



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 03, 2024

12:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

Vice Mayor Marsh called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

PRESENT

Vice Mayor Donna Marsh
Assembly Member Thomas Fine-Walsh
Assembly Member Bob Lynn
Assembly Member Scott Newman
Assembly Member Rob Schwartz

ABSENT

Mayor Mark Jensen
Assembly Member Jeigh Stanton Gregor

2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

3. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes August 19, 2024

The September 3, 2024 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

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

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz

4. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

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

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz

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

There were no consent agenda items.

11. Report of Other Officers

A. US Forest Service Update

Petersburg District Ranger Born updated the Assembly on USFS activities. Ranger Born will be retiring on September 30, 2024. A person will be selected for a 120-day detail to fill in until a new ranger is hired.

B. Petersburg Medical Center

PMC CEO Hofstetter provided a written report on Medical Center activities.

12. Mayor's Report

A. September 3, 2024 Mayor's Report

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

13. Manager's Report

A. September 3, 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

There was no unfinished business.

15. New Business

A. Derelict Boat Disposal Contract Award

After discussion with Harbormaster Wollen and Manager Giesbrecht, the Assembly unanimously approved the quote from Buck's Marine Services for removal of the F/V Pacific Queen in an amount not to exceed \$83,200.

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

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz

16. Communications

There were no communications.

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Assembly Member Comments

Assembly Member Lynn reported on the SEAPA meeting that was held in Petersburg on August 28th and 29th and the recent landslide in Ketchikan.

B. Recognitions

There were no recognitions.

18. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44 am.

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

Voting Yea: Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz

Borough Manager's Report
Assembly Meeting 3 September 2024

- ❖ We are wrapping up the lease agreement for the double rooms at Assisted Living and completing the final review of the ordinance addressing food and services pricing at Assisted Living.
- ❖ Riverview Assisted Living in Juneau has contacted us about getting a tour of our facility.
- ❖ We have filled the janitorial position at Assisted Living. This will help tremendously with cleaning the facility so the care staff can focus on the residents more.
- ❖ This fall the library will be closed on Mondays due to staffing issues. Our regular hours will remain unchanged from Tuesday through Saturday.
- ❖ The library is hosting a special book signing and presentation with renowned Ketchikan artist Ray Troll on Thursday, September 5, at 6:30 PM. This event is sponsored by Lee's Clothing, as they celebrate 55 years of serving our community.
- ❖ I have reached out to Harai & Associated to get a proposal for permitting and engineering for Banana Point. Big thanks to the Denali Commission for the \$900,000 grant to repair the breakwater.
- ❖ Martin and crew are helping with the retrofit of the Parks-N-Rec restroom at the north end of Sandy Beach Park, which will permit year-round operation of that facility.
- ❖ The Streets crew dug a new trench to facilitate installation of fiber communication line from 14th Street to the Wastewater plant. The new line will increase communication transmission speeds over the DSL service currently in place.
- ❖ We have been working on correcting some longstanding manhole issues. The crew repaired one failing manhole lid and frame at 1304 North Nordic; and brought an inaccessible manhole up to grade at 22 Sing Lee Alley. There are several more on the list as time permits.
- ❖ Assistant Director Marohl is working up specifications and cost information for the proposed replacement street sweeper. Our current sweeper is still operational and not scheduled for replacement yet but has proven inadequate for the job it needs to perform. The proposed replacement will be presented to the Assembly for consideration during the next supplemental budget process.
- ❖ Garbage bear activity is very high, with daily reports of new incidents throughout the community. We suspect that most of the issues result from 1 or 2 problem bears that have learned the wrong habits and are now targeting garbage as their primary food source. Public Works is running PSAs to get the word out that garbage needs to be secured as required by Borough ordinance, and we are also providing bear straps for individual garbage cans upon request.
- ❖ As part of the work to supply electrical service to the WERC building, the line crew successfully cut over a portion of the distribution system from Circuit 62 to Circuit 63. This will help balance the circuits in

our system and will help with sectionalizing when PMPL is restoring power to the community.

- ❖ PMPL has received comments from FERC on the Seismic Hazard Analysis and Stability analysis that was completed last year. We will be consulting with our Dam Safety Engineer on next steps to address FERC's comments.
- ❖ PMPL is working with the USFS on the permitting and agreements to upgrade the service to the district office building.
- ❖ Karl will be leading a tour of the Blind Slough Hydro project for the SEAPA contingent that is holding their quarterly board meeting in Petersburg on August 28th and 29th. Many thanks to the Assisted Living department for the use of their van for the field trip.
- ❖ Police Officers are conducting extra patrols at the school, and Chief Kerr attended a safety meeting with the Petersburg School District. This included providing traffic control for the Cross-Country meet.
- ❖ We have successfully replaced the weight room window with the help of Public Works.
- ❖ New fall schedules for the Pool and Gymnasium - please make sure to check schedules posted around the Community Center, on Facebook and on the Parks and Rec website. ** New Gym schedule on September 9th to account for the Youth Basketball program (which still needs coach volunteers!).
- ❖ Stephanie will be hosting a survival class on Sept 6th and 7th - registration is limited to 20 kids, parents encouraged to join. Topics include PFD's, Materials and Water, knot tying, emergency kit preparation, signaling, shelter building, flares, and fire building. Will be joined also by Bjorn Stolpe (SAR) and Aaron Hankins. More information will be out very soon.
- ❖ Jim Holder joined the department as the new Building Official on August 20th. He will be working toward securing ICC certifications in the coming months.
- ❖ We are completing maintenance on empty apartments so Elderly Housing should have two new residents in September.
- ❖ Steelhead Enterprises completed work on temporary access to the Elderly Housing greenhouse entrance and has ordered supplies for the main entrance repair project.
- ❖ We are short-staffed in many Borough Departments, including Parks & Rec., EMS, Police Department, Assisted Living and the Library.
- ❖ I continue to work with staff and the Borough Attorney on the proposal from American Cruise lines. We will invite them back to address the Assembly and answer questions in the Fall.
- ❖ The slowdown in summer traffic has allowed for staff to concentrate on annual maintenance projects like cleaning docks and floats, power – washing launch ramp and float/cleaning stations; mucking out grids and power washing grid bents.

- ❖ Harbor Staff continues to work on plans on removal and demo of 2 large vessels in the Harbor, the first scheduled for Oct. after all impound process has been legally completed.