

**Minutes of Assembly Public Hearing
Held November 27, 2012**

Mayor Donald McConachie called the public hearing to order at 6:30 p.m., November 27, 2012, in the Assembly Chambers. Assembly Members Jack, Privett, Stough, Stokes and Wiederspohn were present. Assembly Member McCloskey was absent. Borough Manager Timothy Rooney and Borough Clerk Kim Flores were also in attendance.

Public Hearing Item

PROPOSED ORDINANCE No. 866: AN ORDINANCE OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING TITLE 3, CHAPTER 3.32.030 (D) AND CHAPTER 3.32.090 AND ORDINANCE NO. 865 OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE WRANGELL MEDICAL CENTER AND LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY BOARD (second reading)

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

None.

ORAL TESTIMONY

Billie Younce, 912 Evergreen Ave., spoke against revising Section 3.32.090 – Hospital board liaison. She said that having an assembly liaison attend the all Hospital Board Executive Sessions would protect not only the City but the Hospital Board as well.

Dorothy Sweat, 8 ¾ Mile Zimovia Hwy., spoke strongly against removing the assembly liaison from the proposed ordinance. She said that if there were not an assembly liaison in the executive sessions, she believed that the hospital board might talk about issues that did not pertain to the topic of the noticed executive session.

Laura Salard, 3 ½ Mile Zimovia Hwy., spoke against revising the assembly liaison to not be allowed to attend Hospital Board Executive Sessions when they pertain to credentialing. She stated that physician credentialing was no more important than any other topic that may be discussed in executive session.

Bernie Massin, 621 Wrangell, asked how the Assembly:

- Would the assembly liaison would report back on issues that were discussed in executive sessions of the hospital board.
 - Would the assembly liaison be able to speak and direct the hospital board while in executive session.
 - Would the assembly liaison have a vote at the hospital board meetings.
- Mr. Massin asked that if the City takes any action for the hospital, that the hospital board be notified first. He also said that he was not aware of the proposed ordinance change.

Borough Manager Rooney answered that he had presented the changes to the hospital board at their last meeting and that the hospital board had been told that the first reading would take place at the Regular Assembly Meeting held on October 30, 2012.

Greg Salard, 3 ½ Mile Zimovia Hwy., expressed that he believed that the assembly liaison could bring insight to the hospital board. Salard spoke in favor of the assembly liaison being allowed to be in the hospital board executive sessions, even when the issue involved physician credentialing.

Bob Maxand, 319 Church Street, spoke in favor of having an assembly liaison at the hospital board meetings. He said that Assembly Member Jack had been at several of the hospital board meetings and helped to keep the board on track.

Assembly Member Stough said that he had been appointed as the assembly liaison many years back. He spoke in favor of having the assembly liaison for the hospital board. Stough also said that he believed that any assembly member should be allowed to attend any executive session that any board holds. Stough further stated that it is important for the assembly liaison to be in the hospital board executive session to make sure that matters that were not noticed were not being discussed while in executive session; basically, to keep everyone on track. He also said that the communication between the borough government and the hospital board was important.


Assembly Member Stough stated that he would have no voting power as the assembly liaison for the hospital board while in executive session.

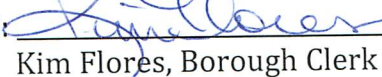
Assembly Member Privett said that extra attention would need to be given to the hospital board for the time being. He also said that in regards to HEPA laws and patient information, the assembly and the hospital board should not be privy to patient information and history. Privett reiterated that what was discussed in any executive session was privileged and should never be repeated.

Assembly Member Privett said that having an assembly liaison attend the hospital board meetings and the executive sessions, would provide a better understanding of what is happening in the community when it came to the Wrangell Medical Center.

Mayor McConachie said that he remembered years ago when the assembly liaison would report back to the assembly on a monthly basis in order to keep the assembly up to date with what was going on with the hospital.

Adjourned at 6:55 p.m.


Donald McConachie, Mayor

ATTEST: 
Kim Flores, Borough Clerk

