



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

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

PRESENT

Vice Mayor Donna Marsh
Assembly Member Scott Newman
Assembly Member Jeigh Stanton Gregor
Assembly Member James Valentine

EXCUSED

Mayor Mark Jensen
Assembly Member Bob Lynn
Assembly Member Rob Schwartz

2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

3. Approval of Minutes

A. February 3, 2025 Assembly Meeting Minutes

The February 3, 2025 Assembly meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

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

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

4. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The meeting agenda was approved as submitted.

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

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

5. Public Hearings

A. Public Hearing for Ordinance #2025-01: An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Map for Service Area 1 of the Petersburg Borough to Rezone Lot 13B, Plat 2008-15, (Parcel #01-014-700 Located at 1020 Sandy Beach Road) from Rural Residential (R-R) to Single-Family Residential (S-F)

No testimony was given.

B. Public Hearing for Ordinance #2025-02: An Ordinance Adjusting the FY 2025 Budget for Known Changes

No testimony was given.

6. Bid Awards

A. New Dock Shed Project Award

The Assembly unanimously awarded the New Dock Shed Project to Reid Brothers Logging & Construction, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$143,400.

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

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

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.

Joni Johnson, representing herself, requested the Assembly hold a working meeting to determine how much federal money Petersburg organizations and government receive and begin planning how to live without that funding. She encouraged everyone to go to the USAspending.gov website to see a list of federal dollars being sent to our community.

Laura Holder, representing herself, shared her support for acquiring a K9 unit for the Petersburg Police Department, stating that as a Mom and a person who works in healthcare, she has seen the devastating effects of addiction.

RD Parks, representing himself and his wife, Madonna, asked the Assembly to come together for the benefit of Petersburg, our citizens, and the State and declare that we stand by the Alaska Federal workers and do not support the random, haphazard and cruel treatment currently taking place with the so-called "reduction in work force" and recent firing of 10 USFS employees in Petersburg.

9. Boards, Commission and Committee Reports

A. Petersburg Borough Safety Committee

Chair Holmgrain provided notes from the January 16, 2025 Safety Committee meeting for the Assembly's information.

10. Consent Agenda

A. Harbor Bar Liquor License Renewal

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly supported the liquor license renewal for the Harbor Bar.

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

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

11. Report of Other Officers

A. Petersburg Police Department 2024 Annual Report

Chief Kerr supplied the Assembly with a written report of Department training received, training provided, calls for service, jail bookings and days served in jail for 2024.

B. Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department 2024 Annual Report

Emergency Services Director Hankins provided a written report on current PVFD leadership, facilities and vehicles, and Fire, EMS and SAR response and training data for 2024.

12. Mayor's Report

A. February 18, 2025 Mayor's Report

Vice Mayor Marsh read her report into the record.

13. Manager's Report

A. February 18, 2025 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 #2025-01: An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Map for Service Area 1 of the Petersburg Borough to Rezone Lot 13B, Plat #2008-15 (Parcel #01-014-700 Located at 1020 Sandy Beach Road) from Rural Residential (R-R) to Single-Family Residential (S-F) - Second Reading

Ordinance 2025-01 was unanimously approved in its second reading.

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

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

B. Ordinance #2025-02: An Ordinance Adjusting the FY 2025 Budget for Known Changes - Second Reading

If approved in three readings, Ordinance #2025-02 will 1) add a Homeland Security Cyber Grant of \$26,736 to the budget; 2) correct the Motor Pool payroll budget with an increase of \$82,595; 3) increase Power & Light's inventory budget by \$45,000 to replenish exhausted power poles and line extension supplies; 4) increase Power & Light's heat pump rebate program budget by \$15,000 to support customer's rebate applications to the end of this fiscal year; and 5) increase Motor Pool's travel and training budget by \$8,697 for CDL licensing.

The Assembly unanimously approved Ordinance #2025-02 in its second reading.

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

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

15. New Business

A. Harbor New Dock Shed Project Contract Administration & Inspection Services

The Assembly approved the engagement of Harai & Associates, Inc. to perform contract administration and inspection services for the Harbor's New Dock Shed Project for an amount not to exceed \$10,250.

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

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

B. Request to the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for a General Investigations Study for Scow Bay

The letter to the Army Corps of Engineers requesting a general investigations study regarding development of a harbor basin and breakwater in Scow Bay.

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

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

16. Communications

A. Correspondence Received Since January 30, 2024

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Assembly Member Comments

Assembly Member Stanton Gregor thanked Joni Johnson and RD and Madonna Parks for their comments and stated he would work with the Clerk to draft a letter to our federal delegation regarding the firing of federal workers in Petersburg.

Vice Mayor Marsh stated she appreciated the communications she received from citizens regarding the recent firings in Petersburg. She wrote many letters over the weekend to our federal delegation and President Trump.

Assembly Member Valentine stated his heart goes out to everyone affected by the recent firings at the USFS and encouraged the public to write letters to our federal delegation.

B. Recognitions

Chief Kerr thanked the community for helping catch a thief who was video taped breaking into and entering a residence.

Vice Mayor Marsh thanked Chief Kerr and Emergency Services Director Hankins for their informative reports.

18. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

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

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

Debra K. Thompson, Borough Clerk

Date Approved

Borough Manager's Report Assembly Meeting 18 February 2025

- ❖ Annual Report from our Emergency Services Department is available for anyone who wishes to review. See Aaron at the Fire Hall and online.
- ❖ Paddle Safety Class was A-Mazing!! We will investigate getting a self and assisted rescue practice night in the pool for those of us who have found that we are a bit out of shape!
- ❖ Trying to keep people from throwing items into the pond to freeze. Anyone missing a walker?
- ❖ Mid-day aquatic strength training class has been going great!
- ❖ There has been a lot of traffic through the harbor office looking at the Scow Bay Plans and the American Cruise Line proposal. Thanks to Kirsten Meira from ACL who joined us at the Town Hall Meeting.
- ❖ We had a good turnout for USCG Dockside Exams last week. Thank you to the safety inspectors that annually come to town prior to the tanner opening to perform them and our very own Desi Burrell, who as part of the local CG Auxiliary, has trained to be an examiner.
- ❖ All Departments are working on Budget preparation for next years budget. Very challenging.
- ❖ The line crew continues to be busy with service installs, tree trimming and a pole move.
- ❖ We still have not received word on when the Section 243 grant, Tribal Grid Resiliency grant and Scow Bay funding will be released to the Borough or if they will be retained by the Administration.
- ❖ Staff was able to successfully employ our diesel plant to cover peak loads during the colder temperatures recently. This duty is shared by PMPL and WMLP to cover the “north end” communities that are served by SEAPA. The diesel run was short lived but necessary, nonetheless.
- ❖ Karl is recovering from his accident and extends his thanks to his staff for keeping the community's lights on and heaters working through the cold snap.
- ❖ There was a nice write up about Petersburg's PRADU program (Permit Ready Accessory Dwelling Units) in the latest issue of Alaska Business Monthly.
- ❖ Filling potholes, pruning trees as the weather allows.
- ❖ Finishing up the final vehicle inspections to determine replacement/service extension for the Motor Pool.
- ❖ Along with SE Windowcraft, installed a new windshield in one of the school's Viking buses.
- ❖ New rain gutters and downspouts have been installed on the front of the Baler facility. Rainwater will eventually be underground across the street to alleviate the constant erosion and potholing on the road's driving surface.

- ❖ Mattingly Electric has replaced 3 surge protectors on the Municipal Building's HVAC controls. Still waiting on a PCB board for the heat pump.
- ❖ Working on Fire Safety Self Inspections for APEI
- ❖ Assisted P&R in replacing a leaky flange on the pool's sand filter.
- ❖ New steel exterior doors have been ordered to replace two at the Water Plant that are aged and degrading
- ❖ Water delivery requests beyond our distribution system are increasing and are much more challenging in the cold weather
- ❖ Assistant Director Marohl is preparing for a sealed bid auction of several surplus vehicles.
- ❖ The library's annual inventory closure is scheduled for Monday March 3 – Thursday March 6
- ❖ Upcoming programs at the library include Teen Game Night, Robotics for Kids, and Folk Art Painting with Pia Reilly and Felt Garlands with MaryAnn Rainey, and Rainforest Writers with Orin Pierson. More information at psglib.org
- ❖ 22 interviews with residents are now available on the library's Homegrown Conversations podcast, airing every Tuesday evening at 6:30pm on KFSK. These interviews were recorded last spring by Tim Shumway's senior Alaska History class at PHS. Topics include commercial fishing, the history of main street, logging and more. Listen to the podcast at psglib.org/podcast
- ❖ Property assessments will be mailed at the end of the month. Property owners will have one month to appeal. More information can be found on the back side of the assessment notice. It is the responsibility of the property owner to update the finance department of any changes to the mailing address.
- ❖ Derrick and Assisted Living want to extend heartfelt thanks to Sabrina, Ileen and CC from the Hospital who are helping us out at Assisted Living. We continue to be four full-time employees short.
- ❖ We have an opening or two at Assisted Living. Derrick is working through the waiting list.
- ❖ OSHA was in town reviewing the Manor last week. Derrick and Staff are working with them and working on the state audit.
- ❖ Assisted Living is in the process of implementing an electronic system which will count medication as well as let us know when to order. It can work with the pharmacy's system and auto order medication. It also allows for the care plans and other documentation to be sent through a secure email so the families can electronically review the plans.