

Minutes of the Public Hearing  
Denali Borough Assembly  
McKinley Community Center  
June 11, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: The public hearing was called to order by Deputy Presiding Officer Jared Zimmerman at 6:04 PM.

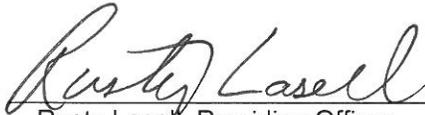
ROLL CALL: Assembly members present: Jill BOELSMA, Jared ZIMMERMAN, Kimberly BURROWS, Paddy TATUM, Don DE BLAUW and Rick WEIBEL Absent: Dave TALERICO, David EVANS and Rusty LASELL.

ORDINANCE 14-06, Version B: An ordinance amending Article XI of the Denali Borough Charter, titled taxation, Section 11.02, titled Tax Procedures and the Denali Borough Code of Ordinances by adding Chapter 3.50, establishing a 3% seasonal general sales and services tax within the Denali Borough

Steve Jones, McKinley Village resident, stated that Ordinance 14-06 would make taxation in the borough more equitable across the board, and in that sense could be a good thing. However, Ordinance 14-06 shows no compelling reason for its adoption at this point in time. A tax would require increased staff for implementation, and the borough currently has no public safety powers. Mr. Jones stated that he is opposed to the ordinance for a number of reasons.

ADJOURNMENT: The public hearing was adjourned at 6:07 PM.

APPROVED:

  
Rusty Lasell, Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

  
Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk

Date Approved: JULY 9, 2014

1 **Minutes of the Regular Meeting**  
2 **Denali Borough Assembly**  
3 **McKinley Community Center**  
4 **June 11, 2014**  
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6

7 CALL TO ORDER: Deputy Presiding Officer Jared Zimmerman called the regular meeting to order at  
8 6:07 PM. Mayor Clay Walker led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
9

10 ROLL CALL

11 Assembly members present: Jill BOELSMA, Kimber BURROWS, Jared ZIMMERMAN, Rick  
12 WEIBEL, Paddy TATUM, and Don DEBLAUW. Absent: Dave TALERICO, David EVANS and Rusty  
13 LASELL. Mayor Clay Walker was also present.  
14

15 Rick WEIBEL MOVED to excuse Mr. Talerico, Mr. Evans and Mr. Lasell. Jill BOELSMA seconded.  
16 The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.  
17

18 PUBLIC COMMENTS

19 Kris Capps, President of Kids in Motion (KIM), made comment in the form of an update on recent  
20 KIM activities. A group traveled to Dance Excellence in Los Angeles, approximately 70 students  
21 performed in a local production of Dr. Doolittle, the Healy Tech Team was awarded the Interior  
22 Mayors' Youth Arts Award, five members of the Healy Tech Team volunteered to help with the Arctic  
23 Winter Games, and Tech Team member Caspian Schieber helped with City Fest in Fairbanks. A  
24 display case has been located at the Tri-Valley School that will display KIM awards. Upcoming  
25 events include the African Children's Choir on August 16, Fairbanks/Denali Summer Arts Festivals  
26 July 13 – 27, and Denali Music Festival Orchestra at Denali National Park on July 19. Upcoming  
27 outreach events in partnership with the Fairbanks Concert Association include Hawaiian music in the  
28 fall and African music in the spring. As a side note, Ms. Capps commented that the new publisher of  
29 the Fairbanks Daily News Miner will be visiting the Denali Borough on June 25.  
30

31 AGENDA

32 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to approve the agenda as presented. Rick WEIBEL seconded. The VOTE by  
33 show of hands was unanimous.  
34

35 MINUTES

36 May 14, 2014 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting

37 Rick WEIBEL MOVED to approve the May 14, 2014 public hearing and regular meeting minutes as  
38 presented. Kimber BURROWS seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.  
39

40 REPORTS

41 April 2014 Financial Reports

42 Rick WEIBEL MOVED to receive the April 2014 financial report. Don DEBLAUW seconded. The  
43 VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.  
44

45 MAYOR'S REPORT

46 Mayor Clay Walker thanked Kris Capps for the update, and offered congratulations to the Healy  
47 Tech Team. Mayor Walker reported that he recently attended a National Association of Counties  
48 conference in Anchorage, including interesting sessions on rural economic growth and public lands.

1 Twenty-five people participated in the recent trip into Denali National Park. The Healy Clean Coal  
2 Plant groundbreaking ceremony is coming up in June. A mist fire suppression method will be  
3 installed for the Cantwell Sprinkler Project. The Boy Scouts helped with spring cleanup at the landfill,  
4 picking up 110 bags of trash. The landfill C&D pit accepted quite a bit of waste over the winter, and a  
5 new pit needs to be readied. A larger rock truck would be more efficient to do this work.  
6

7 The final finding and decision of municipal land entitlement conveyance has been received from the  
8 Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which did not approve conveyance of all  
9 selections. There is a possibility of the borough receiving lands in the southern portion of the  
10 borough near Broad Pass for public and charitable use, and DNR personnel may be willing to assist  
11 the borough with this. Mayor Walker has been in communication with the Alaska Department of  
12 Transportation regarding construction and safety concerns. For the short term, the speed limit at the  
13 Healy intersection has been reduced to 35 mph. The Mayor's ad hoc committee on transportation  
14 and pedestrian safety project is not yet fully populated, but applications have been received and  
15 nominations are expected to be on next month's agenda.  
16

17 A Panguingue lot sold recently, leaving only five of the original lots remaining. Mayor Walker  
18 suggested that it would be good to have more land for sale. A protest letter was received from an  
19 operator regarding severance tax, and has been forwarded to legal counsel. A public meeting will be  
20 held in Healy regarding the Alaska Stand Alone Pipeline, for which assessment work permits have  
21 been issued.  
22

#### 23 SCHOOL REPORT

24 There was no school report.  
25

#### 26 ASSEMBLY COMMENT

27 Paddy TATUM, Kimber BURROWS, Rick WEIBEL and Jared ZIMMERMAN had no report.  
28

29 Don DEBLAUW commented that he would like to see more land become available for sale to the  
30 public.  
31

32 Jill BOELSMA commented that constituents have expressed concerns regarding funding of  
33 emergency services and an increasing need for services out of Cantwell.  
34

#### 35 COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCES

#### 36 PENDING ORDINANCES:

37 ORDINANCE 14-06, Version B: An ordinance amending Article XI of the Denali Borough Charter,  
38 titled taxation, Section 11.02, titled Tax Procedures and the Denali Borough Code of Ordinances by  
39 adding Chapter 3.50, establishing a 3% seasonal general sales and services tax within the Denali  
40 Borough  
41

42  
43 Rick WEIBEL MOVED to amend Ordinance 14-06 by substituting version C for version B. Jill  
44 BOELSMA seconded. Points of discussion that followed include the need for a work session on this  
45 topic, the timeline for adoption if the ordinance is to be included on the November ballot, how  
46 revenue needs are to be determined, and the possibility of exploration of other options. The VOTE  
47 by show of hands was unanimous.  
48

1 It was noted that information gathering is encouraged as individuals, but Denali Borough Code  
2 2.05.050 prohibits an individual acting as an authority of the assembly unless specifically directed by  
3 the body as recorded in meeting minutes.

4  
5 Rick WEIBEL MOVED to postpone Ordinance 14-06 to the next meeting. Kimber BURROWS  
6 seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

7  
8 RESOLUTIONS

9 RESOLUTION 14-08: A resolution pertaining to asset allocation of the Permanent Investment  
10 Fund

11  
12 Rick WEIBEL MOVED to approve Resolution 14-08. Jill BOELSMA seconded. Ms. Boelsma  
13 reported that the financial committee met and discussed the need to broaden the investment  
14 parameters. It was noted that the resolution as presented held a typographical error under item  
15 3, the percentage stated should be 2 percent. The roll call VOTE to approve Resolution 14-08  
16 was unanimous.

17  
18 OTHER BUSINESS

19 Cantwell Transfer Station pricing and acceptance of material

20  
21 Mayor Walker drew attention to a draft letter informing Cantwell and McKinley Village residents that  
22 Cantwell Transfer Station fees will be enforced, as revenue currently accounts for only 40 percent of  
23 hauling costs. New bins are being purchased that will increase volume capacity at CTS. The new  
24 bins, in addition to enforcement of the prevailing rate schedule, will help generate a bit more  
25 revenue. Mayor Walker suggested the assembly consider a work session at CTS prior to the July  
26 work session to allow the public to ask questions or express concerns. Points of discussion that  
27 followed included issues presented by compaction efforts, the fact that CTS is not set up to receive  
28 construction waste, and concerns regarding the adjacent shooting range.

29  
30 Brush piles on borough land

31  
32 Mayor Clay Walker reported that debris has been dumped on borough property in the Stampede and  
33 Lignite Road areas. There is a history of brush collecting in a gravel pit on Stampede Road, but the  
34 borough has no documentation regarding this. In the past the debris had been burned, but that has  
35 not happened in a while and the pile has become quite large. The Panguingue Fire Brigade needs to  
36 be involved in developing a plan for this practice.

37  
38 Brush has also been dumped at a small gravel pit on borough property off Lignite Road. This area is  
39 becoming a mess, with coal ash and new green brush being dumped. There is no community plan  
40 for this debris, and the borough is responsible for managing this land. There is a clear driveway into  
41 this pit, and Mayor Walker requested the assembly consider acting to post signs and gate off access  
42 to this pit. Members of the public who are currently dumping in these areas would need a feasible  
43 alternative option.

44  
45 It was noted that there were agreements in place regarding the Stampede pit when the State of  
46 Alaska held ownership, and the Panguingue Creek Fire Brigade take ownership of the brush, but it  
47 needs to be well managed.

1 Kimber BURROWS MOVED to request that administration post signs prohibiting dumping brush at  
2 both pits, and erect a gate at the Lignite pit. Rick WEIBEL seconded. The VOTE by show of hands  
3 was unanimous.

4  
5 Kimber BURROWS MOVED to close Stampede pit to further dumping. Rick WEIBEL seconded. The  
6 VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

7  
8 PUBLIC COMMENTS

9 Steve Jones, McKinley Village resident, suggested that a tax cap may be a good idea for Ordinance  
10 14-06, and that those being targeted for the tax could provide input. Mr. Jones also commented that  
11 acting on public and charitable land entitlements should happen sooner rather than later. The  
12 planning commission is developing a plan for Panguingue B parcels, as is Friends of Stampede. The  
13 two plans will then be compared to come up with a final plan to present to the assembly perhaps as  
14 early as August.

15  
16 Kris Capps, McKinley Village resident, commented that the interpretive kiosks at Kingfisher Creek  
17 are out of date and in need of replacement. Ms. Capps suggested that this would be a great class  
18 project for students, and would help put the borough's best foot forward to welcome visitors to the  
19 area.

20  
21 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

22 Rick WEIBEL commented that it would be a nice entrance feature to have a free blueberry  
23 picking patch on the south side of the borough next to the signs that say no picking blueberries.

24  
25 Kimber BURROWS complimented the assembly on a good meeting, and thanked the public for  
26 attending, as well as thanking Mayor Walker for the thorough report, noting that a lot happens  
27 between meetings.

28  
29 Jill BOELSMA thanked Steve Jones and Kris Capps for attending the meeting and making public  
30 comment, invited all to attend a concert at the Denali Education Center by the Carper Family,  
31 and encouraged all to give thought to charitable and public land use during the winter months.

32  
33 Don DEBLAUW and Paddy TATUM commented positively on public feedback and expressed a  
34 desire to hear more.

35  
36 Jared ZIMMERMAN thanked everyone for bearing with him as he presided over his first meeting  
37 in the Deputy Presiding role.

38  
39 NEXT ASSEMBLY MEETING

40 The next regular meeting will be held on July 9, 2014 in Cantwell: Work Session at the Cantwell  
41 Transfer Station at 5:15 PM: Cantwell School: Public Hearing 6:00 PM and the Regular meeting to  
42 follow.

43  
44 ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

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APPROVED: *Rusty Lasell*  
Rusty Lasell, Presiding Officer

ATTEST: *Gail Pieknik* Date Approved: JULY 9, 2014  
Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk