-34, 160-606-412.xxx, Benefits: Proposed at \$173,882, amended by \$456, for an adjusted amount of \$174,338.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved to approve the technical amendments as presented by the administration.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 1 - Butte Fire Service Area 251-000-000 (page G-26)

MOTION: Assemblymember Bush moved to amend the Butte Fire Service Area budget (fund 251-000-000) by increasing the funds proposed for transfer to capital projects (line item 446-400) from \$29,200 to \$79,200, for an increase of \$50,000.

The increase will provide \$40,000 for a new command/support vehicle with related equipment and \$10,000 for one six-wheeler and related fire fighting equipment.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 2 - Big Lake RSA No. 21 (Fund 277) (page H-54)

MOTION: Assemblymember Simpson moved to increase the Big Lake RSA mill rate from 2.5 to 2.65.

Assemblymember Simpson stated that the amendment was being proposed due to a request from the board of supervisors to maintain the current mill rate.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

**Amendment No. 3 - Asset Management. 203-170-144 (page F-14)
Land Management, 203-170-141 (page F-10)**

MOTION: Assemblymember Kvalheim moved to amend the Asset Management budget (fund 203-170-144), line items 411-100/412) in the amount of \$41,805, and the Land Management budget (fund 203-170-141), line items 411-100/412) in the amount of \$13,935, to provide for a Land and Resource Management Technician position in the total amount of \$55,740.

(This represents 75 percent of the cost allocated to the asset management budget and 25 percent allocated to the Land Management budget.)

Mr. Swanson provided a brief synopsis of the scope of work for the position.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymember Colberg in opposition.

Amendment No. 4 - Public Works Budget 200-150-417 (page D-31)

MOTION: Assemblymember Kvalheim moved to amend public works (fund 200-150-417) by increasing the funds proposed for recycling (line item 429-900) from \$25,000 to \$50,000 for an increase of \$25,000.

Assemblymember Kvalheim spoke regarding the benefits of recycling.

Assemblymember Colver:

- spoke to a condition of the federal grant for the landfill expansion to provide recycling services; and
- opined that recycling services should be a component of the landfill budget and that he would like to see this included in the budget in future years.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 5 - Sutton Library (200-170-503) (page D-42)

MOTION: Assemblymember Bush moved to amend the Sutton Library (fund 200-170-503), line items 411-100/412, to provide for a permanent, part-time library assistant for 20 hours per week for a total increase of \$26,538, and a corresponding decrease in temporary wages of \$2,704, line items 411-200 and 412.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the increased usage of the library by members of the community;
- the importance of the libraries to smaller communities; and
- use of libraries as an outreach for job training programs.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymember Colberg in opposition.

Amendment No. 6 - Talkeetna Library 200-170-504 (page D-45)

MOTION: Assemblymember Ladere moved to amend the Talkeetna Library (fund 200-170-504), line items 411-100/412, to provide for a permanent, part-time library assistant for 25 hours per week for a total increase of \$31,454.

Assemblymember Ladere:

- spoke regarding the transitioning state of the community and the rapid growth in the Talkeetna area;
- noted that the staff at the library is not equipped to accommodate the number of people who are now using the library; and
- commented regarding the high use of the Internet by the library's patrons.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymember Colberg in opposition.

Amendment No. 7 - Trapper Creek Library, 200-170-505 (page D-48)

MOTION: Assemblymember Ladere moved to amend the Trapper Creek Library (fund 200-170-505), line items 411-100/412 to provide for a permanent, part-time librarian for 30 hours per week for a total increase of \$42,912; and \$4,326 for temporary wages (line item 411.200/412); and a corresponding decrease of \$9,000 in other contractual, line item 429-900.

Assemblymember Ladere:

- stated that the library has been in operation for 30 years;
- noted that the library has been only partially funded by the borough in the past;
- spoke to the volunteer program at the library; and
- informed that the library has more than outgrown its capacity.

Assemblymember Colberg:

- spoke regarding the proposed budgetary increases for the libraries; and
- commented that it does not seem reasonable to place items in the budget that may have to be cut in the future.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymembers Colberg and Bush in opposition.

Amendment No. 8 - Willow Library 200-170-507 (page D-49)

MOTION: Assemblymember Ladere moved to amend the Willow Library (fund 200-170-507), line items 411-100/412, to provide for an additional five hours for the librarian from 30 hours per week to 35 hours per week for a total increase of \$4,820; and a corresponding decrease of \$2,704, line item 411-200/412.

Assemblymember Ladere remarked regarding the benefit that five additional hours will provide to the library.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 9 - Big Lake Library 200-170-508 (page D-52)

MOTION: Assemblymember Simpson moved to amend the Big Lake Library (fund 200-170-508), line items 411-100/412, to provide for an additional five hours for the librarian from 30 hours per week to 35 hours per week for a total increase of \$4,916; and a corresponding decrease of \$3,245 in temporary wages, line item 411-200/412.

Assemblymember Simpson spoke in favor of the ordinance and noted the similarity between this amendment and the one previously adopted.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

(The regular meeting recessed at 6:50 p.m. and reconvened at 7:03 p.m.)

Ms. Clayton reported the current non-areawide mill rate at .428 mills.

Amendment No. 10 - Assembly Reserves 100-100-102 (page B-21)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colberg moved to amend Assembly reserves (fund 100-100-102) by reducing line item 429-900 from \$50,000 to \$10,000 for a reduction of \$40,000.

Assemblymember Colberg spoke regarding the past use of the Assembly reserve fund for arbitrary purposes.

Assemblymember Simpson:

- queried the finance director regarding the use of general fund monies should the Assembly reserve account be reduced; and
- requested confirmation that an appropriation from the general fund would require five votes of the Assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved a secondary amendment to strike \$10,000 and to insert \$40,000, for a reduction of \$10,000.

Assemblymember Colver:

- stated that the fund is used as a buffer by the Assembly for many reasons; and
- opined that it would not be prudent to dramatically reduce the reserves.

VOTE: The secondary amendment passed with Assemblymembers Colberg, Bush, and Ladere in opposition.

VOTE: The primary amendment as amended passed without objection.

Amendment No. 11 - Elections 100-100-105 (page B-25)

MOTION: Assemblymember Bush moved to amend the election operating budget (fund 100-100-105), line item 423-000, from \$30,000 to \$45,000, for an increase of \$15,000, which represents costs of printing and mailing of the election brochure to all registered voters.

Assemblymember Bush noted that the amendment was being proposed to provide funding for the project based upon the Assembly's motion to change the distribution to a borough registered voter mailing.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 12 - Administration 100-100-110 (page B-32)

MOTION: Assemblymember Allen moved to amend the administration operating budget (fund 100-100-110), line item 426-900 (other professional), from \$205,000 to \$145,000, for a decrease of \$60,000, which represents funding for the federal lobbyist.

Assemblymember Allen:

- stated that the funding used to retain the services of a federal lobbyist is better spent on community-based needs and services;
- commented that the congressional delegation's staff is equipped to address borough issues;
- remarked that more frequent trips to Washington D.C. by the manager and mayor should adequately address the face-to-face needs of lobbying by the borough.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the services that have previously been provided by the borough's current federal lobbyist;
- the time that would be necessary for the manager and the mayor to account for the lack of a federal lobbyist;
- the end date of the federal lobbyist's current contract;
- the need to retain a federal lobbyist, but to go out for a request for proposals for the position;
- the successes that the federal lobbyist has had for the borough;
- the need for solid representation in Washington D.C.; and
- the possibility of having a contractual relationship with a federal lobbyist on an as-needed basis.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymembers Colver and Ladere in opposition.

Amendment No. 13 - Administration 100-100-110 (page B-31)

MOTION: Assemblymember Allen moved to amend the administration operating budget (fund 100-100-110), line item 414-400, travel, from \$15,000 to \$25,000, for an increase of \$10,000.

Assemblymember Allen noted that this increase would provide funds for the manager to travel to Washington D.C. more frequently since the Assembly voted to forego the services of a contracted federal lobbyist.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymembers Colberg and Colver in opposition.

Amendment No. 14 - Administration 100-100-110 (page B-32)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colberg moved to amend the administration operating budget (fund 100-100-110), line item 426-900 (other professional), from \$145,000 to \$95,000, for a decrease of \$50,000.

Assemblymember Colberg:

- spoke to the actual expenditures from the last fiscal year; and
- stated that the reduction would bring the item in line with the amended budget for FY03.

Mr. Duffy:

- explained the difference from the actual expenditures in 2002, the amended budget for 2003, and the request for funds in 2004;
- stated that the line item included funding for the state lobbyist, the employee assistance program, and the volunteer recruitment program;
- noted that funding for the federal lobbyist was initially in the clerk's budget, and that funding was removed from the clerk's budget and placed into this line item; and
- spoke to the major increase being reflective of funding for the volunteer recruitment program.

Discussion ensued regarding whether or not the reduction would impact the borough's volunteer recruitment capacity.

MOTION: Assemblymember Allen moved a secondary amendment to strike \$95,000 and insert \$135,000 for a decrease of \$10,000.

Assemblymember Allen voiced concern that the volunteer recruitment program would be substantially impacted by the proposed reduction.

VOTE: The secondary amendment passed with Assemblymembers Colberg and Bush in opposition.

Discussion ensued regarding how the volunteer recruitment program would be expanded in the coming year.

VOTE: The primary amendment as amended passed without objection.

(The regular meeting recessed at 7:46 p.m. and reconvened at 7:55 p.m.)

Ms. Clayton provided a mill rate update of 11.687 areawide.

Amendment No. 15 - Law Budget 100-100-111(page B-35)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colberg moved to amend the borough attorney operating budget (fund 100-100-111) by reducing the funds proposed for legal services (line item 426-200) from \$50,000 to \$30,000 for a reduction of \$20,000.

Assemblymember Colberg stated that there should be a reduction in this fund based upon the current staffing of full-time attorneys.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment No. 16 - OIT 100-100-121 (page B-41)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colberg moved to amend the OIT budget (fund 100-100-121) by reducing the funds proposed for computer service/software (line item 426-600) from \$136,312 to \$116,312, for a reduction of \$20,000.

Assemblymember Colberg:

- stated that he is looking at the proposed budget in comparison to the 2002 actual budget and the 2003 amended budget when addressing amendments; and
- cautioned that there should be an understanding from each department that increases in the budget need to be looked at carefully.

Mr. Germer provided the Assembly with a breakdown of the funds for their respective purposes.

VOTE: The primary amendment failed with Assemblymember Colberg in support.

Amendment No. 17 - Mayor 100-110-104 (page B-48)

MOTION: Assemblymember Allen moved to amend the mayor's operating budget (fund 100-110-104), line item 414-400, travel, from \$4,000 to \$14,000, for an increase of \$10,000.

Assemblymember Allen noted that the increase would provide funds for the Mayor to travel to Washington D.C. more frequently since the Assembly voted to forego the services of a contracted federal lobbyist.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymembers Colver, Colberg, and Ladere in opposition.

Amendment No. 18 - Admin-Finance 100-120-120 (page B-54)

MOTION: Assemblymember Simpson moved to amend the Finance operating budget (fund 100-120-120), line items (411-100/412) to provide for a Budget Analyst position in the amount of \$67,353.

Mr. Duffy provided an outline of the job description for the budget analyst position at the request of Assemblymember Simpson.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the Assembly's fiduciary responsibility regarding the budget;
- being able to have more immediate contact with both the school district and the borough regarding the budget;
- accountability and checks and balances on both sides of the budget;

- the budget analyst's position providing a review of existing budgets against prior budgets;
- the budget analyst's position providing the ability to work closer with department directors and to formulate and report expenditures to the Assembly; and
- the possibility of hiring an outside consultant for a one-year period in this regard.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymembers Colberg, Colver, and Bush in opposition.

MOTION: Assemblymember Simpson moved for immediate reconsideration of Amendment No. 18.

VOTE: The motion to reconsider failed with Assemblymembers Colberg and Colver in support.

(Note: This item was vetoed by the mayor and it failed to be overridden, page 12.)

Amendment No. 19A - Parks and Recreation 100-170-142 (page B-164)

MOTION: Assemblymember Allen moved to amend the Parks and Recreation operating budget (fund 100-170-142), line item 429-900 (other contractual), from \$10,000 to \$35,000, for an increase of \$25,000 for the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) beautification project.

Assemblymember Allen:

- spoke regarding a call that he had received from a member of the PTO requesting financial assistance to help beautify community schools;
- stated that the caller indicated that if the borough was able to provide \$2,500 in funding, that the PTO is prepared to match the funding;
- spoke to the possibility of setting up a fund in the parks and recreation budget for schools to submit a business plan to administration outlining the scope of their beautification project and provide assurance that an in-kind match would be provided.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- placing a monetary cap on each request;
- the impact that establishing such a fund would have on borough staff;
- other programs that may also be available to help accomplish school campus beautification; and
- bringing the item forward for discussion at another time as a policy matter.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved a secondary amendment to strike \$35,000 and to insert \$20,000 for an increase of \$10,000.

MOTION: Assemblymember Simpson moved the previous question (to stop debate).

VOTE: The motion to stop debate passed without objection.

VOTE: The secondary amendment passed with Assemblymembers Kvalheim and Ladere in opposition.

VOTE: The primary amendment as amended failed with Assemblymembers Allen, Colver, and Ladere in support.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colberg moved for immediate reconsideration of Amendment No. 19A.

VOTE: The motion to reconsider failed with Assemblymembers Allen and Ladere in support.

(The special meeting recessed at 8:43 p.m. and reconvened at 8:55 p.m.)

Amendment No. 19 B – Areawide Fund 337-100 (page B-12)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved to increase line 337-100 in the areawide fund by \$690,000 for school bond debt reimbursement revenue. This would increase debt service reimbursement from \$6,186,960 to \$6,876,960.

Assemblymember Colver stated that he would like to see the funds restored to debt service reimbursement.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the Alaska State Legislature’s decision to fund debt reimbursement in full;
- the potential veto from the Governor regarding the decision;
- the effect that a veto would have on the borough if these funds are restored in the budget;
- ~~and~~ funding that is currently available in the borough reserves should a veto be forthcoming.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymember Colberg in opposition.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved immediate reconsideration of Amendment No. 19B.

VOTE: The motion to reconsider failed unanimously.

Amendment No. 19C - General Fund 100-000-000 (page B-17)

MOTION: Assemblymember Kvalheim moved to amend the areawide budget by adding \$28,000 for the Mat-Su Youth Court (line item 449-210), Transfers Youth Programs and \$5,000 for the Boys and Girls Club.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the amount of funds in the Assembly reserve account;

- the inconsistency in funding some special interest groups and not others based on requests received from the various organizations; and
- the community need for funding with an investment in the future.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved the previous question (to stop debate).

VOTE: The motion to stop debate failed with Assemblymembers Colver, Kvalheim, Ladere, and Simpson in favor.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymembers Colberg and Simpson in opposition.

Amendment 19D – RSA 15, Caswell Lakes Area and item 428-600 (page H-24)

MOTION: Assemblymember Ladere moved to amend RSA 15, Caswell Lakes Area, mill rate from 3.74 to 3.80, an increase of .06 mills (p. H-24) and a corresponding increase to line item 428-600 of \$3,500 (p. H-7).

Assemblymember Ladere:

- stated that the Caswell Lakes area is a large gravel road community with a lot of mud; and
- informed that the amendment will allow for the purchase of five sacks of calcium chloride for Hidden Hills Road.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

Amendment 19E – Assembly Budget 100-100-101, fund 414-400 (page B-18)

MOTION: Assemblymember Bush moved to increase the Assembly budget 100-100-101, fund 414-400, travel tickets, by \$4,000, from \$8,000 to \$12,000.

Assemblymember Bush stated that the amendment was proposed to account for the increased cost of air travel.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed with Assemblymember Colver in opposition.

(The special meeting recessed at 9:33 p.m. and reconvened at 9:41 p.m.)

VETO: Mayor Anderson stated that he would be vetoing Amendment No. 18 (*page 9*), which authorized a budget analyst position because the position was not originally requested in the FY04 budget by the finance department. Furthermore, the objective of analyzing the Matanuska-Susitna Borough budget or the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District budget would better be accomplished by an independent professional contractor.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved to override the Mayor's veto of Amendment No. 18. *(Requires a two-thirds majority vote – 5 votes)*

Members of the Assembly voiced their opinions regarding the veto and spoke either in favor or in opposition to the budget analyst position.

VOTE: The motion to override failed with Assemblymembers Allen, Kvalheim, Ladere, and Simpson in support. *(Mayor's veto stands and the budget analyst position is removed.)*

Amendment No. 20 (page 5 of Ordinance Serial No. 03-003, page xvi of the budget book)

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved to amend section 8 of Ordinance Serial No. 03-003, Appropriation for Reservation of Fund Balance, to increase the reservation by \$35,301, from \$10,403,815 to \$10,439,116, which is the amount equal to a minimum of 25 percent of all budgeted operating expenditures of the fiscal year 2004 budget, excluding the budgeted operating expenditures of the school district.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved to set the areawide mill rate at 11.483 and the non-areawide mill rate at .428.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

VOTE: The main motion as amended, to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 03-003, passed without objection.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved for immediate reconsideration of the action to set the mill rates and adopt Ordinance Serial No. 03-003, as amended.

VOTE: The motion to reconsider failed unanimously.

VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Ms. Jay Nolfi:

- spoke regarding the budget;
- spoke regarding funding special interest groups;
- commented regarding the number of positions that were added in the budget;
- spoke to hiring an internal auditor who could be a watchdog on the budgets; and
- reminded the Assembly that they are working with taxpayers money.

Mr. George Troxel:

- thanked the Assembly for the full support of education; and

- stated that the school district is always looking for ways to improve their relationship with the borough.

VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Clayton:

- thanked the Assembly for their patience; and
- thanked Ms. Veech for supporting her figures.

Ms. Dillon:

- commended the Assembly for getting all their budget amendments to her in advance; and
- thanked her staff for their support.

Mr. Duffy thanked everyone for the good debate and the adoption of the budget.

Members of the Assembly commented regarding the success in passing the budget and thanked the administration and staff for all their work.

Assemblymember Simpson:

- referenced a 1993 memo proposing an ordinance for an internal auditor;
- noted that the ordinance was not passed, and stated that this may be something for future consideration; and
- stated that she preferred postponing the June 3, 2003, Regional Transportation Planning Organization meeting until after July 1, 2003, so that the new Anchorage administration could be involved.

Ms. Dillon stated that she would check into rescheduling the June 3, 2003, Regional Transportation Planning Organization meeting and would send out an e-mail confirmation to the Assembly in this regard.

Assemblymember Colberg queried the Mayor's line item veto authority.

Assemblymember Kvalheim asked the administration to research a bill by Representative Kohring regarding coal bed methane protection and to bring information forward to the Assembly in this regard.

Mayor Anderson thanked the Assembly and the administration for a smooth budget process.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting adjourned at 10:18 p.m.

TIMOTHY L. ANDERSON, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

SANDRA A. DILLON, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: June 17, 2003