



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Monday, February 06, 2023

12:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

Mayor Jensen called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Mark Jensen
Vice Mayor Bob Lynn
Assembly Member Thomas Fine-Walsh
Assembly Member David Kensinger
Assembly Member Donna Marsh
Assembly Member Jeff Meucci
Assembly Member Scott Newman

2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

3. Approval of Minutes

A. January 17, 2023 Assembly Meeting Minutes

The January 17, 2023 Assembly meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh,
Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci,
Assembly Member Newman

4. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly
Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly
Member Newman

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.

Sarah Fine-Walsh shared her opposition to the Thin Blue Line wall art in the Police Department.

9. Boards, Commission and Committee Reports

A. Homelessness in Alaska Presentation

Brian Wilson, Executive Director of the Alaska Coalition of Housing and Homelessness, gave a presentation on the impacts of homelessness in Alaska and how other communities address homelessness.

B. Housing Task Force - Land Trust

Gary Aulbach, a member of the Housing Task Force, discussed the concept of a Land Trust in Petersburg.

C. Housing Task Force - Easily Developable Lots

Housing Task Force Chair and Assembly Member Kensinger discussed preparing lots for sale that can easily be hooked up to utilities.

D. Housing Task Force - Manufactured Homes

Sarah Holmgrain, a member of the Housing Task Force, discussed zoning/developing an area for manufactured homes in Petersburg.

10. Consent Agenda

A. BPO Elks Lounge #1615 2023/2024 Liquor License Renewal

The Assembly unanimously supported renewal of the liquor license for the BPO Elks Lounge #1615.

Motion made by Assembly Member Kensinger, Seconded by Vice Mayor Lynn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

11. Report of Other Officers

A. Petersburg Medical Center Update

PMC CEO Hofstetter updated the Assembly on Medical Center activities.

B. US Forest Service Update

District Ranger Born gave an update on Forest Service activities.

12. Mayor's Report

A. February 6, 2023 Mayor's Report

Mayor Jensen read his report into the record.

13. Manager's Report

A. February 6, 2023 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 #2023-01: A Ordinance Amending Petersburg Municipal Code Sections 14.30.030 and 14.30.040 to Increase Certain Service Rates at the Mountain View Manor Assisted Living Facility - Third and Final Reading

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved Ordinance #2023-01 in its third and final reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Kensinger, Seconded by Assembly Member Marsh.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

B. Ordinance #2023-02: An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Map for Service Area 1 of the Petersburg Borough to Rezone Parcel B, Block 302, Greenbelt Subdivision, Located at 10 N. 12th Street, from Open Space-Recreation (OS-R) to Commercial-1 (C-1) - Third and Final Reading

The Assembly unanimously approved Ordinance #2023-02 in its third and final reading.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

15. New Business

A. **Resolution #2023-01: A Resolution Authorizing the Borough Manager to Pursue Obtaining Ownership of the Papke's Landing Facilities Including the Dock, Floats, Launch Ramp, Associated Tidelands, and Uplands Adjacent to the Tidelands Property, Currently Owned by the State of Alaska**

Resolution #2023-01 was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Lynn, Seconded by Assembly Member Kensinger.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

B. **Resolution #2023-02: A Resolution Supporting the Southeast Alaska Troll Fishery and Urging the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Alaska Department of Fish & Game to Commit the Necessary Resources to Defend Alaska's Fisheries**

The Assembly unanimously approved Resolution #2023-02.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Lynn, Seconded by Assembly Member Kensinger.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

C. **Housing Task Force - Petersburg Land Trust**

The Assembly supported the Housing Task Force's request to spend more time to research the idea of developing a Land Trust in Petersburg by a vote of 6-1.

Motion made by Assembly Member Marsh, Seconded by Assembly Member Kensinger.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

Voting Nay: Vice Mayor Lynn

D. **Housing Task Force - Easily Developable Lots**

The Assembly unanimously supported Manager Giesbrecht directing Utility Director Hagerman to identify existing residentially zoned Borough lots that can be easily connected to water, sewer and electric services for possible future sale.

Motion made by Assembly Member Kensinger, Seconded by Vice Mayor Lynn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

E. Housing Task Force - Manufactured Home Area

The Assembly approved the Housing Task Force to investigate and propose to the Planning Commission to develop an area specifically for manufactured homes in Petersburg.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

F. Prioritize Petersburg's 2023 Federal Projects

The Assembly selected the Petersburg Medical Center project as their #1 priority by a vote of 5-2.

Motion made by Assembly Member Kensinger, Seconded by Vice Mayor Lynn.

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

Voting Nay: Mayor Jensen, Assembly Member Marsh

The Assembly unanimously selected the Scow Bay Generator #2 project as the #2 priority and the Scow Bay Boat Haul out and Wash Down Facility project as the #3 priority.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

The remaining projects were not prioritized.

G. Trip to Washing, D.C. - Who and When

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly decided to send Mayor Jensen, Assembly Members Fine-Walsh and Newman, and Manager Giesbrecht to Washington, D.C. to meet with our Federal delegation and agencies on March 28 & 29, 2023.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

H. Request for a US Army Corps of Engineers Study for a Future Harbor in Scow Bay

The Assembly unanimously approved sending a letter to the US Army Corps of Engineers requesting they initiate a study to construct a harbor basin, breakwater and all navigation features needed for a future harbor in Scow Bay.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

I. Mayor Pro Tem for February 21, 2023 Assembly Meeting

Mayor Jensen and Vice Mayor Lynn will both be attending the Alaska Municipal League's Winter Legislative Conference in Juneau and will not be available for the February 21, 2023 Assembly meeting.

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly appointed Assembly Member Newman to act as Mayor Pro Tem for the February 21, 2023 Assembly meeting.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

J. Reschedule the October 2, 2023 Assembly Meeting

The Assembly unanimously approved moving the October 2, 2023 Assembly meeting to Monday, October 9, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

16. Communications

A. Correspondence Received Since January 12, 2023

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Assembly Member Comments

Assembly Member Kensinger reminded the community of the Chamber Banquet to be held at the Sons of Norway Hall on Saturday, February 11th.

B. Recognitions

Assembly Member Kensinger recognized Harbormaster Wollen for her visionary work over the years ensuring a viable fishing community going forward.

Assembly Member Newman recognized Ryan Naylor, a PHD student at Penn State University, who is doing a study on tourism, currently comparing Petersburg and Wrangell, who took divergent paths when it comes to tourism within their communities.

18. Executive Session

The Assembly adjourned to Executive Session at 2:40 p.m. to discuss Borough Manager Giesbrecht's 2022 performance evaluation.

Motion made by Assembly Member Kensinger, Seconded by Vice Mayor Lynn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

Note: Vice Mayor Lynn left the meeting during the Executive Session.

The Assembly re-entered Regular Session at 3:39 p.m.

19. Approval of Manager Giesbrecht's 2022 Performan Evaulation

The Assembly approved Manager Giesbrecht's performance evaluation by a vote of 4-2.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Newman

Voting Nay: Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Meucci

20. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman