



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Monday, May 19, 2025

6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jensen at 6:00 pm.

2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

3. Approval of Minutes

A. May 5, 2025 Assembly Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the May 5, 2025 meeting were approved as submitted.

4. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as submitted.

5. Public Hearings

- A. Robyn Taylor, the Petersburg School District Superintendent, thanked the Assembly for their continued support of the school in the FY2026 Budget.

Ashley Kawashima, representing Humanity in Progress, thanked the Assembly for including the organization in the FY2026 Budget.

Liz Bacom, representing the Mountain View Food Service program, thanked the Assembly for including the program in the FY2026 Budget and read a letter to the Assembly in support of the program.

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.

Colyn Lyons, grandson of Amy Hallingstad, spoke about his grandmother's accomplishments.

Don Nelson spoke about his memories of Amy Hallingstad as a wonderful person who made an impact on the community of Petersburg and the State of Alaska with her tireless efforts in fighting for minority rights.

Sasha Ivan Soboleff, the Alaska Native Brotherhood President, thanked the Assembly for the proclamation of June 28th as Amy Hallingstad Day and shared some history of the Alaska Native Community and Petersburg.

Cecila Tavoliero, past Grand President of the Alaska Native Sisterhood, shared her memories of Amy Hallingstad.

Nicole Hallingstad, Amy Hallingstad's granddaughter, thanked Mayor Jensen for the proclamation and expressed her gratitude to the community of Petersburg.

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.

Thomas and Elaine Vince spoke to the Assembly about the assessed value of the property they own in Petersburg and requested that the Assembly freeze the assessment at the 2024 values.

9. Boards, Commission and Committee Reports

There were no reports.

10. Consent Agenda

A. Elks Lodge Club License

The Elks Lodge has applied with the Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) to renew their Club Alcohol license. AMCO has determined the application to be complete. A local governing body may protest the renewal within 60 days of the notice of filing the application.

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly supported the Club Alcohol license renewal for the Elks Lodge.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

11. Report of Other Officers

There were no reports.

12. Mayor's Report

Mayor Jensen read his Mayor's report into the record.

Mayor Jensen read the Proclamation to declare that June 28th be observed annually as Amy Hallingstad Day to recognize her work as a civil rights pioneer and advocate for Native peoples.

13. Manager's Report

There was no written report from the Manager.

14. Unfinished Business

A. Ordinance #2025-05: An Ordinance of the Petersburg Borough Adopting the Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 - Second Reading

A motion was made to amend the FY2026 Budget to make an appropriation of \$1,000,000 from the Harbor Reserves for purposes of a contribution to the dock facility project to be conducted by American Cruise Lines at the Petersburg Harbor, and to direct the Manager to contact ACL to explore whether there is common ground on the proposed facility, including the possibility of developing a design aligned with Concept No. 7. If the parties are in agreement, the Manager is to return to the Assembly with a proposed financial plan and timeline. No funds may be spent under this appropriation without the Assembly's approval of a written agreement. The amendment to Ordinance #2025-05 passed by a vote of 6 - 1.

Motion made by Assembly Member Newman, Seconded by Vice Mayor Marsh.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

Voting Nay: Mayor Jensen

Ordinance #2025-05, adopting the Budget for FY 2026, was approved as amended in its second reading by a vote of 6 -1.

Motion made by Assembly Member Newman, Seconded by Assembly Member Lynn.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

Voting Nay: Mayor Jensen

15. New Business

A. Ordinance # 2025-06: An Ordinance Amending Section 4.28.130 of the Petersburg Municipal Code Relating to the Sales Tax Exemption for Seniors to Limit the Exemption to Low-Income Seniors, and Directing that the Proposed Amendment be Submitted to the Qualified Voters of the Borough

If approved in three readings, Ordinance #2025-06 will amend Section 4.28.130 of the Municipal Code to limit the sales tax exemption to low-income seniors and directing that the proposed amendment be submitted to the qualified voters of the Borough.

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved Ordinance #2025-06 in its first reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Lynn, Seconded by Assembly Member Valentine.
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

B. Ordinance #2025-07: An Ordinance Updating Chapter 14.16 of the Municipal Code, Entitled "Electric Utility"

If adopted in three readings, Ordinance #2025-07 will update the Electric Utility Code and increase customer charges and electric rates.

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved Ordinance #2025-07 in its first reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Valentine, Seconded by Assembly Member Lynn.
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

C. Ordinance #2025-08: An Ordinance Updating Chapter 14.04.420 of the Municipal Code, Entitled "Water Rate Schedule and Fees"

If adopted in three readings, Ordinance #2025-08 will increase water rates per the rate schedule in the attached table. An annual rate review indicates that these increases are needed to keep up with increased costs to the Borough.

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved Ordinance #2025-08 in its first reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Vice Mayor Marsh.
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

D. Ordinance #2025-09: An Ordinance Updating Chapter 14.08.320 of the Municipal Code, Entitled "Sewer Collection Rates"

If adopted in three readings, Ordinance #2025-09 will increase sewer collection rates over the next five years. An annual rate review of the utility indicates these increases are needed to keep up with increased costs to the Borough.

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved Ordinance #2025-09 in its first reading.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Marsh, Seconded by Assembly Member Valentine.
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

E. Ordinance #2025-10: An Ordinance Adding “Section N - Marine Passenger Ship Refuse” to Chapter 14.12.140, Entitled "Rates for Refuse Collection"

If adopted in three readings, Ordinance #2025-10 will add "Section N – Marine Passenger Ship Refuse" to allow for fees for providing sanitation services to marine passenger ships.

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved Ordinance #2025-10 in its first reading.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Marsh, Seconded by Assembly Member Valentine.
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

F. Resolution #2025-10: A Resolution Approving the Lease of a Borough Parcel, Described as Lot 4A, Block 222, Skylark II Subdivision, Plat #90-14 (Parcel Id #01-010-737), To Nordic Real Estate, LLC

If approved, Resolution #2025-10 authorizes the lease of Parcel ID #01-010-737 by lease agreement to Nordic Real Estate, LLC, subject to all terms and conditions set forth in this Resolution and in the Lease Agreement, attached hereto as Exhibit A.

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved Resolution #2025-10.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

16. Communications

A. Correspondence Received Since May 1, 2025

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Assembly Member Comments

Member Marsh thanked Mayor Jensen for his proclamation to declare June 28th Amy Hallingstad Day. She did some research and was very impressed with Ms Hallingstad's accomplishments for Native rights.

B. Recognitions

Member Stanton Gregor recognized Barb Marifern, who has worked at the Petersburg Schools, for her many years of service and congratulated her on her retirement.

18. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 pm.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine