

**Minutes of Regular Assembly Meeting
Held on February 26, 2013**

Mayor David L. Jack called the regular assembly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., February 26, 2013, in the Borough Assembly Chambers. Assembly Members Stough, Wiederspohn, Privett and Stokes were present. Assembly Member McCloskey was absent. Acting Borough Manager Jeff Jabusch and Borough Clerk Kim Flores were also in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Assembly Member Bill Privett.

Invocation given by a member of the Baha'i Faith.

Community Presentation – There was no community presentation.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

There were no amendments to the agenda.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by McCloskey, seconded by Stough, to approve Consent Agenda Items marked with an () asterisk; 6a, 7a, 7b & *13f. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*6a Minutes of the Regular Assembly meeting held February 12, 2013; Minutes of the Special Assembly meeting held February 15, 2013

COMMUNICATIONS

*a Minutes of the Parks & Recreation Board Regular meeting held December 5, 2012

*b School Board Action of the Regular School Board meeting held February 18, 2013

*13g Final Plat approval of the Edens Replat

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Borough Manager Rooney's report was provided.

In addition to the Borough Manager's Report, Acting Borough Manager Jabusch reported that the City had done some utility disconnects on delinquent accounts; this issue had been brought to the Borough Assembly June, 2012 in an effort to tighten up delinquencies; as long as the weather was not at freezing temperatures, the disconnects would move forward; notice would be going in the local newspaper to remind residents of the rules

passed by the Borough Assembly last June; the City no longer hangs notices on doors; pink notices (disconnect notices) are mailed in lieu of regular bills;

Jabusch emphasized that if the resident received a pink notice, the resident must take action by coming into City Hall and either making a payment or setting up a payment contract plan. He further said that there were means of energy assistance available by outside sources for those who need it. He expressed that the procedure was something that residents were getting used to and that the process was helping to keep delinquencies down.

Jabusch also added that there were new power poles being installed on Spur Road. He said that once the poles were installed by outside contractors, the Wrangell Power Line Crew would install the braces, guide wires, and start stringing the wire.

Jabusch commented that the LED Lights that had been installed throughout town would be an approximate thirty two thousand dollar savings on Kilowatt hours annually. He also said that the LED lights would last a lot longer than the older style lights.

Jabusch reported that the Tax Assessment Notices would be going out the third week in March; residents have a month to review and submit an appeal on the assessment if they feel that the assessment is not accurate.

He also reported that he believed that the Finance Department had contacted all of the Senior's that had submitted Senior Tax Exempt forms in the past; he urged any seniors that had turned 65 last year, to come into City Hall and fill out the Senior Tax Exempt Form by March 1, 2013.

BOROUGH CLERK'S FILE

Borough Clerk Flores's report was provided.

MAYOR/ASSEMBLY REPORTS AND APPOINTMENTS

10a Reports by Assembly Members

Assembly Member Privett echoed Acting Borough Manager Jabusch's comments that if a resident received a pink disconnect notice, they need to come into City Hall and make arrangements with the Finance Department. He said that the responsibility is on the account holder to make arrangements in an effort to avoid their utilities from being disconnected. He commented that he had received numerous calls from residents who had (or knew someone who had) their utilities disconnected. He said that he had explained to those individuals why the City had taken the action to disconnect their utilities.

Assembly Member Stough said that he had read through the Annual Police Report and said that the report stated that the 911 System would need to be upgraded. He asked why there was no mention of the City trying to get a grant to pay for these upgrades.

Acting Borough Manager Jabusch answered that the upgrades could be hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Assembly Member Stough said that the City should be looking into doing these upgrades in the near future.

Mayor Jack reported that he had traveled to the AML Legislative meeting earlier in the month. He said that the priorities booklet that had been submitted by the City to the local representatives had been a success. He further said that our local representatives had been in favor of the smaller priority projects that the City had included in the booklet along with the City's top priorities.

Mayor Jack also reported that the Evergreen Avenue Project was back in the Governor's budget. He thanked the residents of Wrangell for writing their letters in support of the project and gave credit to the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce for spearheading the effort.

10b Discussion regarding the scheduling of a Workshop to start the process of the required independent review of the sale of individual projects as outlined in the MOU created in 2008 by the City of Ketchikan; the City of Petersburg; and the City & Borough of Wrangell

Mayor Jack commented that it was required under the MOU created in 2008, that by the end of 2014, the three communities meet and decide what they want to do. He also outlined that the three possibilities would be to either:

- Purchase the project as a community which would eliminate SEAPA
- Revising the current MOU
- Do nothing

Mayor Jack also stated that this was a three community process and would take time.

Assembly Member Stough said that in 2008, there had been an Energy Committee that had looked into the topics that were being considered. He suggested creating a Committee that would review all aspects of what the City's options were.

Assembly Member Stough further recognized that this process would take some time. He felt that the Committee should be made up of Assembly Members, a member of the community, SEAPA Representative, the Thomas Bay Power Authority Board member, the Wrangell Electrical Superintendent, the City Manager, and the Attorney (as needed).

Assembly Member Stough said that he believed that in forming a Committee, it would allow for other communities to step forward and start their process.

Assembly Member Privett was in favor of Assembly Member Stough's proposal of a Committee. He suggested having Mayor Jack draft a letter to the Petersburg Borough to see if they want to be a part of the process collectively.

Assembly Member Privett stated that whatever decision was made, that is be a good one and that it also be in the best interest of both Wrangell and Petersburg. He further said that collectively with the Petersburg Borough, the communities could come to that decision.

Assembly Member Stough also suggested that Mayor Jack write a letter to the Petersburg Borough Assembly letting them know that Wrangell is looking into starting the process required under the 2008 MOU.

It was agreed with the consensus of the Borough Assembly that Mayor Jack would draft a letter to the Petersburg Borough Mayor and Assembly.

10c Discussion regarding a proposed Alaska Class Ferry appeal letter to Governor Parnell

Mayor Jack said that it appeared that the Alaska Marine Highway System was looking at using Shuttle Ferries between Juneau, Skagway and Haines. He referenced a letter from Stephanie Scott, Haines Mayor, to Governor Sean Parnell which said that she had been in contact with Lt. Governor Treadwell and that the communities of Southeast Alaska would not be "tone death" about this issue.

Assembly Member Privett commented that he did not disagree with the purpose of Mayor Scott's letter to Governor Parnell. He said that crossing Lynn Canal or Clarence Straights in a vessel the size that was proposed by AMHS in the dead of winter would not be pleasant and could be dangerous.

Assembly Member Privett further commented that if AMHS were to build an Alaska Class Ferry, it should be able to travel throughout all of Alaska. He said that a Shuttle Ferry could not do this.

Mayor Jack said that he believed that at Shuttle Ferry could be better used if traveling the inside passage routes from Juneau to Sitka or Hoonah, Kake and Metlakatla. He further said that it takes two days to travel from Wrangell to Juneau. He said that he felt as though relieving some of the smaller city routes by the Alaska Class Ferries would allow for shorter trips between the larger city routes; would also be more economical.

Assembly Member Privett said that AMHS were making those routes with the smaller ferries now. He said that if AMHS were to build ferries for Alaska that were supposed to work for Southeast Alaska and beyond, anything less than the size of the Tacu would be a waste of money.

Moved by Stough, seconded by Privett, to direct the Borough Mayor to draft an appeal letter to Governor Sean Parnell regarding a proposed Alaska Class Ferry. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

10d Acceptance of Resignation from Assembly Member David L. Jack as Assembly Member on the Borough Assembly

Moved by Privett, seconded Stough, to accept the resignation from Assembly Member David L. Jack as Assembly Member on the Borough Assembly. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

10e Appointment to fill the vacancy of Seat "B" on the Borough Assembly

Mayor Jack stated that the Assembly had received four letters of interest for the vacancy of Assembly Seat B from:

- *Billie Jo Younce*
- *Ernie Christian*
- *Kipha Valvoda*
- *Julie Decker*

Moved by Privett to appoint Billie Jo Younce to fill the vacancy of Assembly Member Seat "B" on the Borough Assembly up until the next Borough Election to be held October 1, 2013.

Motion failed due to lack of a second.

Moved by Stough, seconded by Wiederspohn to appoint Ernie Christian to fill the vacancy of Assembly Member Seat "B" on the Borough Assembly up until the next Borough Election to be held October 1, 2013. Motion approved by polled vote with Wiederspohn, Stough and Stokes voting yea; and Privett and Mayor Jack voting nay.

Assembly Member Stough expressed that he had voted for Mr. Christian to fill the vacancy on the Borough Assembly because of the upcoming electrical SEAPA issues. He said that Ernie had served as a Council Member in the past. Also, that Christian had been one of the original Energy Committee members when he was on the City Council in 2008.

Assembly Member Stough also thanked Billie Jo Younce, Kipha Valvoda and Julie Decker for submitting their letters of interest.

Mayor Jack also thanked those who submitted their letters of interest for the vacancy on the Assembly.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Greg Salard, 2.5 Mile Zimovia Hwy., Informed the Borough Assembly that, as of today, his hospital privileges had been reinstated. He said that he was looking forward to being able to take care of his patients at the hospital as well as in the emergency room.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

13a PROPOSED RESOLUTION No. 02-13-1266: A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF PUBLIC LAND, LOT 8A, BLOCK 63B, AMENDED WRANGELL INDUSTRIAL PARK SUBDIVISION III REPLAT LOT, BY QUITCLAIM DEED, TO DAVID HAIDER

Moved by Stough, seconded by Stokes, to adopt Resolution. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13b PROPOSED RESOLUTION 02-13-1267: A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF PUBLIC LAND, LOT 8AA, BLOCK 64, AMENDED WRANGELL INDUSTRIAL PARK SUBDIVISION III REPLAT LOT, BY QUITCLAIM DEED, TO HANS BORVE AND KEITH ANUNDI

Moved by Privett, seconded by Stokes, to adopt Resolution. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13c PROPOSED RESOLUTION 02-13-1268: A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF PUBLIC LAND, LOT 3A, BLOCK 64, AMENDED WRANGELL INDUSTRIAL PARK SUBDIVISION III REPLAT LOT, BY QUITCLAIM DEED, TO GARY J. STEVENS AND LINNEA L. BROOKS

Moved by Wiederspohn, seconded by Stough, to adopt Resolution. Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13d Approval to Change Board of Equalization Meeting Date from May 6, 2013 to May 13, 2013

Moved by Stough, seconded by Stokes to approve rescheduling the annual Board of Equalization meeting from May 6, 2013 to May 13, 2013 as requested.

Acting Borough Manager Jabusch explained that the request by Mr. Renfro to reschedule the BOE meeting was due to the upcoming Shakes Island rededication ceremony. He further explained that there were no vacancies in the hotels during the week in which the meeting was originally scheduled for.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

13e Approval to donate a 1984 GMC Line Truck, currently listed as Surplus Equipment for sale as over-the-counter equipment

Moved by Privett, seconded by Stough, to authorize the Borough Manager to donate the 1984 GMC Line Truck to Thomas Bay Power Authority.

Acting Borough Manager Jabusch asked Paul Southland, General Manager of the Thomas Bay Power Authority if TBPA was allowed to own equipment since SEAPA owns everything that was used by TBPA.

Mr. Southland answered that TBPA could own equipment.

Motion approved unanimously by polled vote.

***13f** Final Plat approval of the Edens Replat

APPROVED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

ATTORNEY'S FILE

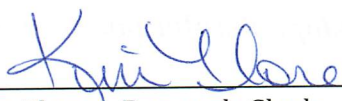
Summary provided to the Borough Assembly in their Assembly packet.

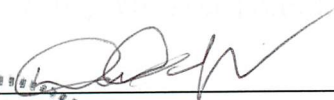
EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:41 p.m.

ATTEST:


Kim Flores, Borough Clerk



David L. Jack, Mayor

