



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Monday, August 19, 2024

6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

Vice Mayor Marsh called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT

Mayor Mark Jensen
Vice Mayor Donna Marsh
Assembly Member Thomas Fine-Walsh
Assembly Member Bob Lynn
Assembly Member Rob Schwartz
Assembly Member Jeigh Stanton Gregor

ABSENT

Assembly Member Scott Newman

2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

3. Approval of Minutes

A. August 5, 2024 Assembly Meeting Minutes

The August 5, 2024 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Lynn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

4. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Fine-Walsh.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

5. Public Hearings

There were no public hearings.

6. Bid Awards

There were no bid awards.

7. Persons to be Heard Related to Agenda

Persons wishing to share their views on any item on today's agenda may do so at this time.

No views were shared.

8. Persons to be Heard Unrelated to Agenda

Persons with views on subjects not on today's agenda may share those views at this time.

No views were shared.

9. Boards, Commission and Committee Reports

There were no reports.

10. Consent Agenda

A. Petersburg Lodge No. 1092 Loyal Order of Moose Liquor License Renewal

The Assembly unanimously supported the Club Alcohol license renewal for the Moose Lodge.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Lynn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

11. Report of Other Officers

There were no reports.

12. Mayor's Report

A. August 19, 2024 Mayor's Report

Vice Mayor Marsh read the Mayor's report into the record.

13. Manager's Report

A. August 19, 2024 Manager's Report

Manager Giesbrecht read his report into the record, a copy of which is attached and made a permanent part of these minutes.

14. Unfinished Business

A. Ordinance #2024-14: An Ordinance Amending Provisions of Chapters 3.38, 3.40, and 3.76 of the Petersburg Municipal Code to Establish the Public Works Director as the Head of the Borough Water and Sewer Utilities and Create an Assistant Public Works Director as an Administrative Officer of the Borough - Third and Final Reading

The Assembly unanimously approved Ordinance #2024-14 in its third and final reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Lynn, Seconded by Assembly Member Fine-Walsh.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

B. Ordinance #2024-15: An Ordinance Amending Section 14.20.280 of the Petersburg Municipal Code to Clarify Recoverable Expenses from Vessels Impounded and Disposed of from Borough Harbors - Third and Final Reading

The Assembly unanimously approved Ordinance #2024-15 in its third and final reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Fine-Walsh.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

C. Ordinance #2024-16: An Ordinance Adjusting the FY 2025 Budget for Known Changes - Third and Final Reading

The Assembly unanimously approved Ordinance #2024-16 in its third and final reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Fine-Walsh.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

15. New Business

A. Resolution #2024-11: A Resolution Approving the Sale of a Borough Tidelands Parcel, Described as McFadden Lease Parcel B, Plat #95-7 (Parcel ID #01-008-242), to Island Refrigeration, LLC

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved Resolution #2024-11.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Fine-Walsh.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

B. Letter of Opposition to Any Determination by NOAA/NMFS to List Gulf of Alaska Chinook Salmon under the Endangered Species Act

The Assembly unanimously approved the letter of opposition to list Gulf of Alaska Chinook salmon under the Endangered Species Act.

Motion made by Assembly Member Lynn, Seconded by Assembly Member Fine-Walsh.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

16. Communications

A. Correspondence Received Since August 1, 2024

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Assembly Member Comments

No comments were shared.

B. Recognitions

Emergency Services Director Hankins invited everyone to attend the volunteer recruitment drive at the Hammer and Wikan Hardware parking lot on Saturday, August 24th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

18. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Fine-Walsh.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

Borough Manager's Report

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- ❖ The Streets crew finished installation of the new fencing around the Green Field at the ballfield complex.
- ❖ With dry conditions prevailing in recent weeks, we used up the last of our dust control compound (lignosite). Another tank of lignosite has arrived at the AML yard in Petersburg and we anticipate being able to apply more dust control soon.
- ❖ The Borough's new fleet fueling system is up and running, with minimal downtime needed to make the switch from the old system. A big thank you to installer Mattingly Electric and Admin Assistant Karen Malcom for all their work to get the new system put together and started up successfully.
- ❖ The bears are back! Garbage bears are active, and this may continue for a few months before they den up in the fall. One large bear has started chewing holes through the cans, which has reduced the effectiveness of keeping lids closed with ratchet straps. Garbage customers are strongly encouraged to keep garbage secured indoors, and only place garbage in the can on the morning of garbage pickup day.
- ❖ We are advertising for a Building Maintenance Supervisor to replace Jim Holder, who is leaving Public Works to take a position with Community Development as the Borough's new Building Official. Jim's last day with Public Works is August 16th.
- ❖ Wastewater Supervisor Justin Haley and Director Cotta are working on finalizing a biosolids permit for disposal of the Borough's composted sewage solids. This will formalize the current practice of applying these solids to the surface of the Borough's landfill. Previously we were able to dispose of the composted solids in the Borough's mud dump, but more stringent testing requirements caused us to redirect to a facility where less testing is required.
- ❖ The Borough has received a draft of the proposed EPA discharge permit renewal for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. We are reviewing this draft permit and have a 45-day period to make any comments. It is anticipated that when finalized, the new permit will result in a lot of additional testing procedures and likely an additional treatment process (disinfection). Cost impacts related to the new permit are not fully known but will be significant. We will be able to make more accurate assessments of these costs once we learn more about what the final permit will look like, and the programmed implementation schedule for the required changes to our testing and treatment processes.
- ❖ The line crew successfully installed a new distribution pole that will facilitate the electrical service to the Medical Center's WERC building. Thanks to motorists for observing the road closure on 8th Street during the work.
- ❖ We are sending our new mechanic to two weeks of classes on EMD generators to increase his knowledge of this type of engine. It was a good opportunity that will help him get up to speed that much faster.

- ❖ Staff have been working on some general cleaning and painting projects around the diesel plant while the weather is good.
- ❖ PMPL, in conjunction with the water, wastewater and sanitation departments, is considering signing up for an online rate engine software that will simplify annual rate reviews of the enterprise funds. The platform is based on annual subscriptions and will illustrate to a better degree how planning for inflation, projects and other expenses affect the revenue requirements of the utilities. The costs are a fraction of a normal rate study and the company, Waterworth, provides unlimited support throughout the year, creating a truly continuous focus on rate adequacy and guidance that will help ensure the health of our enterprise funds.
- ❖ Members of the Assembly and staff met with Congresswomen Peltola and our DC Lobbyist last week. We toured the future home of the Scow Bay Boatyard and discussed issues including King Salmon, the pending DOE grid deployment grant, and needs for housing, childcare and mental health support. Both groups also had an opportunity to tour the hospital and the WERC building site.
- ❖ P&R is gearing up for the fall season with Youth Basketball registration in full swing! Coaches, referees, and time clock volunteers are still needed, come talk to us for information and signing up!
- ❖ Please check for updated fall facility schedules coming out soon for Parks and Rec. These will be posted on Facebook, website, around the facility, and shared with KFSK.
- ❖ The Petersburg Bike Park is pedaling forward with work and improvements continuing around the park! Contact Pat Blair at Wheelhouse Bikes for more ways to help.
- ❖ EMS is very short on EMT's for staffing the ambulance. We continue to recruit for the EMS Coordinator position, with no applicants.
- ❖ Harbor Office is still busy with summer traffic though most transient activities are travelers heading south.
- ❖ Tour ship activity is still busy through mid-September so thank you again to the local fleet playing nice at the Drive Down facility.
- ❖ Glo and Borough staff met with representatives from American Cruises, Dick Somerville and staff to discuss the future of mooring an additional vessel here in Petersburg.
- ❖ Nice weather has increased activity at launch ramps and skiff stalls are all full, with permanent stall holders. Effects of the dredge project are producing increased use.
- ❖ Our attorney and I have completed the draft agreement with Tlingit & Haida Housing regarding the Airport Subdivision expansion. The draft has been emailed to THRHA for their review and possible edits. When completed, this will be sent to the Assembly for their review and approval.