



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

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

PRESENT

Mayor Bob Lynn
Assembly Member Rob Schwartz
Vice Mayor Jeigh Stanton Gregor
Assembly Member James Valentine
Assembly Member Jeff Meucci
Assembly Member Bob Martin
Assembly Member Scott Newman

2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

3. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes for January 5, 2026

The January 5, 2026 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

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

4. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as amended.

Amendment: Member Meucci requested to add two items to the assembly discussion section. 1. To discuss setting up a Housing Working Group. 2. To discuss reapplying for Petersburg to become an authorized location for offering the TSA PreCheck application program.

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

Assembly Member Valentine, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Martin, Assembly Member Newman

5. Public Hearings

A. Ordinance #2026-01 Supplemental Budget: An Ordinance of the Petersburg Borough Adjusting the FY 2026 Budget for Known Changes

No testimony was given.

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.

Tom Kowalski, who lives on Cornelius Road, recommended the work session with Tidal Network be cancelled and that an injunction and temporary restraining order be filed against them.

Dana Thynes, representing herself, spoke in support of the work session with Tidal Network, FCC safety regulations updates, and would like more local control of the towers.

Andy Wright, representing himself, spoke against Tidal Network placing a tower on Mill Road and the importance of protecting the view and property values in Petersburg.

Donna Marsh, representing herself, spoke against the communication tower by the fire hall and encouraged the Assembly to construct ordinances that would prevent this in the future. Ms. Marsh also spoke against the ordinance to increase harbor rates.

Judy Ohmer, representing herself, spoke about Tidal Network's application to purchase the property near the fire hall and encouraged the assembly to have a work session on January 28th with the community.

Chad Carvey bought a piece of property on Rose Lane and would like for an alternative location to be considered for the Papke's Landing tower.

Becky Knight would like to see a full unredacted version of Tidal Network's grant application for the communication tower project and asked that the assembly demand full disclosure on the project's impact and a full NEPA review.

John Murgas, representing himself, spoke about the lack of information about the communication towers installation in Petersburg and his concerns about the health of people living near the towers.

David Beebe spoke in support of a community work session about the communication towers and urged the planning commission and the borough to table the towers project until everyone understands the issues and the impacts to health and the financial risks.

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.

Tom Kowalski, representing himself, spoke about Tlingit Haida negotiations and recommended that the Borough not continue working with them.

Martin Susort lives on Kings Row and didn't hear about the communication tower on Mill Road until it was installed, he would like to have better notification processes.

Jackie Tyson spoke about the distance that cell phone towers should be from residences and her concerns about the health of people living close to the towers.

9. Boards, Commission and Committee Reports

There were no reports.

10. Consent Agenda

A. Kito's Kave Inc. Package Store Liquor License Renewal

The Kito's Kave Liquor License was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Meucci.
Voting Yea: Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Martin
Voting Abstaining: Assembly Member Newman

11. Report of Other Officers

A. Blind Slough Owner's Dam Safety Plan (ODSP)

Director Hagerman provided a presentation Plan to the Assembly on the Owner's Dam Safety Plan in accordance with FERC requirements.

12. Mayor's Report

A. January 20, 2026 Mayor's Report

Mayor Lynn presented his report and noted that the State is currently reviewing the subsistence program and that the public comment period remains open until February 13th.

13. Manager's Report

A. January 20, 2026 Manager's Report

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

14. Unfinished Business

A. **Ordinance #2026-01 Supplemental Budget: An Ordinance of the Petersburg Borough Adjusting the FY 2026 Budget for Known Changes - Second Reading**

An amendment was made to increase the Parks and Recreation Department Maintenance Budget by \$5,000 to cover the unanticipated costs associated with the Aquatic Center electrical panel breaker failure.

Ordinance #2026-01 was unanimously approved in its second reading as amended.

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

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

15. New Business

A. **Ordinance #2026-02: An Ordinance of the Petersburg Borough Assembly Vacating a Portion of the Seventh Street Right-Of-Way and Authorizing Conveyance of the Vacated Area to the Borough, to be Consolidated with Adjacent Block 275 to Create a Lot Suitable for Residential Development - First Reading**

Ordinance #2026-02 was unanimously approved in its second reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Meucci, Seconded by Assembly Member Schwartz.

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

B. **Ordinance #2026-03: An Ordinance Amending Petersburg Municipal Code Chapter 14.20, Entitled “Municipal Harbors”, to Increase Harbor Fees - First Reading**

Ordinance #2026-03 was unanimously approved in its first reading.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Meucci.

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

C. **Resolution #2026-01: A Resolution Affirming Continued Support for the Phased Development of a New Hospital Facility in Petersburg, Including the Certificate of Need Process**

Resolution #2026-01 was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Meucci, Seconded by Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor.

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

Assembly Member Valentine, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Martin, Assembly Member Newman

D. Consideration of Diesel Generation Adjustment Charge for December 2025 Billing Period

After discussion, the diesel generation adjustment charge for December was approved 6-1.

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

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

Voting Nay: Assembly Member Meucci

E. 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 the USACE perform a general investigations study regarding development of a harbor basin and breakwater along Borough owned property in Scow Bay was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Meucci, Seconded by Assembly Member Martin.

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

F. Assignment of Alaska Commercial Electronics LLC Lease to Island Refrigeration, LLC

The assignment of the Lease from ACE to Island Refrigeration for Parcel #01-010-041 was unanimously approved.

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

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

G. Assembly / School Board Work Session

The Assembly/School Board work session was set for Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

H. Tidal Network Work Session

A work session with Tidal Network was scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

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

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

I. Communication Towers Work Session

A work session for community input regarding communication towers in Petersburg was scheduled for January 28, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

Motion made by Assembly Member Schwartz, Seconded by Assembly Member Meucci.

Voting Yea: Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Valentine, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Martin, Assembly Member Newman

Voting Nay: Mayor Lynn, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor

16. Communications

A. Correspondence Received Since January 2, 2026

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Marine Passenger Fee: *Member Meucci requested this agenda item.*

Member Meucci talked about the possibility of increasing the Marine Passenger Fee. Member Valentine will send the Ketchikan rate study to the Assembly.

B. Bear and Trash Awareness - ADF&G June 6, 2026: *Member Meucci requested this agenda item*

Member Meucci said that ADF&G will be having an informational meeting about bears and trash on June 6, 2026.

C. Assembly Member Comments

Member Meucci proposed setting up a housing working group.
Member Meucci would like for Petersburg to reapply to be a TSA pre-check location.
Member Martin let everybody know about the Sons of Norway Lutefisk dinner.

D. Recognitions

Member Meucci thanked Director Payne, Parks and Rec staff, Power and Light and Mattingly Electric for getting the community pool open after the electrical issues.

18. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

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