

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on October 20, 2009, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Mayor Talis Colberg

**II. ROLL CALL**

Assembly members present and establishing a quorum were:

Ms. Lynne Woods, Assembly District No. 1 (*Deputy Mayor*)  
Mr. Ronald Arvin, Assembly District No. 3  
Mr. Mark Ewing, Assembly District No. 4  
Ms. Cindy Bettine, Assembly District No. 5  
Mr. Jim Colver, Assembly District No. 6  
Mr. Vern Halter, Assembly District No. 7

Assemblymembers absent and excused were:

Mr. Pete Houston, Assembly District No. 2

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Lonnie R. McKechnie, Borough Clerk  
Mr. John Duffy, Borough Manager  
Ms. Elizabeth Gray, Assistant Borough Manager  
Mr. John Aschenbrenner, Deputy Borough Attorney  
Ms. Brenda J. Henry, Executive Assistant to the Borough Clerk  
Ms. Tammy Clayton, Finance Director  
Ms. Linda Brenner, Community Development Director  
Ms. Patty Sullivan, Public Affairs Director  
Mr. Dave Hanson, Economic Development Director  
Ms. Eileen Probasco, Acting Planning and Land Use Director  
Ms. Shaune O'Neil, Public Works Director  
Mr. Bill Klebesadel, Project Management Engineering Division  
Ms. Joell Church, Records Management Officer

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Colberg 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. Jay Nolfi, a former Assembly Member.

## V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

- A. Joint Assembly/School Board Meeting: 09/08/09
- B. Special Assembly Meeting: 09/15/09
- C. Regular Assembly Meeting: 09/15/09

Mayor Colberg inquired if there were any corrections to joint Assembly/School Board meeting minutes of September 8, 2009, the special meeting minutes of September 15, 2009, or the regular meeting minutes of September 15, 2009.

GENERAL CONSENT: The minutes were approved as presented without objection.

## VI. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

### A. AGENCY REPORTS

- 1. Reports from cities

*(There were no reports provided.)*

- 2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

Mr. George Troxel, Superintendent:

- noted there is a growth of 183 students within the district this year for a total of 17,000 students enrolled within the district overall;
- stated that growth is slowing but there is still a need for additional schools;
- related that there are seven schools set to be built within the district over the next six years;
- spoke to the applications that the District has received to open charter schools;
- noted that this will bring the total number of charter schools within the District to six;
- spoke to the dire need for Iditarod Elementary to be replaced; and
- spoke to land acquisitions that need to happen to accommodate construction of the new schools needed in Knik-Goose Bay area.

Discussion ensued regarding student enrollment growth within the School District.

Assemblymember Colver queried what the School District's preference is regarding day school relocation, as noted in the report previously provided to the Assembly.

Mr. Troxel:

- stated that the current location serves the School District well; and
- noted that he put relocation of day schools within his report, as the School District has yet to determine if the current location is acceptable to the neighborhood as well.

3. Matanuska-Susitna Convention and Visitors Bureau – Ms. Bonnie Quill

Ms. Bonnie Quill, Executive Director:

- spoke to her attendance at the travel convention recently held in Fairbanks; :
- stated that Anchorage rental car revenues are down 21.5 percent and Anchorage bed tax is down 19 percent;
- noted that airport arrivals for Anchorage and Fairbanks are down 15 percent;
- related that cruise visitors to Alaska this past season were 1,030,000;
- further added that inside passage cruise visitors are projected to be down 20,000;
- stated that bed tax revenues for the Borough were down only nine percent in August;
- opined that a nine percent decrease is reason to celebrate due to bed tax revenue declines in other areas of Alaska;
- spoke to the marketing programs that occurred over the summer targeted at inside Alaska tourists;
- noted that the Matanuska-Susitna visitor's guide is in and that 100,000 guides have been printed;
- stated that the guide was resized and reformatted in order to save funds; and
- advised that the gateway destination plan is underway for the Alaska State Denali Park area.

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Joint Assembly/School Board Committee on School Issues

Mayor Colberg:

- advised that there is currently no member of the Assembly who is on the Joint Assembly/School Board Committee on school issues to provide a report; and
- queried if any of the members of the current Assembly were interested in serving on the committee.

Assemblymember Colver:

- stated that he would serve on the committee; and
- noted that the last meeting for the joint Assembly/School Board Committee on school issues was cancelled due to staff availability.

2. Assembly Public Relations

Assemblymember Ewing:

- spoke to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meetings he has been attending;
- stated that the committee is currently looking at the flu pandemic;
- noted that the LEPC is going into schools and providing presentations regarding emergency planning and it is being well received;
- advised there will be a coloring contest throughout the schools to create a logo for the LEPC;
- advised that a prize will be awarded to the creator of the winning logo;

- noted that the committee wants the logo to incorporate all emergency services within the Borough; and
- stated that the committee is really excited about the logo project.

Assemblymember Woods:

- spoke regarding attending the ceremony honoring former Senator Lyda Green for all the work she did on behalf of the port project; and
- related that it was a very nice ceremony.

Assemblymember Bettine:

- noted that she attended a meeting at Matanuska-Susitna College with Chancellor Fran Ulmer;
- stated that she learned about how the college intends to request funding for facility expansion;
- noted that student housing was discussed; and
- stated that Mr. Dave Hanson did an outstanding job conveying to the attendees how much the Borough supports the college expansion.

#### D. MANAGER COMMENTS

##### 1. State/Federal Legislation

Mr. Duffy:

- noted that the United States Department of Economic Development Administration, Department of Commerce approved the construction bid documents for the barge dock expansion;
- stated that this project can now move forward with advertising for bidding;
- advised that the Economic Conservation loan for the recycling center has been converted to a grant;
- noted that speed bumps have been installed at Abby Boulevard and a number of other locations; and
- advised that Administration was invited to do a presentation regarding the port facility to the firms who are interested in pursuing the natural gas pipeline.

Assemblymember Colver queried what the process is for neighborhoods that would like to have speed bumps installed.

Mr. Duffy:

- stated that Mr. Sworts is currently working with the Transportation Advisory Board on a policy;
- noted that once the policy is completed, it will dictate how communities may get on a list for speed bumps; and
- advised that the policy should be completed within the next couple of months.

Assemblymember Bettine:

- requested Mr. Duffy speak to the Matanuska-Susitna Community Transit (MASCOT) funding situation; and
- queried if the Borough community service grants have been used to fund transportation projects.

Mr. Duffy:

- noted that the Borough always tries to coordinate with different agencies in order to get transportation funds consolidated;
- advised that it had been attempted to combine the funds within the Borough, but with limited success;
- stated that sometimes program guidelines hamper the situation and make it difficult to pursue; and
- advised that Borough community service grants have not funded transportation projects.

E. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

*(There was no report provided.)*

F. CLERK COMMENTS

Ms. McKechnie:

- spoke regarding the upcoming meeting schedule; and
- stated that the Manager requested to schedule a meeting for November 2, 2009, at 11:30 a.m., with State Legislative Delegation at the Legislative Information Office; and
- queried if the Assembly would still like to move forward with this meeting.

*(The Assembly decided to move forward with the joint meeting for November 3, 2009 1:30 p.m. at the Legislative Information Office.)*

Ms. McKechnie:

- spoke to the Assembly work session planning meeting currently scheduled for November 7, 2009; and
- queried if the Assembly would like to use Ms. Karen Kirk, who has previously facilitated planning sessions for the Assembly.

Discussion ensued regarding using a facilitator for the work session planning meeting.

*(The Assembly decided to use Ms. Karen Kirk as the facilitator for the planning session meeting.)*

MOTION: Assemblymember Ewing moved to reschedule the October 27, 2009, at 4 p.m., meeting regarding the fire training complex to December 8, 2009, at 5 pm.

Assemblymember Ewing spoke against the October 27, 2009, meeting date and time.

Assemblymember Bettine:

- noted that the facility is within her district; and
- opined that it is important to have input from the fire service area in order to determine what they are expecting from this meeting.

Mr. Duffy:

- noted that perhaps the Assembly could hold a discussion meeting; and
- stated that the Assembly could always have additional public comment meetings regarding the fire training complex.

Discussion ensued regarding the fire training complex meeting.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

Ms. McKechnie:

- noted the Borough code book updates are in; and
- requested that the Assembly provide their code books to be updated.

#### F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

1. MSB Board/Committee Minutes:
  - a. Caswell Lakes FSA Board of Supervisors: 07/08/09
  - b. Enhanced 911 Advisory Board: 05/12/09
  - c. Greater Butte RSA Advisory Board: 05/07/09, 05/14/09
  - d. Local Emergency Planning Committee: 07/15/09
  - e. Local Road Service Area Advisory Board: 06/18/09
  - f. Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Board: 07/27/09, Resolution Serial No. 09-04 (SUB), Resolution Serial No. 09-05, Resolution Serial No. 09-06
  - g. Real Property Asset Management Board: 06/10/09, Resolution Serial No. 09-04
2. Community Council Correspondence:
  - a. Glacier View Community Council: 01/27/09
  - b. Lazy Mountain Community Council: 04/09/09, 08/13/09
  - c. Meadow Lakes Community Council: 05/13/09
  - d. Sutton Community Council: 05/13/09, 06/10/09

The citizen and other correspondence were presented and no comments were noted.

#### G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS

1. IM No. 09-224: MONTHLY REPORTING OF AMENDED CONTRACTS AND NEW AWARDS UNDER \$100,000, ALONG WITH SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENTS, FOR THE PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2009, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2009.

The informational memorandum was presented and no comments were noted.

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

### A. INTRODUCTION (For public hearing – 11/03/09, 7 p.m., Borough Assembly Chambers)

1. Ordinance Serial No. 09-069: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A WASILLA DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS DISTRICT, AND AMENDING MSB 27.10.065, MSB 27.15.020, AND 27.15.130 TO APPLY THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS ADOPTED IN THE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS DISTRICT TO PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLATS OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS DISTRICT.

a. IM No. 09-102

2. Ordinance Serial No. 09-112: AN ORDINANCE REPEALING MSB 17.41, CITY OF HOUSTON LAND USE REGULATION; AND ADOPTING MSB 17.42, CITY OF HOUSTON SPECIAL LAND USE DISTRICT.

a. Resolution Serial No.09-075: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH MANAGER TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF HOUSTON FOR DELEGATION OF PLANNING AND LAND USE REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

(1) IM No. 09-168

3. Ordinance Serial No. 09-137: AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING MSB 27.15.060, ELIMINATION OF COMMON LOT LINES ON A RECORDED PLAT; AMENDING MSB 27.15.150, FINAL PLAT; PLATS NOTES; AND AMENDING 27.20.030, ACCESS REQUIRED.

a. IM No. 09-190

4. Ordinance Serial No. 09-145: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MSB 15.24.030 ADOPTING THE SUTTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, 2009 UPDATE.

a. IM No. 09-208

5. Ordinance Serial No. 09-146: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING A \$38,500 COASTAL MANAGEMENT (306 PROGRAM, REQUIRED TASKS) GRANT TO FUND 480, PROJECT NO. 20158, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010 REQUIRED TASKS.

a. Resolution Serial No. 09-099: A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE ALASKA COASTAL MANAGEMENT (306 PROGRAM, REQUIRED TASKS) GRANT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010.

(1) IM No. 09-219

6. Ordinance Serial No. 09-147: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$249,300 IN AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT FUNDING FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY TO FUND 480, PROJECT NO. 47019, FOR THE DOROTHY SWANDA JONES

BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY UPGRADES AND REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY PROJECT.

- a. Resolution Serial No. 09-100: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING THE MANAGER TO ENTER INTO THE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FOR THE DOROTHY SWANDA JONES BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY UPGRADES AND REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY PROJECT.

(1) IM No. 09-223

- 7. Ordinance Serial No. 09-148: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$287,637 FROM THE UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS IN THE SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND, FUND 510, TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2010 CENTRAL LANDFILL DIVISION OPERATING BUDGET, FUND 510.

a. IM No. 09-232

- 8. Ordinance Serial No. 09-149: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$310,910 FROM THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION TO FUND 480, TO PROJECT NO. 47020 AND APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET TO DEVELOP AND CONDUCT A FIELD VERIFICATION PROJECT IN PREPARATION FOR THE KNIK ARM BRIDGE CROSSING TO BE SPENT OVER A THREE YEAR PERIOD.

- a. Resolution Serial No. 09-101: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET TO RESEARCH DEVELOP AND CONDUCT A FIELD VERIFICATION PROJECT IN PREPARATION FOR THE KNIK ARM BRIDGE CROSSING.

(1) IM No. 09-237

- 9. Ordinance Serial No. 09-150: AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$100,740 FROM INTEREST EARNINGS ON THE 2006 SERIES "B" GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND PROCEEDS TO FUND 400, PROJECT NO. 40162, FOR THE SOUTH PALMER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT.

- a. Resolution Serial No. 09-102: A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE BUDGETS FOR PROJECT NOS. 40138, 40139, 40140, AND 40162 TO SUPPLEMENT THE CONSTRUCTION OF SOUTH PALMER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

(1) IM No. 09-240

B. INTRODUCTION (For public hearing – 12/01/09, 7 p.m., Borough Assembly Chambers)

- 1. Ordinance Serial No. 09-140: AN ORDINANCE CREATING AVIATOR SUBDIVISION ROAD PAVING LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 437, APPROVING THE IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR THE DISTRICT, AUTHORIZING THE MANAGER TO PROCEED WITH THE IMPROVEMENT, AND ASSESSING EQUALLY AMONG THE PROPERTIES WITHIN THE DISTRICT THE COSTS OF THE IMPROVEMENT.

a. IM No. 09-216

2. Ordinance Serial No. 09-144: AN ORDINANCE CREATING ASHWOOD LOOP AREA ROAD PAVING LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 438, APPROVING THE IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR THE DISTRICT, AUTHORIZING THE MANAGER TO PROCEED WITH THE IMPROVEMENT, AND ASSESSING EQUALLY AMONG THE PROPERTIES WITHIN THE DISTRICT THE COSTS OF THE IMPROVEMENT.
  - a. IM No. 09-220

Ms. McKechnie read the above legislation into the record.

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk and set the public hearings for November 3, 2009, and December 1, 2009, respectively.

MOTION: Assemblymember Ewing moved to divide the question to take Ordinance Serial No. 09-069 separately.

VOTE: The motion to divide the question passed without objection.

MOTION: First Segment. Assemblymember Woods moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk and set the public hearings for November 3, 2009, and December 1, 2009, respectively.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

MOTION: Second segment. Assemblymember Ewing moved to refer Ordinance Serial No. 09-069 back to the Planning Commission without a time limit to be returned to the Assembly.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

## C. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

### 1. VACANCY REPORT

Mayor Colberg requested the following confirmations:

Emergency Medical Services Board

Christian Hartley

Enhanced 911 Services

Archie Himes, Resignation

Transportation Advisory Board

Robert Hamblen

Mayor Colberg made the following recommendations:

Aviation Advisory Board

Barry Stanley  
Eric Feige  
Mike Frahm  
Archie Giddings  
Jane Dale  
Nicholas Cassara  
Norman Wakeman  
Paula Nance

Board of Adjustment and Appeals

Claudia Roberts

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to approve the Mayor's recommendations and resignations up for confirmation this evening.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

*(This regular meeting recessed at 6:51 p.m. and reconvened at 7:00 p.m.)*

**VII. SPECIAL ORDERS (to begin at 7 p.m.)**

A. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (Three minutes per person.)

*(There was no one signed up to testify.)*

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three minutes per person.)

1. Ordinance Serial No. 09-120: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MSB 17.23, POINT MACKENZIE PORT SPECIAL USE DISTRICT; AND MSB 17.28, INTERIM MATERIALS DISTRICT, TO RECTIFY DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THE PORT DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND THE PORT SPECIAL LAND USE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES, AND TO CLARIFY THE BOUNDARIES OF THE INTERIM MATERIALS DISTRICTS.

a. IM No. 09-189

Assemblymember Arvin:

- advised that his employer has a lease for property that is within the district;
- requested clarification on whether or not he has a conflict; and
- stated that he does not believe that he has a conflict, but wants to proceed in an open and upfront manner.

Mr. Aschenbrenner:

- stated that he discussed the issue with Mr. Spiropoulos; and
- advised that Mr. Spiropoulos did not perceive a conflict for Assemblymember Arvin.

RULING: Mayor Colberg ruled that Assemblymember Arvin did not have a conflict of interest regarding Ordinance Serial No. 09-120.

Ms. Probasco provided a staff report.

Assemblymember Bettine queried that when the master plan is complete, will the port district boundaries need to be revisited.

Mr. Duffy:

- stated that the boundaries would not need to be revisited; and
- advised that the port master plan deals with what goes on within the port district boundaries.

Mayor Colberg opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Bettine moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 09-120.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

2. Ordinance Serial No. 09-141: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$47,700 FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE TALKEETNA WATER AND SEWER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS, FUND 415, PROJECT NO. 25037.
  - a. Resolution Serial No. 09-095: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$47,700 FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE TALKEETNA WATER AND SEWER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS, FUND 415, PROJECT NO. 25037.
  - b. Resolution Serial No. 09-096: A RESOLUTION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT A LOAN APPLICATION TO THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, DIVISION OF WATER FOR \$500,000 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TALKEETNA PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, PROJECT NO. 25037.
    - (1) IM No. 09-198
    - (2) IM No. 09-225

Ms. O'Neil provided a staff report.

Mayor Colberg opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Halter moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No 09-141 and Resolution Serial Nos. 09-095 and 09-096.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

3. Ordinance Serial No. 09-142: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$23,375, FROM THE WILLOW FIRE SERVICE AREA FUND BALANCE, FUND 258, TO THE WILLOW FIRE SERVICE AREA FISCAL YEAR 2010 OPERATING BUDGET, FUND 258, TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR A REPLACEMENT STANDBY GENERATOR AT STATION 12-1.

a. IM No. 09-203

Mr. Duffy provided a staff report.

Mayor Colberg opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Halter moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 09-142.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

4. Ordinance Serial No. 09-143: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MSB 4.58, HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD; REPEALING MSB 4.56 SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD; AND REPEALING MSB 4.60, HUMAN SERVICES CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD.

a. IM No. 09-209

Ms. Probasco provided a staff report.

Assemblymember Bettine queried whether the Senior Citizen Advisory Board agreed with being incorporated into the Health and Social Services Board.

Ms. Probasco noted that the Senior Citizen Advisory Board has not had a quorum to meet for over a year.

Mayor Colberg opened the public hearing.

There being no one present who wished to testify, the public hearing closed and discussion moved to the Assembly.

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 09-143.

MOTION: Assemblymember Bettine moved to postpone Ordinance Serial No. 09-143 to a time certain of November 3, 2009.

MOTION: Assemblymember Colver moved a primary amendment to the postponement by also continuing the public hearing on November 3, 2009.

VOTE: The primary amendment passed without objection.

VOTE: The motion to postpone to a time certain of November 3, 2009, with a continued public hearing passed without objection.

C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three minutes per person.)

The following person spoke regarding concerns with public hearings for the gravel ordinance at the Planning Commission: Mr. John F. Leiner.

The following person spoke regarding denial of a variance request for an emergency communications tower: Mr. Stephen Stoll.

The following person spoke regarding the city of Houston Land Use ordinance and concerns with delays for tax refunds from the Borough: Mr. Ralph Buzard, city of Houston Planning Commission.

The following person spoke regarding additional funding for Borough libraries and software installation for the library wireless network: Ms. Jeanne Troshynski, member of the Borough Library Board.

The following person spoke regarding the Houston Planning ordinance: Mr. Rick Dilley, chairman of the city of Houston Planning Commission.

The following persons spoke regarding their appreciation for working with the Assembly: Ms. Jill Showman, President of the Matanuska-Susitna Employees Association; and Mr. Rick Burns, President of the Classified Employees Association.

D. CONSENT AGENDA (*AM No. 09-085 was pulled from the consent agenda and addressed separately. See page 14*)

1. RESOLUTIONS

a. Resolution Serial No. 09-097: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH MANAGER TO SIGN THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 (ARRA) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARD FORMS FOR GRANTS RECEIVED BY THE BOROUGH UNDER THIS PROGRAM.

(1) IM No. 09-235

b. Resolution Serial No. 09-098: A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES DEVELOP A MULTI-YEAR SURFACE TRANSPORTATION GENERAL FUND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

(1) IM No. 09-239

2. ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUMS

b. AM No. 09-086: APPROVAL OF A CHANGE ORDER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000 TO HATTENBURG DILLEY AND LINNELL FOR THE TALKEETNA PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, PROJECT NO. 25037.

c. AM No. 09-088: AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE AMBULANCE COTS AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT FROM STRYKER EMS EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$114,013.70.

Ms. McKechnie read the above legislation into the record.

Mayor Colberg inquired if there was any objection to the consent agenda.

GENERAL CONSENT: The consent agenda was approved without objection.

a. AM No. 09-085: ACCEPTANCE OF LATE FILED AND RETROACTIVE SENIOR CITIZEN AND DISABLED VETERAN EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS.

Assemblymember Bettine queried if it was State law that the Borough has to go back a certain number of years for exemptions.

Mr. Duffy advised that Borough code mirrors State regulation.

Ms. Clayton stated that it is her understanding that Borough code follows the statute of limitations which goes back six years for this type of exemption.

Mr. Aschenbrenner noted that the State allows the option to the Borough to allow for retroactive exemptions.

Assemblymember Bettine queried what the Borough does to verify that the senior receiving the exemption is the resident of the property.

Ms. Clayton:

- stated that it must be the primary residence of the senior;
- noted that the Borough checks permanent fund records; and
- noted that the senior must sign an affidavit that it is their primary residence.

Assemblymember Bettine queried how often the affidavit is filed.

Ms. Clayton advised that it is only filed the first time the exemption is requested.

Assemblymember Arvin:

- noted that it appears as though a rebate of \$80,000 will occur due to the exemptions in the legislation; and
- queried if this is accounted for during the budget process.

Ms. Clayton:

- advised that exemptions are accounted for during the budget; and
- further added that during the budget cycle, Administration always accounts for a small amount of taxes that will not be collected.

Mr. Duffy advised that the exemption process is a State mandated program.

MOTION: Assemblymember Bettine moved to approve AM No. 09-085.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

## VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*(There was no unfinished business.)*

### D. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

### E. REFERRALS (For referral to the Planning Commission for 90 days or other date specified by the Assembly)

1. Ordinance Serial No. 09-151: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MSB 11.20; STREET NAMES AND ADDRESS NUMBERS, FOR CLARIFICATION PURPOSES AND TO ALLOW FOR THE SITUS ADDRESSING OF PROPERTIES ALONG UNDOCUMENTED ACCESS.
  - a. IM No. 09-233

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved to refer Ordinance Serial No. 09-151 to the Planning Commission for 90 days.

MOTION: Assemblymember Woods moved a primary amendment to strike "90 days" and insert "60 days" for referral to the Planning Commission.

Assemblymember Ewing opined that 60 days is not adequate time.

Assemblymember Colver:

- noted that Assemblymember Halter was in objection to shortening the referral time; and
- stated that this was a concern as he had previously served on the Planning Commission.

Assemblymember Bettine:

- spoke to concerns with taking a longer time to get the legislation back to the Assembly, as it affects her constituents safety; and
- noted her support of the amendment.

Assemblymember Halter:

- spoke to the merits of the legislation;
- noted it is difficult for the Planning Commission to address the legislation and get it back to the Assembly within 90 days;
- stated that the Planning Commission may not be able to meet the time limit; and
- opined that 60 days is unworkable.

Discussion ensued regarding time limits for referrals to the Planning Commission.

VOTE: The primary amendment failed with Assemblymembers Arvin, Woods, and Bettine in favor.

VOTE: The main motion passed without objection.

#### **X. RECONSIDERATION**

*(There were no reconsiderations presented.)*

#### **XI. VETO**

*(There were no vetoes presented.)*

#### **XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*(There was no executive session held.)*

#### **XIII. MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY COMMENTS**

Ms. McKechnie:

- advised the Assembly that their new computers have arrived; and
- stated that if there is any information the Assembly members would like moved from their old computers to their new computers to please let her know.

Mr. Duffy advised that Mr. Buzard, who spoke regarding tax refund concerns, has spoken with Ms. Clayton and that the issue will be quickly resolved.

Assemblymember Colver:

- stated that it was a good meeting;
- opined that the SPOT software at the library needs to be installed as soon as possible; and
- noted he would like to get up-to-date on capital improvement projects; and

- stated that he received a phone call from Mr. Jim Nordlund, who is the State Director in Palmer for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA);
- noted that Mr. Nordlund advised that Senator Begich might be in town this coming Saturday with Mr. Dallas Tonsager, Under Secretary of Agriculture, to discuss the agriculture processing plant; and
- queried if Mr. Duffy knew if a location for this meeting had been determined.

Mr. Duffy:

- advised that a location has not been determined yet, but that the time has been set for 10:30 a.m.; and
- stated that Administration is prepared to move forward with a presentation regarding the agriculture processing plant.

Assemblymember Colver queried if this means the processing plant is ready to move forward.

Mr. Duffy stated that it is not.

Assemblymember Bettine advised that she is going to Fairbanks tomorrow with Mr. Duffy and Mr. Hanson to promote the rail spur and port projects within her district.

Assemblymember Woods:

- welcomed the new Assembly Members and congratulated Mayor Colberg for winning the election;
- encouraged the Assembly to attend the Alaska Municipal League (AML) Conference in November;
- opined that it is a good opportunity to meet with other officials around the State;
- commented that at the Summer AML Meeting, support was noted for libraries; and
- stated that when it comes to discussing priorities she will be asking for support for a community that needs a new library.

Assemblymember Arvin:

- stated that he is excited to be on the Assembly;
- noted that he is looking forward to working with the Assembly to forward the best interests of the people; and
- advised that he will be ultra sensitive regarding potential conflicts due to who he works for, in order to be up front and ethical.

Assemblymember Ewing:

- opined that cities within the Borough should be in control of their own destinies;
- noted that the more cities that are created the less it costs the Borough for the maintenance of roads and other issues;
- stated that he would like to know the amount of bandwidth at the Borough libraries;
- welcomed the new Assembly Members; and
- stated that he is looking forward to lively debate with the new Assembly.

Assemblymember Halter:

- stated that he is happy to be on the Assembly;
- opined that 60 days for referrals to the Planning Commission is too short of a time;
- noted that he is happy that the referral from this evening will be referred for 90 days; and
- stated that he is looking forward to working with and representing his constituents.

#### **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

The regular meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m. .

  
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TALIS J. COLBERG, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes approved: 11/03/09