

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Denali Borough Assembly
McKinley Park Community Center
May 11, 2005**

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CALL TO ORDER Presiding Officer Gerald Pollock called the regular meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

ROLL CALL Assembly members present were: Gerald Pollock, Bob Shelton, Teresa Hall, Cynthia Trytko, Baxter Mercer, Sid Michaels, Jim Caswell and Paul Schenk. Absent were: David Evans. Mayor Talerico was also in attendance.

MICHAELS MOVED to excuse EVANS and HALL seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENTS There were no public comments.

AGENDA MICHAELS MOVED to approve the agenda and HALL seconded.

POLLOCK asked to move Item H9, the Matching Grants Program, to item H1 to place it before the budget.

MICHAELS requested adding Charlie Loeb to talk about the Denali National Park Back Country Plan under G1, Communications and Appearances.

The VOTE to approve the agenda as amended was unanimous.

MINUTES 1.) Assembly Meeting: Public Hearing and Regular Meeting held on April 13, 2005.

The Presiding Officer entertained a motion to adopt the April 13, 2005 minutes, HALL so MOVED and MICHAELS seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

FINANCIAL REPORT 1.) Financial report for March 2005.

1 The Presiding Officer entertained a motion to receive the
2 March 2005 Financial Report. MICHAELS so MOVED and
3 HALL seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.
4

5 MAYOR'S
6 REPORT

7 Mayor Talerico gave a brief report of his activities.

8 Mayor Talerico recognized the Assistant Superintendent of
9 Denali National Park Service, Elwood Lynn. He also
10 recognized Mr. Charlie Loeb.

11 Mayor Talerico explained that this summer the family of Bill
12 James is planning on inviting everyone to a memorial. The
13 Mayor would like to include the Borough's proclamation on
14 that day.
15

16 During the AML Legislative Fly-in to Juneau in April, the
17 issues talked about included PERS/TERS and Revenue
18 Sharing to local municipalities.
19

20 Mayor Talerico was approached by ACS Wireless to lease a
21 piece of land near Bear Creek. MICHAELS MOVED to have
22 the administrator look into leasing a piece of land to ACS
23 Wireless for the new tower, HALL seconded. The VOTE
24 was unanimous.
25

26 There will be a Fire Safety Day at the Tri-Valley Community
27 Center on Thursday, May 19, 2005 at 1:00 PM.
28

29 Mayor Talerico spoke about the Healy Transfer Station.
30 There is a Denali Commission grant available for a recycling
31 program. The Borough office is currently working on the
32 grant application.
33

34 On May 17 the Mayor will be in Fairbanks to meet with the
35 Interior Community Health Center to discuss the expansion
36 of the Tri-Valley Community Center and on May 19th he will
37 be attending a meeting with USDA in Anchorage to discuss
38 the funding for the expansion. Senator Stevens was
39 instrumental in the Fire Department getting the 2 million
40 dollar grant. There is also a meeting scheduled with the
41 Alaska Railroad in Anchorage on May 19.
42

43 The State of Alaska created a small Municipal Energy
44 Assistance Program for fuel. The Borough is entitled to
45 \$67,180.

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Eileen Armstrong, Landfill Bookkeeper/Administrative Aide, gave an update on the Healy Transfer Station survey that was mailed to residents in March. She spoke about the Denali Commission grant.

The Mayor would like to start planning the annual Denali National Park trip with staff and Assembly members.

The Stampede Road initiative is still on the Governor's budget. The Mayor explained that he took a map of another possible route that would transverse north of the Denali National Park boundary. The Stampede area is a boxed-in canyon whereas the other possible route is on all state land and can continue to the coast of Alaska.

SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Superintendent was not in attendance.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

MICHAELS explained the decisions of the Finance Committee on the procedures to finance land sales. The Finance Committee felt that all the procedures were covered in the document. The other procedures dealing with legal forms would be up to the administration and the Borough attorney to create.

SCHENK brought up that the Finance Committee was questioning why the 13.5 percent interest rate was included in the document.

HALL MOVED to accept the Land Sale Document back from the Finance Committee, MERCER seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

PLANNING COMMISSION

MICHAELS elaborated on the memorandum sent to the Assembly from the Planning Commission.

HALL MOVED to send the wording from the Ad Hoc resolution to the Planning Commission, as a guideline for instructions on the Coal Bed Methane. MERCER seconded. The VOTE was unanimous. Discussion followed.

1 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS SCHENK thanked Armstrong for her work on the Healy
2 Transfer Station. He also thanked the Mayor and
3 Borough staff for returning to Juneau to discuss local
4 issues with the legislatures.
5
6 CASWELL addressed HB 280 regarding limiting local
7 governments on severance tax and future natural
8 resources.
9
10 MICHAELS MOVED to direct to Mayor to talk to the
11 attorney regarding strategy for this issue, CASWELL
12 seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.
13
14 TRYTKO thanked Armstrong for her work on the
15 transfer/recycling center.
16
17 RECESS The Presiding Officer called a short recess at 7:51 PM.
18 The meeting reconvened at 8:07 PM.
19
20 COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCES 1.) Charlie Loeb to discuss the Denali National Park
21 AND Back Country Management plan draft.
22 APPEARANCES Charlie Loeb gave a brief overview of the draft plan.
23
24
25 ORDINANCES 1.) An ordinance amending the Denali Borough Code,
26 Chapter 20, Section 3 to increase the amount of the
27 overnight accommodations tax.
28
29 MICHAELS MOVED to introduce, SCHENK seconded.
30
31 SCHENK addressed the ideas of the Finance Committee.
32 Discussion followed.
33
34 The roll call VOTE was 6-2 with POLLOCK and
35 CASWELL opposed. This will be Ordinance 05-11.
36
37 2.) An ordinance amending the Denali Borough Code,
38 adding Chapter 22, Business License.
39
40 MICHAELS MOVED to introduce, SCHENK seconded.
41
42 CASWELL asked about the objective of this ordinance.
43
44 MICHAELS addressed the question stating that a
45 business license would help the Borough know who is

1 doing business locally. It will help with planning by
2 looking at trends and what revenues can be generated.
3 It will also help the Borough with contacting businesses
4 that are extracting gravel. Discussion followed.
5

6 The roll call VOTE was 7-1 with CASWELL opposed.
7 This will be Ordinance 05-12.
8

9 3.) Ordinance 05-04: An ordinance amending the Denali
10 Borough budget for the fiscal year 2005.
11

12 MICHAELS MOVED to adopt, MERCER seconded. The
13 roll call VOTE was unanimous.
14

15 4.) Ordinance 05-10: An ordinance establishing a
16 matching grant program.
17

18 The Chair entertained a motion to adopt. SCHENK so
19 MOVED and HALL seconded. The roll call VOTE was
20 unanimous.
21

22 5.) Ordinance 05-05: An ordinance for the Denali
23 Borough providing for the establishment and adoption of
24 the budget for fiscal year 2006.
25

26 MICHAELS MOVED to adopt, MERCER seconded.
27

28 MICHAELS MOVED to amend the Mayor's Salary to
29 \$53,750, the Mayor's Benefits to \$36,000, and the
30 narrative to read "This amount reflects a change in salary
31 from \$32,500 to \$65,000 annually with the election of the
32 next Mayor in November 2005." HALL seconded.
33

34 Mayor Talerico spoke against this amendment. He
35 stated that he is not sure that this was the intent of the
36 voters. Discussion ensued.
37

38 CASWELL MOVED to put this to a vote of the people.
39 The motion fails for lack of a second.
40

41 The VOTE on the amendment was 7-1 with SHELTON
42 opposed.
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44 HALL MOVED to amend the amount of funding for the
45 Railbelt Mental Health from \$2,000 to \$8,900. CASWELL

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seconded. The VOTE on the amendment was unanimous.

The roll call VOTE to adopt as amended was unanimous.

6.) Ordinance 05-06: An ordinance establishing the Denali Borough Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for fiscal year 2006-2011.

MICHAELS MOVED to adopt, HALL seconded. The roll call VOTE was unanimous.

7.) Ordinance 05-07: An ordinance amending Title V, Chapter 30, of the Denali Borough Code concerning School Board reapportionment. (9 member at-large)

HALL MOVED to amend by removing the number of members and put in a blank. MICHAELS seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

The Chair entertained a motion to postpone to the next meeting. MICHAELS so MOVED and CASWELL seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

8.) Ordinance 05-08: An ordinance amending Title V, Chapter 30, of the Denali Borough Code concerning School Board reapportionment. (7 member at-large)

MICHAELS MOVED to postpone indefinitely. HALL seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

9.) Ordinance 05-09: An ordinance amending VIII, Section 8.01 and 8.02 of the Denali Borough concerning School Board reapportionment.

MICHAELS addressed his proposed changes that he will make at the next meeting.

MICHAELS MOVED to postpone to the next meeting and TRYTKO seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

RESOLUTIONS

1.) A resolution authorizing a land selection agent for Denali Borough Municipal Entitlement Lands.

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OTHER
BUSINESS

HALL MOVED to adopt, MICHAELS seconded. The roll call VOTE was unanimous. This will be Resolution 05-07.

2.) A resolution supporting the Administration to pursue a solid waste grant from the Denali Commission for a Healy transfer/recycling station.

TRYTKO MOVED to adopt and HALL seconded. The roll call VOTE was unanimous. This will be Resolution 05-08.

3.) A resolution of the Assembly pertaining to the asset allocation of the Permanent Investment Fund.

MICHAELS MOVED to adopt. SCHENK seconded. The roll call VOTE was unanimous. This will be Resolution 05-09.

1.) Denali Borough Free Dump Day voucher program.

Mayor Talerico explained the reason for the Free Dump Day voucher program and how the program will work.

2.) Approval recommendation from Borough Attorney Jim Gorski in reference to lawsuits 1-4, correspondence dated April 29, 2005.

David Braun, Healy resident, addressed the Denali Borough's legal and court expenses due to continuing lawsuits. He also addressed the current four lawsuits.

Mayor Talerico read the correspondence from Borough Attorney James Gorski.

The Chair entertained a motion to approve the recommendations as submitted by the Borough Attorney's correspondence dated April 29, 2005. MERCER so MOVED and SCHENK seconded. The roll call VOTE was unanimous.

3.) Approval of the Denali Borough mission statement.

MICHAELS MOVED to postpone to the next meeting. HALL seconded. The VOTE was unanimous.

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4.) Approval of the Denali Borough Land Sales Procedures.

MICHAELS MOVED to amend page 4, in the 3rd paragraph, place a period after three percent and delete, "however, the total interest may not exceed 13.5 percent." HALL seconded. The VOTE was 6-2 with POLLOCK and CASWELL opposed.

MICHAELS MOVED to adopt and TRYTKO seconded. The roll call VOTE was unanimous.

5.) Public Comments.

Elwood Lynn, Deputy Superintendent of Denali National Park invited everyone to the Park Service open house that will be held on May 18, 2005, 4- 7 PM.

Jan St. Peters, Healy resident and overnight accommodations owner, spoke against the bed tax increase and addressed the fact that she supports the schools, but some of the things that aren't taxed in the Borough should be because they are high risk and they are the ones that are going to need the extra emergency services such as horseback riding, air flights, and rafting. The tax base should be spread between everyone.

Braun spoke against the increase of the bed tax.

Sue Deyo, Denali Citizens Council, spoke against the increase of the bed tax because the tax should be spread around to other businesses.

Elwood Lynn encouraged the Assembly to continue to look for additional revenue sources because there are tough times ahead with increased prices on everything.

ASSEMBLY
COMMENTS

HALL spoke about bringing back the excursion tax ordinance.

TRYTKO agreed with HALL.

CASWELL would like to look into fire safety codes for hotels and commercial buildings in the Nenana Canyon.

1 NEXT MEETING 1.) The next regular meeting will be held at the Cantwell
2 School on June 8, 2005. Work Session at 6:00, Public
3 Hearing 6:45, and Regular Meeting to follow
4

5 ADJOURN. Presiding Officer Pollock declared the regular meeting
6 adjourned at 10:09 PM.
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10 ATTEST: SIGNATURE ON FILE
11 Borough Clerk
12

APPROVED: SIGNATURE ON FILE
Presiding Officer

13
14 Date Approved: JUNE 08, 2005