

I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on June 19, 2007, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by Deputy Mayor Lynne Woods (Mayor Curtis Menard participated by teleconference).

II. ROLL CALL

Assembly members present and establishing a quorum were:

Ms. Lynne Woods, Assembly District No. 1 (*Deputy Mayor*)
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

Assembly members not present were:

Mr. Bill Allen, Assembly District No. 2

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Michelle M. McGehee, CMC, Borough Clerk
Mr. John Duffy, Borough Manager
Ms. Lonnie McKechnie, Deputy Borough Clerk
Mr. Keith Rountree, Public Works Director
Mr. Nicholas Spiropoulos, Borough Attorney
Ms. Tammy Clayton, Finance Director

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Deputy Mayor Woods 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 School Board Member Pat Purcell.

V. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

- A. AM No. 07-102: AUTHORIZING THE MANAGER TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UPPER SUSITNA VALLEY SENIOR CENTER AND ENTER AN AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE A TEMPORARY LOCATION FOR SU VALLEY JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL.

Mr. Duffy:

- advised that AM No. 07-102 is based on the School Board's and School District's recommendations;
- noted that the approval of the legislation will authorize the Borough to enter into negotiations with the Upper Susitna Senior Center; and
- stated that the Borough will not be able to appropriate funds until the insurance funds are identified.

Ms. Clayton:

- spoke regarding entering negotiations with the Upper Susitna Senior Center to provide a location for the students from Susitna Valley High School;
- stated that her understanding is that the School District has all of the portables that are needed; and
- spoke regarding the potential funding sources for the temporary relocation of Susitna Valley High School students.

Assemblymember Kluberton queried whether the phrase "cheapest acceptable" could be included in the negotiations.

Mr. Duffy advised that the advocate for the Borough would take this issue to the negotiations table.

Ms. Clayton:

- noted that the advocate does not believe it is reasonable to bus the students 50 miles;
- spoke to the potential funding sources;
- advised that a declaration of emergency has been forwarded to Governor Sarah Palin;
- advised that the insurance adjuster has done a site visit with Borough and School District officials;
- noted that the insurance adjuster will be looking to see if there is anything salvageable;
- commented that the Borough has not received anything in writing on the items that will be covered; and
- stated that the Borough is hoping to receive advanced funds from the insurance company for the contents of the building.

Assemblymember Church queried if "contents" would include items that personally belonged to the teachers.

Ms. Clayton advised that she would have to find out whether teachers belongings would be covered under the policy.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the portables needed for the temporary location; and
- School District funds that lapse back to the Borough.

MOTION: Assemblymember Kluberton moved to approve AM No. 07-102.

MOTION: Assemblymember Kluberton moved a primary amendment to AM No. 07-102, by inserting the following sentence in the bullet listing to read as follows: The disaster that was declared on June 16, 2007, is hereby continued.

Mr. Spiropoulos advised that the amended language will allow the disaster declaration to continue per AS 23.23.140.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

VOTE: The main motion passed as amended without objection.

VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

The following person spoke regarding the need for the School District and the Borough to continue to work together on the Susitna Valley School issues: Ms. Sandra White.

The following person thanked the School District and the Borough for the work they have done expeditiously on the Susitna Valley High School issues: Mr. Steve Hicks.

VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Assemblymember Kluberton:

- requested that administration start a Susitna Valley High School Reconstruction Committee; and
- spoke regarding the members he would like to see on the committee.

Deputy Mayor Woods:

- thanked the audience for coming to the meeting; and
- thanked the School District and School Board for their work.

Mayor Menard spoke in favor of a Susitna Valley High School Reconstruction Committee.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

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LYNNE WOODS, Deputy Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

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MICHELLE M. MCGEHEE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes approved: 08/07/07