

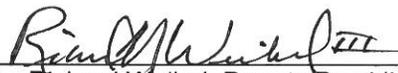
Minutes of the Public Hearing
Denali Borough Assembly
McKinley Community Center
February 13, 2013

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7 CALL TO ORDER: The public hearing was called to order by Deputy Presiding Officer Rick Weibel
8 at 6:00 PM.
9

10 ROLL CALL: Assembly members present: David EVANS, Rusty LASELL, Steve ANASTASIA,
11 Gordon CARLSON, Jared ZIMMERMAN and Rick WEIBEL. Absent: Terry ASBURY and Paddy
12 TATUM.
13

14 ORDINANCE 13-03, Version A: An ordinance amending Chapter DBC 3.25 titled Overnight
15 Accommodations Tax by repealing 3.25.180 titled Special Provisions for Preexisting Contracts.
16

17 There was no public comment.
18
19
20
21

22
23 APPROVED:  _____
24 Richard Weibel, Deputy Presiding Officer
25
26

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28
29 ATTEST:  _____ Date Approved: MARCH 13, 2013
30 Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk
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33
34

1 **Minutes of the Regular Meeting**
2 **Denali Borough Assembly**
3 **McKinley Community Center**
4 **February 13, 2013**
5

6 CALL TO ORDER: Deputy Presiding Officer Richard Weibel called the regular meeting to order at
7 6:01 PM. Mayor Pro Tempore Clay Walker led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
8

9 ROLL CALL

10 Assembly members present: Rusty LASELL, Gordon CARLSON, David EVANS, Steve
11 ANASTASIA, Jared ZIMMERMAN and Richard WEIBEL. Absent: Terry ASBURY and Paddy
12 TATUM.
13

14 The absences of Mr. Asbury and Ms. Tatum were excused by acclamation.
15

16 PUBLIC COMMENTS

17 There was no public comment.
18

19 AGENDA

20 David EVANS MOVED to approve the agenda as submitted. Gordon CARLSON seconded.
21

22 David EVANS MOVED to amend the agenda by moving agenda item G. Communication and
23 Appearance Requests before agenda item F. Reports. Gordon CARLSON seconded. The VOTE by
24 show of hands to amend the agenda was unanimous.
25

26 The VOTE by show of hands on the main motion to approve the agenda was unanimous.
27

28 MINUTES

29 January 9, 2013 Public Hearing
30 January 9, 2013 Regular Meeting
31

32 David EVANS MOVED to approve the January 9, 2013 public hearing and regular meeting minutes.
33 Rusty LASELL seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.
34

35 COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCES

36 Allison Przybylski: Girl Scout Cadet: Project presentation on a proposed Healy Dog Park
37

38 Allison Przybylski, Girl Scout Cadet, presented the assembly with information on her Silver
39 Award project to create a dog park in Healy. Ms. Przybylski conducted an online survey
40 regarding the project idea, has come up with a plan, started fund raising, and held an
41 informational public meeting.
42

43 Ethan Birkholz, DOT Northern Region Chief Planner, to discuss local projects
44

45 Ethan Birkholz, Chief Planner of Northern Region Department of Transportation (DOT),
46 presented information regarding projects in and near the Denali Borough. Construction projects
47 for 2013 include reconstruction of the Parks Highway Milepost 252 to 263, resurfacing of
48 Stampede and Otto Lake Roads, and deep culvert replacement Parks Highway Milepost 175 and
49 176. Projects in design include reconstruction of the Parks Highway Milepost 239 to 252 with an

1 estimated construction start date of September 2013, and Broad Pass Railroad Overcrossing
2 with and estimated construction start date of spring 2014. Mr. Birkholz encouraged pursuing
3 legislative appropriation for a design project for Parks Highway Milepost 231 to 234 that includes
4 pedestrian pathways. Fiscal constraints prohibit the inclusion of bike paths along the scheduled
5 work areas, and suggested contact with the National Park Service regarding enhancements to
6 road projects in Denali Park. A separate point of discussion was that DOT has no current plan
7 for development within the proposed Stampede Recreation Area. Mr. Birkholz reported that he
8 will soon be retiring, and introduced Duane Hoskins, Planner with DOT, who will be the contact
9 for future projects.

10
11 Deputy Presiding Officer Rick Weibel called a meeting recess at 6:57 pm. The meeting
12 reconvened at 7:12 pm.

13 McKinley Community Center FY 13 Matching Grant

14
15
16 Bill Rodwell, president of McKinley Community Club, thanked the assembly for funding new
17 doors and carpeting at the McKinley Community Center. Mr. Rodwell explained that the
18 expenses for the work were less than expected, resulting in the community center having
19 expended \$1,165 less than their required match. Mr. Rodwell requested that the assembly
20 consider amending the scope of work for the Matching Grant to include additional weatherization
21 of the facility, for which payment will apply to the required match amount.

22
23 Rusty LASELL MOVED to amend the scope of work on the 2013 Matching Grant to the McKinley
24 Community Center to include additional weatherization of the facility. David EVANS seconded.
25 The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

26 REPORTS

27 December 2012 Financial Report

28 David EVANS MOVED to receive the December 2012 financial report. Rusty LASELL seconded.
29 The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous. It was noted that an informational meeting regarding
30 the budget and financial report would be helpful.

31 PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT CONFIRMATION

32
33 Gordon CARLSON MOVED to confirm the appointment of Ryan Juszczak to Denali Borough
34 Planning Commission seat F. Steve ANASTASIA seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was
35 unanimous.

36 APPROVAL OF ELECTION BOARD

37
38 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to approve the election board for the February 19, 2013 special
39 election. Rusty LASELL seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous. It was noted that
40 training is provided to election workers, and that most worked the November election.

41 MATCHING GRANT COMMITTEE

42
43 Rusty LASELL MOVED to appoint Clay Walker, Richard Weibel and Jared Zimmerman to the 2013
44 Matching Grant Committee and Gordon Carlson to serve as the alternate. Jared ZIMMERMAN
45 seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

1 STOVE CHANGE-OUT REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

2 Steve Anastasia, Stove Change-Out Committee member, reported that the intent of the program
3 plan developed by the subcommittee is to get the most participation possible. Reimbursement for
4 EPA certified solid fuel burning devices would be based on the number of participants in the
5 program, but would be no less than \$1,500. Fire departments would be involved in the inspection
6 process, and upon certification of destruction of an old stove, the reimbursement would be given. It
7 was noted that there are costs that may not be reimbursed in the replacement of a stove, and that
8 the potential cost to individuals should be clearly explained on information provided with application
9 documents.

10
11 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to approve the Stove Change Out program plan as submitted. Steve
12 ANASTASIA seconded.

13
14 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to amend the program plan to include pellet stoves as the eighth type
15 of defined solid fuel burning device. Steve ANASTASIA seconded. The VOTE on the amendment
16 by show of hands was 5-1, with Gordon CARLSON opposed. The motion passed.

17
18 MAYOR'S REPORT

19 Mayor Pro Tempore Clay Walker reported that the Alaska Railroad (ARRC) land lease for the
20 property at Otto Lake has been signed and staff is currently working on a sublease for the Lion's
21 Club. The ARRC project to build a Y turnaround in Healy is anticipated to be completed for the
22 coming tourism season. Mr. Walker attended the Alaska Hotel and Lodging Association Stars of the
23 Industries event, at which several employees from the Denali Borough were given awards. Freon
24 removal training is being planned for Solid Waste employees to help deal with issues presented by
25 refrigerators brought to the landfill. The trainer will be able to come to the landfill and provide hands
26 on training and equipment.

27
28 Winterfest will be February 22 and 23, with the Denali Borough sponsoring Saturday evening's
29 events including a community dance. Amy Reisland-Speer has been nominated for the Interior
30 Mayors' Arts Award in the Youth category. The budget process is underway. An amendment for the
31 FY 2013 budget will accompany the proposed FY 2014 budget. Comment is being solicited
32 regarding an Alaska Mental Health Trust decision to conduct competitive mineral leasing in the
33 Liberty Bell block near Ferry. Written comments must be received by March 15, 2013. Mr. Walker
34 and Emergency Services Director Steve Eddington met with Denali Borough School District (DBSD)
35 Superintendent Jim Elliott and staff regarding safety enhancements for schools, for which DBSD will
36 request legislative appropriation.

37
38 Discussion followed concerning priorities of assembly members when they are in Juneau the end of
39 the month. DBSD representatives will be lobbying for school projects that same week, and would
40 appreciate assembly members including mention of school projects with their priorities, specifically
41 the school safety project.

42
43 SCHOOL REPORT

44 Denali Borough School District Superintendent Dr. Jim Elliott reported that the impetus for the school
45 safety project came from the Commissioner of Education's office. Vernon Carlson, Denali Borough
46 School Board, will be traveling to Juneau the end of the month to meet with legislators, as will Dr.
47 Elliott. The budget process has begun with the first reading complete and the second coming up.

1 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

2 Rusty LASELL commented that he does not have an issue with school projects as long as an
3 established process is followed.

4
5 David EVANS commented positively on the idea of a dog park, and noted the value of the
6 socialization it could provide for pets and their owners.

7
8 Jared ZIMMERMAN apologized for missing the last meeting due to travel, and commented that
9 constituents in District 4 would appreciate having another meeting in Healy, but he feels he could
10 get to know issues better by traveling to communities. Mr. Zimmerman spoke in favor of internet
11 streaming of meetings.

12
13 Gordon CARLSON and Rick WEIBEL welcomed all in attendance and thanked them for coming.

14
15 Steve ANASTASIA commented that he attended a Nenana meeting of the Alaska Stand Alone
16 Pipeline, and that the project to bring a 36 inch pipeline of lean (usable) gas into communities is
17 not funded, and has no distribution system plan at this point.

18
19 ORDINANCES

20 ORDINANCE 13-03, version A: An ordinance amending Chapter DBC 3.25 titled Overnight
21 Accommodations Tax by repealing 3.25.180 titled Special Provisions for Preexisting Contracts.

22
23 Mayor Pro Tempore Clay Walker explained that Ordinance 13-03 is a housekeeping measure to
24 remove a portion of Denali Borough Code that applied only to 1991, and no subsequent years.

25
26 David EVANS MOVED to adopt Ordinance 13-03, version A. Jared ZIMMERMAN seconded. The
27 roll call VOTE was unanimous.

28
29 RESOLUTIONS:

30
31 RESOLUTION 12-28: A resolution supporting the detachment of certain lands from the Matanuska-
32 Susitna Borough and annexation of lands to the Denali Borough.

33
34 Gordon CARLSON MOVED to approve Resolution 12-28. Rusty LASELL seconded. Mr. Carlson
35 disclosed that he is an Ahtna, Incorporated shareholder. Points of discussion include potential tax
36 issues, emergency services to the proposed area funded by the Denali Borough, the Cantwell
37 community being the hub for people living in the proposed area, the need for a measured and
38 sequential process, the role of the Local Boundary Commission in such an action, the role of the
39 Denali Borough Planning Commission in such an action, and if an ordinance would be a more
40 appropriate consideration.

41
42 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to postpone Resolution 12-28 to the next meeting. The motion died for
43 lack of a second.

44
45 The roll call VOTE on the main motion to approve Resolution 12-28 was 0-6. The motion failed.

46
47 Rusty LASELL requested borough administration begin the legwork toward annexation. Gordon
48 CARLSON seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

1
2 RESOLUTION 13-01: A resolution approving unincorporated communities and their respective
3 incorporated non-profit entity for participation in the fiscal year 2014 Community Revenue Sharing
4 program.

5
6 Rusty LASELL MOVED to approve Resolution 13-01. Gordon CARLSON seconded. The roll call
7 VOTE was unanimous.

8
9 Deputy Presiding Officer Rick Weibel called a meeting recess at 9:07 pm. The meeting reconvened
10 at 9:18 pm.

11
12 RESOLUTION 13-02: A resolution in support of reintroduction and passage of a bill to create the
13 Stampede State Recreation Area.

14
15 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to approve Resolution 13-02. Steve ANASTASIA seconded. Points of
16 discussion include the intent behind creation of Stampede State Recreation Area, the fact that
17 mineral and gas development could still be allowed, the recreation and hunting use of the area, the
18 need for management of the land, and the lack of disruption a recreation area would have on
19 tourism related businesses. The VOTE was unanimous.

20
21 RESOLUTION 13-03: A resolution approving a grant agreement between the Denali Borough and
22 Golden Valley Electric Association for the Solid Fuel Change Out Program.

23
24 David EVANS MOVED to approve Resolution 13-03. Jared ZIMMERMAN seconded. Mayor Pro
25 Tempore Clay Walker noted that the program has received approval from Golden Valley Electric
26 Association and the Environmental Protection Agency. It was noted that information regarding
27 potential out of pocket costs to participants should be included in program information. The roll call
28 VOTE was 5-1 with Gordon CARLSON opposed. The motion passed.

29
30 OTHER BUSINESS

31 Liquor License Renewal Applications

32
33 Denali North Star Inn #3724: Beverage Dispensary

34 229 Parks #4467: Restaurant/Eating Place

35 Panorama Pizza #4898: Beverage Dispensary

36
37 Rusty LASELL MOVED to approve liquor license renewals as listed on the agenda. David EVANS
38 seconded. It was noted that there have been no negative comments on any of the licenses. The
39 VOTE by show of hands to approve liquor license renewals as listed was unanimous.

40
41 Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) in regards to the Alaska State
42 Rail Plan and nominating a person to serve on the Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

43
44 Alaska DOT&PF has contacted the Denali Borough requesting a nomination for the TAG. The first
45 meeting will be on February 26. Gordon CARLSON MOVED to nominate David Evans to the TAG.
46 Steve ANASTASIA seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

1
2 PUBLIC COMMENTS

3 Hannah Ragland, Panguingue Creek Subdivision resident, commented that Mental Health Trust
4 lands opening for mining is scary, with much of that property not being open to the public, and
5 thanked the assembly for passing Resolution 13-02. Ms. Ragland also noted that a National
6 Ecological Observatory Network site has been altered due to public comment received, and invited
7 those present to Stampede Skied on February 16.

8
9 Brian Napier thanked the assembly for passing Resolution 13-02 and spoke in support of a
10 Stampede Recreation Area.

11
12 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

13 Gordon CARLSON thanked those in the audience for attending the meeting, and commented
14 that we need infrastructure such as bike trails to be part of DOT projects.

15
16 Steve ANASTASIA commented that the borough may want to consider combining support for a
17 McKinley Village pedestrian bridge with support for funding other bridges in the borough.

18
19 Jared ZIMMERMAN thanked Clay Walker for taking on the responsibility of Mayor Pro Tempore,
20 and expressed his interest in attending a meeting explaining budgeting and financial reports.

21
22 David EVANS commented that contracting agencies should provide information on Denali
23 Borough severance tax requirements to those bidding contracts within the borough, and wished
24 good luck to all mayoral candidates.

25
26 Rusty LASELL commented on the improvements to the McKinley Community Center, and
27 congratulated those overseeing the project on coming in under budget.

28
29 Rick WEIBEL thanked those in attendance for coming out for assembly deliberation and
30 discussion.

31
32 NEXT ASSEMBLY MEETING:

33 The next regular meeting of the Borough Assembly will be held at the Cantwell School on March
34 13, 2013; Public Hearing at 6:00 PM, and regular meeting to follow.

35
36 The Matching Grant Committee meeting will be held on March 12, 2013 at 6:30 pm at the borough
37 office.

38
39 ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 pm.

40
41
42 APPROVED: 
43 Richard Weibel, Deputy Presiding Officer

44
45
46 ATTEST:  Date Approved: MARCH 13, 2013
47 Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk