

I. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on October 20, 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. The purpose of the special meeting was to certify the October 7, 2003, election results and swear in the newly elected assembly members.

II. ROLL CALL

Assembly members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mr. J. Bruce Bush, Assembly District No. 1 (*arrived at 6:07 p.m.*)
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
Mr. John Aschenbrenner, Assistant Borough Attorney
Ms. Michelle M. McGehee, Deputy Borough Clerk
Mr. Don Shiesl, Public Works Director
Ms. Tammy Clayton, Finance Director
Ms. Susan Dickinson, Planning Director
Mr. Ron Swanson, Community Development Director
Mr. Jack Krill, Emergency Services Director

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Timothy L. 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 Mayor Jim Cooper and Mary Haley, members of the audience.

V. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

A. Certification of October 7, 2003, Regular Borough Election

Ms. Dillon:

- noted that a request for a recount of the mayoral race had been filed by Mr. Fannon;
- stated that the election would be certified with the exception of the mayoral race;
- informed that the recount would be scheduled for October 23 and 24, and may possibly carry over into the weekend;
- advised that a special meeting for certification of the mayoral race would be scheduled for Monday, October 27, 2003, at 6 p.m.;
- recognized the staff of the Clerk's Office for their outstanding efforts during the election;
- recognized the members of the Canvass Board for their hard work and dedication; and
- asked Mr. Geraldine Keeling, Canvass Board Chairperson, to provide the Canvass Board's Report of the election to the Mayor and Assembly.

Ms. Keeling:

- provided an overview of the canvassing process;
- spoke to the compilation of the questioned and absentee ballot databases;
- noted some duplicate entries in the absentee database due to mail ballots that were sent out, but not returned;
- informed regarding one double-vote that was identified through the canvassing process; and
- thanked everyone for their professionalism and dedication to the election process.

Ms. Dillon read the election results from the Canvass Board Report into the record. (*See attached Election Certification*)

MOTION: Assemblymember Simpson moved to accept the report of the Canvass Board and to certify the election results as read into the record by the clerk, with the exception of the Mayoral Race.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

B. Oaths of Office for Newly Elected Officials

Ms. Dillon administered the Oath of Office to Assemblymembers Allen, Colberg, Colver, and Vehrs.

Mayor Anderson:

- recognized Assemblymember Ladere for her efforts on the Borough Assembly;
- presented her with a signed Borough Seal in appreciation of her dedication to the Borough; and
- remarked that she would be missed.

VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three minutes per person.)

Palmer Mayor Jim Cooper:

- thanked Assemblymember Ladere for her support of Palmer City;
- congratulated all re-elected members of the Assembly and newly elected Assemblymember Vehrs; and
- thanked the Canvass Board and the Review Board for their hard work and dedication.

Mr. Ken Slauson thanked Assemblymember Ladere for her efforts while on the Assembly and for her support of emergency services.

VII. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

Members of the Assembly and staff thanked Assemblymember Ladere for her service to the Borough and its residents and congratulated all re-elected and newly elected assembly members.

Assemblymember Vehrs:

- thanked everyone for their support; and
- stated that she is looking forward to working with the Assembly, staff, and the residents of the Borough.

Assemblymember Colberg:

- spoke regarding the impact that the life of President Regan made on him (his principles and his views);
- equated some of President Regan's attributes to Assemblymembers Simpson and Ladere, and to his wife;
- commented regarding idealism and systematic changes that have been made throughout the Borough;
- spoke to his accomplishments while on the Assembly; and
- stated that he further hopes to help provide an independent and positive voice for the people.

Assemblymember Allen:

- thanked his wife for her support;
- commented that it has been an honor working with Assemblymember Ladere;
- spoke to her stellar commitment to the Borough and to her constituents; and
- congratulated all re-elected members and newly elected Assemblymember Vehrs.

Assemblymember Colver:

- thanked his wife and family for their support;
- congratulated all re-elected and newly elected members;
- stated that it has been a pleasure working with Assemblymember Ladere; and
- commented that he is pleased that the question of Proposition No. 9 (Port MacKenzie) went to the voters.

Assemblymember Ladere:

- thanked the Mayor, the Assembly, and the staff for their support;
- commented that the Borough staff are champions;
- stated that it has been a pleasure working with everyone; and
- congratulated Assemblymember Vehrs as her successor.

Mayor Anderson:

- thanked Ms. Keeling and members of the Canvass Board for their dedication and flawless work;
- welcomed all re-elected and newly elected members of the Assembly;
- thanked Assemblymember Ladere for her work and dedication to the Borough and its residents;
- remarked that Assemblymember Ladere and her comments would be missed; and
- invited everyone to celebrate the certification with cake and punch in the foyer.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The special meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

TIMOTHY L. ANDERSON, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

SANDRA A. DILLON, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: November 4, 2003