

**BOROUGH ASSEMBLY
AGENDA ITEM
January 10, 2012**

ITEM NO. 9

BOROUGH CLERK'S FILE:

Upcoming Dates to Remember

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| 1/10 | Bid Opening for Line Truck @ 2:00 p.m. Assembly Public Hearing @ 6:30 p.m. Assembly Regular Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. |
| 1/11 | Port Commission Workshop @ 6:00 p.m. Port Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. |
| 1/12 | Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. |
| 1/16 | Bid Opening for Rebid Etolin Street Project School Board Meeting |
| 1/17 | Proposed Assembly Work Session regarding Legislative Priorities for 2012 in Council Chambers @ 6:00 p.m. |
| 1/18 | Farmer's Market Meeting in Council Chambers @ 6:00 p.m. Hospital Board Meeting |
| 1/19 | WCVB Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers |
| 1/24 | Assembly Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. |
| 1/31 | Pre-Bid Meeting for City Dock Rehabilitation Project @ 11:00 a.m. in Council Chambers |

Alaska Constitution

Article 10 – Local Government

§ 1. Purpose and Construction

The purpose of this article is to provide for maximum local self-government with a minimum of local government units, and to prevent duplication of tax-levying jurisdictions. A liberal construction shall be given to the powers of local government units.

§ 2. Local Government Powers

All local government powers shall be vested in boroughs and cities. The State may delegate taxing powers to organized boroughs and cities only.

§ 3. Boroughs

The entire State shall be divided into boroughs, organized or unorganized. They shall be established in a manner and according to standards provided by law. The standards shall include population, geography, economy, transportation, and other factors. Each borough shall embrace an area and population with common interests to the maximum degree possible. The legislature shall classify boroughs and prescribe their powers and functions. Methods by which boroughs may be organized, incorporated, merged, consolidated, reclassified, or dissolved shall be prescribed by law.

§ 4. Assembly

The governing body of the organized borough shall be the assembly, and its composition shall be established by law or charter. [Amended 1972]

§ 5. Service Areas

Service areas to provide special services within an organized borough may be established, altered, or abolished by the assembly, subject to the provisions of law or charter. A new service area shall not be established if, consistent with the purposes of this article, the new service can be provided by an existing service area, by incorporation as a city, or by annexation to a city. The assembly may authorize the levying of taxes, charges, or assessments within a service area to finance the special services.

§ 6. Unorganized Boroughs

The legislature shall provide for the performance of services it deems necessary or advisable in unorganized boroughs, allowing for maximum local participation and responsibility. It may exercise any power or function in an unorganized borough which the assembly may exercise in an organized borough.

§ 7. Cities

Cities shall be incorporated in a manner prescribed by law, and shall be a part of the borough in which they are located. Cities shall have the powers and functions conferred by law or charter. They may be merged, consolidated, classified, reclassified, or dissolved in the manner provided by law.

§ 8. Council

The governing body of a city shall be the council.

§ 9. Charters

The qualified voters of any borough of the first class or city of the first class may adopt, amend, or repeal a home rule charter in a manner provided by law. In the absence of such legislation, the governing body of a borough or city of the first class shall provide the procedure for the preparation and adoption or rejection of the charter. All charters, or parts or amendments of charters, shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the borough or city, and shall become effective if approved by a majority of those who vote on the specific question.

§ 10. Extended Home Rule

The legislature may extend home rule to other boroughs and cities.

§ 11. Home Rule Powers

A home rule borough or city may exercise all legislative powers not prohibited by law or by charter.

§ 12. Boundaries

A local boundary commission or board shall be established by law in the executive branch of the state government. The commission or board may consider any proposed local government boundary change. It may present proposed changes to the legislature during the first ten days of any regular session. The change shall become effective forty-

five days after presentation or at the end of the session, whichever is earlier, unless disapproved by a resolution concurred in by a majority of the members of each house. The commission or board, subject to law, may establish procedures whereby boundaries may be adjusted by local action.

§ 13. Agreements; Transfer of Powers

Agreements, including those for cooperative or joint administration of any functions or powers, may be made by any local government with any other local government, with the State, or with the United States, unless otherwise provided by law or charter. A city may transfer to the borough in which it is located any of its powers or functions unless prohibited by law or charter, and may in like manner revoke the transfer.

§ 14. Local Government Agency

An agency shall be established by law in the executive branch of the state government to advise and assist local governments. It shall review their activities, collect and publish local government information, and perform other duties prescribed by law.

§ 15. Special Service Districts

Special service districts existing at the time a borough is organized shall be integrated with the government of the borough as provided by law.

Absentee Voting by Email

I've contact the Clerks Association and attached is a spreadsheet I put together on information received from various municipalities pertaining to absentee voting by email.

Most municipalities' absentee vote in person, by regular mail or by fax. Absentee voting by email is not practiced as much as you would think in Alaska because the process is not secure enough for elections, and that too many people have access. A fax machine can be more controlled.

So for right now, Wrangell will continue to absentee vote in person, by regular mail, and now by fax.

UNTIL NEXT TIME...



