

I. CALL TO ORDER

The joint Assembly/School Board meeting was held on December 13, 2016, at the Borough Assembly Chambers, 350 E. Dahlia Avenue, Palmer, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Mayor Vern Halter.

II. ROLL CALL

Assembly Members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mr. Jim Sykes, Assembly District No. 1
Mr. Matthew Beck, Assembly District No. 2 (*Deputy Mayor*)
Mr. George McKee, Assembly District No. 3
Mr. Dan Mayfield, Assembly District No. 5
Ms. Barbara Doty, Assembly District No. 6
Mr. Randall Kowalke, Assembly District No. 7

Assemblymembers absent and excused were:

Mr. Steve Colligan, Assembly District No. 4

School Board Members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mr. Ray Michaelson, District 2
Ms. Yvonne Ruth, District 5
Ms. Donna Dearman, District 7
Ms. Deborah Rethford, Seat A
Ms. Sarah Welton, Seat B
Mr. Ole Larson, Seat D
Mr. Kelsey Trimmer, Seat E

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Brenda J. Henry, Assistant Clerk
Mr. John Moosey, Borough Manager
Mr. George Hays, Assistant Borough Manager
Mr. John Aschenbrenner, Deputy Borough Attorney

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Halter 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 Superintendent Gene Stone, Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District.

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (Three minutes per person.)

(There was no one present who wished to testify.)

VI. JOINT ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Annual Budget Preliminary Discussion; State Legislative Action Needed (MSB 2.12.075(A))

Mr. Moosey summarized the meeting with the State Delegation.

Mr. Luke Fulp, Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent Gene Stone summarized the School District's intent for the coming budget cycle.

VII. SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

Mayor Halter queried if there was any objection to taking comments from the Assembly immediately following comments by the School Board.

There was no objection noted.

School Board President Dearman noted that the next Joint Assembly School Board Committee on School Issues was scheduled for January 2, 2017, which is a holiday and queried if there was desire to reschedule it or to cancel it.

The meeting was cancelled with no objection noted.

School Board Member Trimmer:

- noted that many options for holiday entertainment within the Borough; and
- encouraged the body to get out and see it.

School Board Member Ruth wished the body happy holidays.

School Board Member Larson:

- noted that the next meeting of the School Site Selection Committee is scheduled for January 25 at 5 p.m.;
- thanked the Assembly for hosting the meeting; and
- noted that regardless of the State's fiscal crisis, that the School District will survive.

School Board Member Welton:

- thanked the body for the meeting;
- noted that she is missing her grandchildren's Christmas concert for the meeting this evening;
- spoke to having toured Tanaina Elementary School; and
- wished the body happy holidays.

School Board Member Michaelson:

- spoke to his service on the Borough Area School Site Selection Committee;
- noted he is looking forward to the next meeting;
- stated that student population is growing; and
- spoke to his desire for a three to five-year predictable funding plan.

School Board President Dearman:

- stated that it is always a pleasure to have the joint meetings;
- thanked the Assembly for hosting the meeting;
- noted her agreement with School Board Member Michaelson regarding funding; and
- wished the body happy holidays.

Assemblymember Sykes:

- noted his concerns regarding the Governor's budget;
- spoke to concerns with how to provide the best service with reduced funding levels;
- spoke to concerns with being able to provide full funding to the School District; and
- wished the body happy holidays.

Assemblymember Kowalke:

- spoke in support of Joint Assembly/School Board meetings;
- opined that the body has a harmonious working relationship; and
- wished the body happy holidays.

Assemblymember Mayfield:

- congratulated re-elected and newly elected School Board Members;
- congratulated School Board President Dearman for being selected as President;
- stated that he enjoys the Christmas carolers at the joint meetings; and
- requested them for the Assembly meeting on December 20.

Assemblymember Doty:

- stated that she really likes the roundabouts at Colony High School as they provide a great view of the reader board sign; and
- thanked the body for the meeting.

Assemblymember Beck:

- spoke in support of capital requests for Alaska Middle College at Mat-Su College;
- spoke in support of the School District;
- summarized his past positive experience with the School District; and
- thanked the body for the meeting.

Mayor Halter:

- spoke to the positive partnership the Borough has with the School District;
- stated that he wants to maintain that partnership;
- spoke to concerns with the State's fiscal crisis;
- noted that education is an asset to the Borough;
- spoke to the need for the Borough to increase revenue;
- stated that education is a priority of the Assembly; and
- wished the body Merry Christmas.

VIII. ASSEMBLY ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. INTRODUCTION (For public hearing – 12/20/16, Assembly Chambers)

1. **Ordinance Serial No. 16-136:** An Ordinance Amending MSB 17.60.020(A), Applicability; and MSB 17.60.150, General Standards For Marijuana Related Facilities.
 - a. IM No. 16-192

Ms. Henry read the above legislation into the record.

MOTION: Assemblymember Beck moved to introduce the legislation as read into the record by the Clerk and set the public hearing for December 20, 2016.

VOTE: The motion passed without objection.

IX. MAYOR, ASSEMBLY, AND STAFF COMMENTS

(The comments were provided immediately following School Board comments.)

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.



VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:



LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

Minutes Approved: 01/10/17