



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

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

PRESENT

Assembly Member Bob Lynn
Assembly Member Chelsea Tremblay
Assembly Member David Kensinger
Vice Mayor Jeigh Stanton Gregor
Assembly Member Jeff Meucci
Mayor Mark Jensen

EXCUSED

Assembly Member Thomas Fine-Walsh

2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

3. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes of:

October 19, 2021
November 1, 2021

Special Assembly Meeting Minutes of:

November 5, 2021

The regular meeting minutes of October 9 and November 1, 2021 and the special meeting minutes of November 5, 2021 were unanimously approved.

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

Voting Yea: Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Tremblay, Assembly Member Kensinger, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Meucci, Mayor Jensen

4. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was amended to add under Assembly Discussion Items a discussion about the local US Post Office. The Assembly unanimously approved the agenda as amended.

Motion made by Assembly Member Lynn, Seconded by Assembly Member Meucci.
Voting Yea: Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Tremblay, Assembly Member Kensinger, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Meucci, Mayor Jensen

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.

Jim Kerr, Caitlin Entz, Jim Floyd, Michael Truex, Gary Aulbach, Traci McPhearson, Dana Thynes, Nathan Lopez, Michelle Pfundt, Russell Thynes, Brittni Caulum, Stephanie Landen, Sarah Reid, Ramona Brooks, Donna Marsh and Nancy Hoschar shared their views in opposition to Emergency Ordinance #2021-20.

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.

Dana Thynes shared her views regarding spike proteins used or associated with vaccinations.

9. Boards, Commission and Committee Reports

No reports were given.

10. Consent Agenda

There were no Consent Agenda items.

11. Report of Other Officers

A. Redistricting Update

Assembly Member Tremblay reported on the new electoral district boundaries chosen by the Alaska Redistricting Board after the 2020 Census.

12. Mayor's Report

A. November 15, 2021 Mayor's Report

Mayor Jensen read his report into the record.

13. Manager's Report

A. November 15, 2021 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

15. New Business

A. Ordinance #2021-18: An Ordinance Updating Various Provisions of Chapter 14.16 of the Municipal Code, Entitled "Electric Utility", and Including Electric Rate and Connection Cost Increases

Ordinance #2021-18 was unanimously approved in its first reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Meucci, Seconded by Assembly Member Lynn.
Voting Yea: Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Tremblay, Assembly Member Kensinger, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Meucci, Mayor Jensen

B. Ordinance #2021-20: An Emergency Ordinance Amending Emergency Ordinance #2021-19, which Implemented a Public Health and Safety Measure Requiring Face Coverings in Indoor Public Settings, to Include (1) a Fine for Noncompliance, (2) Communally Used Areas within its Scope, and (3) a Provision that Requires Businesses and Building Owners to Deny Admittance to any Individual who Fails to Comply with the Ordinance

Emergency Ordinance #2021-20 was amended as follows: to remove all language relating to the responsibility of businesses and building owners and fines associated with the language; to add language to Section 3(B) to clarify that private residences are not included; to add a new Section 6 titled Repeal/Health Officer Recommendations that states the ordinance may be earlier repealed by the Assembly upon a determination that the provisions of the ordinance are no longer necessary, and the Assembly may receive advice from the Borough Health Officer in making this determination; and to remove Section 3(A)(1) in its entirety relating to individual fines.

The ordinance was approved as amended in its one and only reading by a vote of 4-2.

Motion made by Assembly Member Meucci, Seconded by Assembly Member Tremblay.
Voting Yea: Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Tremblay, Assembly Member Kensinger, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Meucci, Mayor Jensen

C. Motor Pool Shop Fire Damage Repair - Change Order #2

The Assembly unanimously approved Motor Pool Shop Change Order #2.

Motion made by Assembly Member Meucci, Seconded by Assembly Member Kensinger.
Voting Yea: Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Tremblay, Assembly Member

Kensinger, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Meucci, Mayor Jensen

D. Borough Guidance on Volunteer Projects

The Guidance on Volunteer Projects document was approved unanimously.

Motion made by Assembly Member Meucci, Seconded by Assembly Member Lynn.
Voting Yea: Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Tremblay, Assembly Member
Kensinger, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Meucci, Mayor Jensen

16. Communications

A. Correspondence Received Since October 28, 2021

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Local US Post Office

Assembly Member Kensinger stated he will prepare a letter to our Congressional Delegation and the Supervisors of our local post office for Assembly consideration at the next meeting regarding the short staffing issue and the erratic hours the counter is open.

B. Assembly Member Comments

Assembly Member Meucci inquired whether Manager Giesbrecht is comfortable with the changes to Emergency Ordinance #2021-20 (which made amendments to Emergency Ordinance #2021-19). Manager Giesbrecht answered in the affirmative and clarified that the Police Department will not be proactively seeking out unmasked individuals but will respond reactively if called by a local business.

Assembly Member Stanton Gregor shared his frustration regarding the letter from multiple businesses that states they will close their doors if the Assembly approved fines for businesses who allow customers to shop in their store without wearing face coverings.

Assembly Member Lynn requested an update on the Fire Truck replacement and a report on the new baler at the next Assembly meeting.

C. Recognitions

Assembly Member Tremblay thanked our local healthcare workers who are working very hard during this COVID-19 outbreak and our Public Health Nurse in particular who is handling both Petersburg's and Wrangell's outbreak simultaneously. She also thanked the community for looking for ways to help each other.

Assembly Member Meucci thanked the business owners and front line workers for keeping our businesses open. He also thanked the School District for the unbelievable job they are doing during this outbreak.

18. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Motion made by Assembly Member Meucci, Seconded by Assembly Member Kensinger.
Voting Yea: Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Tremblay, Assembly Member Kensinger, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Meucci, Mayor Jensen