

Minutes of Special Assembly Meeting

Held on March 2, 2021

Mayor Prysunka called the Special Assembly meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., March 2, 2021 by Zoom teleconference.

PRESENT: PRYSUNKA, DALRYMPLE, GILBERT, MORRISON, COURSON, HOWE

ABSENT: POWELL

PERSONS TO BE HEARD / PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE

The following persons submitted correspondence for the March 2, 2021 Special Assembly meeting. This correspondence will be added to the March 9, 2021 Regular Assembly Meeting.

- Jim DeBord
- Bob Lippert
- Sharil Smith
- Chad Smith
- Mike Lockabey
- James Freeman
- Michael Smith
- James Rowland
- Joely Rowland
- Jim Leslie
- Walter Moorhead
- Bruce and Carla Smith
- Jim Bailey
- Hollie Levine
- Vickie Bunes-Taylor
- Rod Brown
- Zachary Taylor
- Paul McIntyre
- Don Sherman
- Becky McIntyre

Morgan Sanford spoke in opposition of the Emergency Ordinances.

Valerie Massie spoke in favor of Emergency Ordinance 987.

DJ McConachie spoke in opposition of the Emergency Ordinances.

Zachary Taylor spoke in favor of Emergency Ordinance 987.

Donald McConachie Sr. spoke in opposition of Emergency Ordinance 987.

Rolland Howell spoke in opposition of the Emergency Ordinances.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST – None.

ITEM(S) OF BUSINESS

6a EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO 987 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA REAFFIRMING THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY IN EMERGENCY ORDINANCES 976, 980 AND 985 AND REQUIRING A FACE COVERING IN CERTAIN INDOOR SETTINGS, ACTIVATING THE PENALTY IN THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE, AND STRONGLY URGING OTHER MITIGATION ACTIONS

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to Approve Emergency Ordinance No. 987.

Von Barga gave a summary of why this Emergency Ordinance is being brought forward; Petersburg has many cases of COVID and it is known that they have mixed with Wrangell residents; four cases that we have had here in Wrangell, in the last two weeks; addressed the case that refused to complete contact tracing with Public Health; not suggesting any closures, just trying to keep businesses open and the community safe.

Captain Dorianne Sprehe provided extensive COVID update and overview on where we sit, currently and where we are with the numbers; Petersburg currently reporting 65 cases with over 230 pending cases; having a high case count in younger kids, larger congregate settings; community may be at a higher risk due to the delayed contact tracing; State has Wrangell in a high level; mask wearing is a continued recommendation by the Center for Disease Control.

Gilbert asked if regarding the Petersburg outbreak, is it known why the virus spread so quickly.

Captain Sprehe stated that Public Health stated that it is their understanding that the spread was caused by people letting down their guard and a large attendance at congregate settings.

Morrison stated that she believes that because of the case in Cordova where someone traveled into the community and did not test, she does believe in this course of action.

Howe stated that he did agree with Gilbert, but he would be interested in amending the Ordinance to enact a shorter time to sunset the Ordinance.

Prysunka reminded the Assembly that at any time, a Special Assembly meeting could be called to terminate the Ordinance.

Courson stated that he would be voting no on this Ordinance; questioned why this was being considered when there were only two active cases.

Dalrymple stated that he would be supporting this Ordinance; believes that we are getting close to the end of this pandemic however, we are also seeing what happens when we drop our guard; believes that we need to look at rebuilding our community and this will help.

Prysunka stated that he spoke with the Mayor of Petersburg at he stated that this has devastated Petersburg; everything is essentially shut down; mandates that are in place there may not have done any good in their situation because people have not followed what was mandated.

Motion approved with Gilbert, Morrison, Howe, Dalrymple and Prysunka voting yes; Courson voted no.

6b EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO 988 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, REAFFIRMING THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY IN EMERGENCY ORDINANCES 976, 980 AND 985 AND ADOPTING THE REQUIREMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AND INTERSTATE TRAVEL TESTING MEASURES

M/S: Morrison/Gilbert to Approve Emergency Ordinance No. 988.

Von Bargen gave a summary as to the reasoning behind this Emergency Ordinance; this is a low impact type of action to help slow the spread of COVID in our community; no penalty in this Ordinance; provision in this Ordinance that allows for Alaska residents to quarantine in lieu of testing at the airport, if they wish to do so.

Captain Sprehe stated that Travel Declarations have dropped off significantly at the Airport since the State Mandates expired; stated that if the situation that happened in Cordova, happened here, we could have many cases in our community.

Gilbert questioned if the testing at the airport was free. Captain Sprehe stated that testing at the airport is free for all travelers.

Motion approved with Gilbert, Morrison, Howe, Dalrymple and Prysunka voting yes; Courson voted no.

6c EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO 989 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, REAFFIRMING THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY IN EMERGENCY ORDINANCES 976, 980 AND 985 AND ADOPTING THE REQUIREMENT OF INTRASTATE TRAVEL TESTING MEASURES

M/S: Gilbert/Morrison to Approve Emergency Ordinance No. 989.

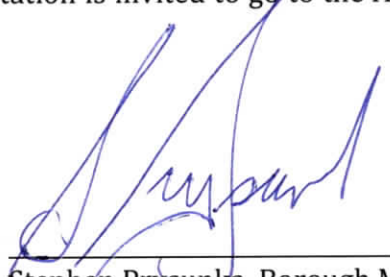
Von Bargen stated that this has the same provisions that the Interstate Emergency Ordinance except that it provides direction for all persons coming into the community at all points of entry into the community; any person arriving by any mode of transportation is invited to go to the Airport and test there; no penalty in this Emergency Ordinance.

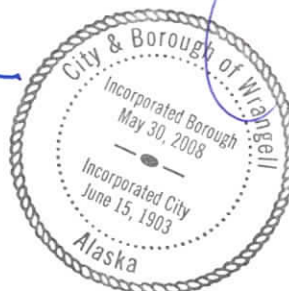
Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

Special Assembly meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

ATTEST:


Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk


Stephen Prysunka, Borough Mayor



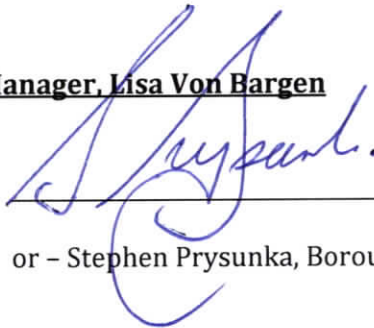
REQUEST FOR SPECIAL EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY MEETING

I, Stephen Prysunka, DO HEREBY REQUEST THAT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WRANGELL BOROUGH ASSEMBLY BE CALLED BY THE BOROUGH CLERK, ACCORDING TO WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE, SECTION 3.04.090, FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING SUBJECT MATTER(S):

- a. **EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO 987** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, REAFFIRMING THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY IN EMERGENCY ORDINANCES 976, 980 AND 985 AND REQUIRING A FACE COVERING IN CERTAIN INDOOR SETTINGS, ACTIVATING THE PENALTY IN THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE, AND STRONGLY URGING OTHER MITIGATION ACTIONS
- b. **EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO 988** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, REAFFIRMING THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY IN EMERGENCY ORDINANCES 976, 980 AND 985 AND ADOPTING THE REQUIREMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AND INTERSTATE TRAVEL TESTING MEASURES
- c. **EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO 989** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, REAFFIRMING THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY IN EMERGENCY ORDINANCES 976, 980 AND 985 AND ADOPTING THE REQUIREMENT OF INTRASTATE TRAVEL TESTING MEASURES

SPECIAL MEETING WAS REQUESTED BY **Borough Manager, Lisa Von Bargaen**

Lisa Von Bargaen, Borough Manager



or – Stephen Prysunka, Borough Mayor

Signed February 28, 2021

(Sec. 3.04.090: Special meetings shall be called by the Borough Clerk on the written request of the MAYOR, BOROUGH MANAGER, or of any TWO MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY. At least forty-eight (48) hours written notice shall be given designating the time and purpose of a special meeting.)

Received/Date: February 28, 2021

Borough Clerk: 

Date assigned: March 2, 2021

Time assigned: 6:00 p.m.

Notice out: February 28, 2021 @ 3.30 p.m.

City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska
SPECIAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Wrangell Municipal Code Section 3.04.090, the Borough Assembly will hold a **Special Assembly Meeting** on **Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**, by ZOOM teleconference, on the following item(s):

- a. **EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO 987** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, REAFFIRMING THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY IN EMERGENCY ORDINANCES 976, 980 AND 985 AND REQUIRING A FACE COVERING IN CERTAIN INDOOR SETTINGS, ACTIVATING THE PENALTY IN THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE, AND STRONGLY URGING OTHER MITIGATION ACTIONS
- b. **EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO 988** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, REAFFIRMING THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY IN EMERGENCY ORDINANCES 976, 980 AND 985 AND ADOPTING THE REQUIREMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AND INTERSTATE TRAVEL TESTING MEASURES
- c. **EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO 989** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, REAFFIRMING THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY IN EMERGENCY ORDINANCES 976, 980 AND 985 AND ADOPTING THE REQUIREMENT OF INTRASTATE TRAVEL TESTING MEASURES

Emergency Resolution No. 02-21-1564 allows for a modified plan for in-person meetings. Please contact the Borough Clerk to obtain a copy of the Resolution and Mitigation Plan. Public Members are highly encouraged to attend the meeting by Zoom Teleconference.

However, due to the content of this Special Assembly meeting, this Special Assembly meeting will be held by Zoom Teleconference.

If you wish to call into the meeting to speak under Persons to be Heard, please contact the Borough Clerk at 907-874-2381 or email: clerk@wrangell.com no later than Tuesday, March 2nd at 5:00 p.m.

All Public Comments submitted for this meeting will be forwarded directly to the Borough Assembly and in addition, added to the next Regular Assembly Meeting under Persons to be Heard/Public Comments.

To Join by Computer:

<https://zoom.us/j/9078742381?pwd=MTNqSEdncjRvakh2UCtMVUNxMndYUT09>

And Enter the Meeting ID: **907 874 2381**

Then Enter Password: **99929**

Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk
City & Borough of Wrangell