

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was held on December 16, 2003, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Deputy Mayor Jim Colver.

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 (*via teleconference*)
- 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. Betty Vehrs, Assembly District No. 7

Staff in attendance were:

- Ms. Sandra A. Dillon, CMC, Borough Clerk
- Mr. John Duffy, Borough Manager
- Ms. Teresa S. Williams, Borough Attorney
- Ms. Janice Case, Borough Clerk's Secretary
- Ms. Kelli Veech, Acting Finance Director
- Mr. Don Shiesl, Public Works Director
- Mr. Dennis Brodigan, Acting Emergency Services Director
- Mr. Ron Swanson, Community Development Director

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Deputy Mayor Colver inquired if there were any changes to the agenda.

Mr. Duffy:

- noted that Lockheed Martin would not be present to give an agency report; and
- asked that the Assembly postpone Resolution Serial Nos. 03-124 and 03-125, regarding state and federal legislative priorities.

Ms. Dillon:

- informed that Steve Heinrich has resolved his issue and would not be speaking under persons to be heard this evening; and
- stated that Ordinance Serial Nos. 03-160 and 03-163 are recommended for defeat.

GENERAL CONSENT: The agenda was approved as amended without objection.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Jean Krause, a member of the audience.

V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

Deputy Mayor Colver referenced the minutes of the November 18, 2003, regular Assembly meeting and asked if there were any corrections thereto.

GENERAL CONSENT: The minutes of the November 18, 2003, regular Assembly meeting were approved as presented without objection.

Deputy Mayor Colver referenced the minutes of the December 2, 2003, regular Assembly meeting and asked if there were any corrections thereto.

GENERAL CONSENT: The minutes of the December 2, 2003, regular Assembly meeting were approved as presented without objection.

VI. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

A. AGENCY REPORTS

1. Reports from cities

(There were no reports presented.)

2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District

School Board President Chmielewski:

- reported that there was a high level of participation throughout the schools in a mathematics competition;
- stated that Teeland Middle School did very well in the competition;
- discussed the schools' various partnerships with different charities, such as the Palmer Food Bank and United Way;
- invited the Assembly to attend the next School Board meeting on January 7, 2004, at the Palmer High School library;
- commented that the School Board has been considering adding a day onto the present schedule of school days to make up for the day the schools were closed due to weather;
- discussed the spectrum article he wrote for the Frontiersman;
- noted that the School Board will be meeting with the Matanuska-Susitna Legislative Delegation on Thursday; and
- stated that they will discuss two proposed resolutions with the Legislative Delegation.

Assemblymember Vehrs inquired if any of the smaller schools are targeted for cuts or closures.

School Board President Chmielewski replied that none of the schools have been targeted for cuts or closures at this time.

Deputy Mayor Colver inquired if any of the school board's proposed legislation addresses inflation proofing.

School Board President Chmielewski:

- replied that the legislation does not deal with inflation proofing; and
- noted that the School Board intends to discuss inflation proofing with the Legislators.

3. Lockheed Martin Re: Update on Dual Use Vessel

(Representatives from Lockheed Martin were not present to give a report. *See p. 1 of 15*)

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Joint Assembly/School Board Committee on School Issues

Deputy Mayor Colver stated that there have been no meetings held since the last report.

2. Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Deputy Mayor Colver stated that there have been no meetings held since the last report.

E. CLERK COMMENTS

Ms. Dillon:

- reviewed the upcoming Assembly meeting schedule;
- referred to the thank you letter to Nome City Mayor Michels regarding the Alaska Municipal League (AML) conference;
- discussed Alaska Local Government Week, a new AML event;
- informed the Assembly that Gail Levesque, wife of former Assemblymember Norm Levesque, recently passed away; and
- inquired when the Assembly would like to schedule a retreat to discuss their legislative priorities.

Assemblymember Simpson commented on the value of discussing the goals of the Assembly.

Assemblymember Colver:

- opined that the Assembly has not accomplished anything as a result of these retreats;
- voiced concern that the Assembly is trying to take on too much at one time; and
- recommended choosing some of the Assembly's top goals with room for one additional unknown item.

Assemblymember Allen discussed the importance of developing a strategy on where the Assembly is going in terms of a comprehensive and strategic plan.

Discussion ensued regarding an Assembly retreat.

Deputy Mayor Colver inquired if there was any objection to scheduling a retreat for Thursday, January 8, 2004.

No objection was noted.

Assemblymember Allen requested that the budget process be put on the agenda for the retreat.

C. MANAGER COMMENTS

Mr. Duffy:

- reported that the dock release and guarantee agreement have been signed by all parties;
- noted that a letter of credit has been received for NPI, LLC;
- commented that he had a short meeting today with JL Properties regarding Hatcher Pass and expects a preliminary concept plan in mid-March;
- stated that the financial forecast would be available in January; and
- referred to a letter from the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife complimenting the Finance Department.

D. ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Ms. Williams:

- referred to the letter she wrote to the auditors concerning fund balance that Jack Sherman mentioned at the joint meeting of the Assembly/School Board;
- stated that the insurers of the Borough architects would be handling the vast amount of the costs for the Houston High School litigation; and
- stated that she has hired Amber Henry to fill the Legal Secretary II position.

Deputy Mayor Colver inquired if the Houston High School litigation will be on a reimbursement basis.

Ms. Williams:

- replied that it is on a reimbursement basis; and
- noted that they have hired a contract attorney to assist with the case.

F. CITIZEN AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

1. MSB Board/Committee Minutes:

- a. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School Board: 11/11/03
- b. Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Board: 09/22/03, 10/27/03, 11/24/03
- c. Senior Citizens Advisory Board: 10/20/03

2. Community Council Correspondence:
 - a. Fishhook Community Council Meeting: 11/12/03
 - b. Lazy Mountain Community Council: 10/09/03

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

G. INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUMS

(The regular meeting recessed at 6:55 p.m. and reconvened at 7:10 p.m.)

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

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

1. Steven Heinrich Re: Caswell Lakes Road Service Area No. 15 Road Maintenance Contract

(Mr. Heinrich was not present. *See p. 1 of 15*)

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS (Three minutes per person.)

1. Ordinance Serial No. 03-160: AN ORDINANCE CREATING WAGON ROAD AND RAWHIDE LANE ROAD PAVING LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 389, 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. (*Postponed from 12/02/03*)
 - a. IM No. 03-245

Ms. Veech recommended denial of Ordinance Serial No. 03-160, as it did not meet the requirements of MSB 3.28.062.

Deputy Mayor Colver inquired how the ballots are mailed.

Ms. Veech replied that they are mailed by certified mail.

Deputy Mayor Colver discussed possible solutions to making the process more user-friendly.

Deputy Mayor Colver reopened the public hearing.

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

VOTE: The main motion to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 03-160 failed unanimously.

2. Ordinance Serial No. 03-163: AN ORDINANCE CREATING MCADOO WAY ROAD PAVING LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 386, 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. 03-252

Ms. Veech recommended denial of Ordinance Serial No. 03-163, as it did not meet the requirements of MSB 3.28.062.

Deputy Mayor Colver opened the public hearing.

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

MOTION: Assemblymember Kvalheim moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 03-163.

VOTE: The motion failed unanimously.

3. Ordinance Serial No. 03-178: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A REAPPROPRIATION OF \$9,172 FROM PROJECT NO. 45013, ANIMAL CARE AND REGULATION VEHICLE, FUND 480, TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2004 ANIMAL CARE AND REGULATION OPERATING BUDGET, FUND 200, FOR STAFF TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASES.
 - a. IM No. 03-273

Deputy Mayor Colver opened the public hearing.

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

MOTION: Assemblymember Vehrs moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 03-178.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

4. Ordinance Serial No. 03-179: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$10,000 FROM THE ALASKA STATE DIVISION OF EMERGENCY SERVICES PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, TO FUND 480, PROJECT NO. 20341, TO ASSIST IN COMPLETING AN ALL-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.
 - a. Resolution Serial No. 03-118: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE ALASKA STATE DIVISION OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (ADES) PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION GRANT, FUND 480, PROJECT NO. 20341.
 - (1) IM No. 03-276

Deputy Mayor Colver opened the public hearing.

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

MOTION: Assemblymember Kvalheim moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 03-179 and Resolution Serial No. 03-118.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

5. Ordinance Serial No. 03-180: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$399,840 FROM THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) TO FUND 475, PROJECT NO. 20343 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING BUSES AND TO FUND PREVENTATIVE BUS MAINTENANCE FOR MAT-SU COMMUNITY TRANSIT (MASCOT).
 - a. Resolution Serial No. 03-119: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING THE MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH AND MAT-SU COMMUNITY TRANSIT, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING BUSES AND TO FUND PREVENTATIVE BUS MAINTENANCE.
 - (1) IM No. 03-277

Mr. Duffy:

- reported that the FTA has awarded MASCOT a grant for the purchase of several buses;
- stated that the funds must be accepted and appropriated by a local government;
- informed that the FTA and MASCOT have asked that the Borough accept and appropriate these funds; and
- noted that the funds will be matched by MASCOT.

Assemblymember Colberg inquired if there is any cost to the Borough.

Mr. Duffy stated that there is the indirect cost of filing the application, which is filed electronically.

Assemblymember Allen inquired how many buses the grant would purchase.

Ms. Karen Walton, Executive Director for MASCOT, replied that they will be able to purchase between four and five buses.

Deputy Mayor Colver opened the public hearing.

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

MOTION: Assemblymember Vehrs moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 03-180 and Resolution Serial No. 03-119.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

6. Ordinance Serial No. 03-181: AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING MSB 17.52.250(A)(14), TO CREATE A RESIDENTIAL LAND USE DISTRICT IN DOWNWIND LANDING SUBDIVISION AND NINE ADJACENT TAX PARCELS. (OFF MAUD, WITHERSPOON, AND INGOLF STREETS IN THE BUTTE AREA.)
 - a. IM No. 03-278

Ms. Dickinson:

- reported that the residents of this area requested this legislation;
- stated that one person in the area is opposed to the legislation;
- noted that more than fifty percent of residents signed the petition; and
- informed that the action was approved by Planning Commission.

Deputy Mayor Colver opened the public hearing.

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

MOTION: Assemblymember Bush moved to adopt Ordinance Serial No. 03-181.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three minutes per person.)

The following person spoke in support of the state of Alaska buying back the coal bed methane leases and asked that the Assembly take a position on the buy back and coal bed methane before the Legislature convenes in January: Ms. Michelle Church.

The following person spoke regarding ex parte materials distributed to the Platting Board on October 16, 2003, and asked the Assembly to postpone nominations of Alan Larson and William Bruu until the Assembly reviews the recording of the September 18 and October 16, 2003, Platting Board meetings: Ms. Jean Krause.

The following person thanked the Assembly for their support of Valley Community Recycling Center and reviewed the accomplishments of the recycling center: Ms. Molly Boyer, Director of Valley Community for Recycling Solutions.

The following persons addressed concern regarding snowmachining in the Caswell Lakes area: Ms. Anne Skinner and Mr. James Skinner.

The following person spoke in opposition of the state of Alaska buying back the coal bed methane leases: Ms. Jay Nolfi.

(The regular meeting recessed at 8 p.m. and reconvened at 8:10 p.m.)

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(There was no unfinished business.)

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. INTRODUCTION (For public hearing - 01/06/04, 7 p.m., Borough Assembly Chambers)
1. Resolution Serial No. 04-001: A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH/MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE INTERGOVERNMENTAL LIAISON COMMITTEE.
 - a. IM No. 04-002
 2. Ordinance Serial No. 04-001: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING MSB 24.40.050(A), ANIMAL CARE AND REGULATION FINES FOR INFRACTIONS.
 - a. IM No. 04-003
 3. Ordinance Serial No. 04-002: AN ORDINANCE REAPPROPRIATING \$20,956 FROM THE FY04 PLANNING DEPARTMENT'S OPERATING BUDGET (100-130-133-411-200) TO FUND 480, PROJECT NO. 45124, TO CONDUCT PHASE II OF THE ASSESSMENT AND AUDIT OF THE BOROUGHWIDE RECORDS MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT.
 - a. Resolution Serial No. 04-002: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REVISED SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE ASSESSMENT AND AUDIT OF THE BOROUGHWIDE RECORDS MANAGEMENT PRACTICES.
 - (1) IM No. 04-004
 4. Ordinance Serial No. 04-003: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$85,000 FROM THE ALASKA STATE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO FUND 430, FOR THE CHICKALOON TRAIL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, PROJECT NO. 35267.
 - a. Resolution Serial No. 04-003: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE CHICKALOON TRAIL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, PROJECT NO. 35267.
 - (1) IM No. 04-005
 5. Ordinance Serial No. 04-005: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND APPROPRIATING \$400 TO FUND 440, PROJECT NO. 45023, FROM THE COLONY MIDDLE SCHOOL SKI TEAM FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT THE CREVASSE MORAINÉ TRAIL SYSTEM.
 - a. Resolution Serial No. 04-004: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT THE CREVASSE MORAINÉ TRAIL SYSTEM.
 - (1) IM No. 04-006

Ms. Dillon read the above legislation into the record.

MOTION: Assemblymember Simpson moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk and set the public hearings for January 6, 2004.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

(Resolution Serial Nos. 03-124 and 03-125 were pulled from the consent agenda and addressed separately. *See pp. 11 of 15*)

1. RESOLUTIONS

c. Resolution Serial No. 03-127: A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING DATES CERTAIN FOR PAYMENT, DELINQUENCY, PROTEST, AND APPEAL OF 2004 REGULAR TAX ROLLS AND BUSINESS INVENTORY FILING, AND FOR THE COMMENCEMENT OF HEARINGS BEFORE THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.

(1) IM No. 03-289

d. Resolution Serial No. 03-128: A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE CENTRAL LANDFILL MONITOR WELLS, CELL EXCAVATION, AND CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION CELL DEVELOPMENT, PROJECT NO. 25029.

(1) IM No. 03-291

2. ACTION MEMORANDUMS

a. AM No. 03-237: AWARD OF BID 04-071 TO ALASKA POWER SPORTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,720 FOR THE SUPPLY OF TWO SIX-WHEEL ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES.

b. AM No. 03-238: VACATION OF NORTH BECCA CIRCLE, LOCATED IN SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 2 WEST, SEWARD MERIDIAN, ALASKA, LOCATED IN THE MEADOW LAKES COMMUNITY COUNCIL AREA.

c. AM No. 03-239: VACATION OF A PORTION OF THE 33-FOOT SECTION LINE EASEMENT OF SECTION 23, AS IT AFFECTS LOT 9, FALK LAKE SUBDIVISION, LOCATED IN SECTIONS 14 AND 23, TOWNSHIP 17 NORTH, RANGE 2 EAST, SEWARD MERIDIAN, ALASKA, LOCATED IN THE BUTTE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AREA.

d. AM No. 03-240: AWARD OF BID 04-060 TO BRAUN NORTHWEST INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$225,650 FOR THE SUPPLY OF TWO FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE AMBULANCES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES.

e. AM No. 03-242: AWARD OF BID 04-076 TO L.B. FOSTER COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,244,745 FOR THE SUPPLY OF PIPE PILE MATERIAL AND TO SKYLINE STEEL CORPORATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$674,270.10 FOR THE SUPPLY OF STEEL BEAM MATERIAL FOR THE DEEP DRAFT DOCK.

Ms. Dillon read the consent agenda into the record.

MOTION: Assemblymember Simpson moved to approve the consent agenda as read into the record by the Clerk.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

a. Resolution Serial No. 03-124: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH'S STATE LEGISLATIVE AND PROJECT PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR 2004.

(1) IM No. 03-281

MOTION: Assemblymember Kvalheim moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 03-124.

MOTION: Assemblymember Kvalheim moved to postpone Resolution Serial No. 03-124 to the January 20, 2004, regular Assembly meeting.

VOTE: The motion to postpone passed without objection.

b. Resolution Serial No. 03-125: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH'S FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AND PROJECT PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR 2004.

(1) IM No. 03-282

MOTION: Assemblymember Kvalheim moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 03-125.

MOTION: Assemblymember Kvalheim moved to postpone Resolution Serial No. 03-125 to the January 20, 2004, regular Assembly meeting.

VOTE: The motion to postpone passed without objection.

C. MAYORAL NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

1. VACANCY REPORT

Mayor Anderson made the following recommendations:

Board of Ethics

David Church

Historical Preservation Commission

Erik Hirschmann

Intergovernmental Liaison Committee

Jim Colver

Mary Kvalheim

John Duffy

Susan Dickinson
Labor Relations Board
Colleen Hamblen
Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Board
Pamela Sadloske
Ricardo Ernst
Platting Board
Alan Larson
Mid-Valley Pathways Alternative School Site Selection Committee
Sara Welton
Transportation Advisory Board
George Williams
Talkeetna Fire Service Area No. 24
Mary Farina
Meadow Lakes Fire Service Area No. 34
William Browne
Wasilla Lakes Fire Service Area No. 130
Frederick Snodgrass
Gold Trails Road Service Area No. 28
Kenneth Moss

Mayor Anderson requested the following confirmations:

Animal Care and Regulation Board
Joan Westall
Board of Adjustment and Appeals
Steve Rowland
Emergency Medical Services Board
Lynn Moore
Library Board
Amy Epple
Local Emergency Planning Committee
Dennis Brodigan
Sandra Gaither
Chas St. George
Ken Slauson
Mayor's Blue Ribbon Fisheries Committee
Steve Totten
Platting Board
William Bruu
Planning Commission
Resignation of Lee Sharp
Port Commission
Art Scates
Michael Janecek
Senior Citizens Advisory Board
Mae Tischer

Mid-Valley Pathways Alternative School Site Selection Committee
Resignation of Robert Johnson
Willow Fire Service Area No. 35
Claire Fitzgaird
Wasilla Lakes Fire Service Area No. 130
Ken Slauson
Greater Palmer Fire Service Area No. 132
Charles Akers
Lazy Mountain Road Service Area No. 19
Ken Klunder

MOTION: Assemblymember Simpson moved to confirm the Mayor's appointments and resignations up for confirmation this evening.

MOTION: Assemblymember Kvalheim moved divide the question, to address the confirmation of William Bruu to the Platting Board separately. There was no objection to dividing the question.

MOTION: First segment: Confirmation of the Mayor's appointments and resignations up for this evening.

VOTE: The first segment, to confirm the Mayor's appointments and resignations up for confirmation this evening, passed without objection.

MOTION: Second segment: Confirmation of William Bruu to the Platting Board.

MOTION: Assemblymember Kvalheim moved to postpone the confirmation of William Bruu to the January 6, 2004, regular meeting.

VOTE: The motion to postpone the confirmation of William Bruu passed without objection.

X. RECONSIDERATION

(There were no reconsiderations.)

XI. VETO

(There were no vetoes.)

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(There was no executive session.)

XIII. MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Assemblymember Vehrs:

- stated that she is glad that the special meeting met the needs of the public; and
- congratulated Dennis Brodigan and the Animal Care and Regulation Shelter on the registration and shot clinic at the Sunshine Public Safety Building on Saturday, December 11, 2003.

Assemblymember Kvalheim:

- asked administration to approach the various coal bed methane firms with leases in the Borough regarding a share in a baseline study; and
- asked the Clerk to add Assembly policies and procedures to the retreat agenda.

Assemblymember Bush commented regarding the possibility of assisting Anchorage with their horse manure problem.

Assemblymember Simpson:

- stated that she is happy to hear that the dock lease agreement has been signed by both parties;
- commented that in the past three years she has been able to argue for the Borough's priorities and that the Borough has been consistent in their requests;
- noted that the work session went well;
- suggested setting time limits for each presenter to give them all an opportunity to speak;
- recommended making the public question/answer forum optional to the presenters;
- requested that the Alaska State Department of Environmental Conservation be invited to discuss the permitting process with the Assembly;
- stated that she recently attended the Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Committee meeting; and
- noted that they are concerned about the natural gas leases in the Hatcher Pass area.

Assemblymember Colberg expressed appreciation for the balanced viewpoint at the work session.

Assemblymember Allen:

- stated that he hopes that the Assembly will hire a facilitator with planning expertise for the retreat; and
- wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Deputy Mayor Colver:

- discussed work sessions and the importance of having a balanced viewpoint for the presentations;
- requested that administration invite an unbiased scientist to a work session to discuss aquifer studies;
- stated that the Fishhook Community Council is attempting to reestablish itself;
- asked administration to have someone explain the bumper drag program to the community council; and
- requested that the Borough help fund the mailing for an election to get the community council up and running.

Assemblymember Colberg inquired regarding the policy for assisting community councils.

Mr. Duffy replied that the borough typically helps community councils with their mailing costs when they are forming or re-organizing.

Deputy Mayor Colver inquired if there was any objection to assisting the community council with their mailing costs.

No objection was noted.

Deputy Mayor Colver expressed excitement for the Hatcher Pass project.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

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

TIMOTHY L. ANDERSON, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

SANDRA A. DILLON, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes approved: January 6, 2004