

Minutes of the Public Hearing
Denali Borough Assembly
Cantwell School
July 10, 2013

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7 CALL TO ORDER: The public hearing was called to order by Presiding Officer Rick Weibel at 6:02
8 PM.
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10 ROLL CALL: Assembly members present: Rusty LASELL, Steve ANASTASIA, Jared
11 ZIMMERMAN, Rick WEIBEL, David EVANS, Terry ASBURY and Patty TATUM. Absent: Gordon
12 CARLSON.
13

14 ORDINANCE 13-07, Version A: An ordinance amending Denali Borough Code, Chapter 3.05.040
15 titled Budget Expenditures
16

17 There were no comments.
18

19 ORDINANCE 13-09, Version A: An ordinance amending Denali Borough Code, Chapter 3.25 titled
20 Overnight Accommodations Tax
21

22 There were no comments.
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25 ADJOURNMENT: The public hearing was adjourned at 6:03 PM.
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33 APPROVED:  _____
34 Richard Weibel, Presiding Officer
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39 ATTEST:  _____ Date Approved: AUGUST 14, 2013
40 Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk
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**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Denali Borough Assembly
Cantwell School
July 10, 2013**

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7 CALL TO ORDER: Presiding Officer Richard Weibel called the regular meeting to order at 6:03 PM.
8 Mayor Clay Walker led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
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10 ROLL CALL

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

14 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to excuse Mr. Carlson. David EVANS seconded. The VOTE by show
15 of hands was unanimous.
16

17 PUBLIC COMMENTS

18 Vernon Carlson, Cantwell resident, spoke in opposition to Resolution 13-11, Alaska Department of
19 Transportation (DOT) enhancements to the Parks Highway, stating that planned enhancements may
20 encourage development south of the Denali National Park entrance.
21

22 AGENDA

23 David EVANS MOVED to approve the agenda. Rusty LASELL seconded. Rusty LASELL MOVED
24 to amend the agenda by adding Other Business Item 2) Impounded Vehicles at Landfill. Terry
25 ASBURY seconded. The VOTE by show of hands on the amendment was unanimous. The VOTE
26 by show of hands on the main motion to approve the agenda was unanimous.
27

28 MINUTES

29 June 12, 2013 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
30

31 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to approve the June 12, 2013 public hearing and regular meeting
32 minutes. Rusty LASELL seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.
33

34 REPORTS

35 May 2013 Financial Report
36

37 Rusty LASELL MOVED to receive the May 2013 financial report. David EVANS seconded. The
38 VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.
39

40 MAYOR'S REPORT

41 Mayor Clay Walker reported that candidate packets are available both in the borough office and
42 online for school board and assembly seats to run in the November 5, 2013 Regular Election. The
43 stove change out program is moving along, with several payments made and the deadline for
44 reimbursement requests August 8. The Department of Community and Regional Affairs was
45 informed that the Denali Borough has declined their mapping proposal. The school district may like
46 to have a joint meeting to discuss school capital improvement projects (CIP). Mayor Walker invited
47 Assembly members to join him for a tour of Clear Air Force Station (AFS) on July 23. Borough
48 Planner Marsha Lambert has posted a series of maps illustrating municipal land entitlements on the

1 Borough website under the Land Management link. Denali National Park Assistant Superintendent
2 Elwood Lynn guided the bus trip into the Park, which included visits to overnight accommodations
3 operators in Kantishna. Businesses were appreciative of the outreach effort. Senator Lisa
4 Murkowski has forwarded legislation to provide for a land transfer to establish a small hydroelectric
5 power plant in Kantishna, and would advance permitting for routing a gas pipeline through Denali
6 National Park. Senator Mark Begich has inserted language into a military appropriations bill to
7 restrict funds pending a review of the decommissioning of the Clear AFS heat and power plant.
8

9 The latest conceptual plan for state redistricting was released on July 7 that would bring the Denali
10 Borough into a different House and Senate district. New landfill employee Travis Olson started work
11 on June 20. Mayor Walker suggested the assembly consider a work session prior to the August 14
12 meeting at the landfill. Mayor Walker has made several visits to review damage on the state right of
13 way at the end of Antares Road. He met with Department of Natural Resources and Army Corps of
14 Engineers representatives who were investigating the site.
15

16 SCHOOL REPORT

17 Denali Borough School District Superintendent Dr. Jim Elliott reported that the CIP schedules for the
18 school district are due September 1, and requested meeting regarding projects prior to that date.
19 The Building Trades program is in its sixteenth year, with a contract with Denali National Park
20 recently signed. Dr. Elliott proposed a similar program to create temporary housing for teachers and
21 visiting sports teams.
22

23 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

24 Paddy TATUM, Terry ASBURY, Rusty LASELL and Rick WEIBEL had no comment.
25

26 Jared ZIMMERMAN commented that a petition effort regarding oil tax reform legislation is
27 collecting signatures, and urged those present to consider the impact oil revenues have on
28 funding for projects in our communities.
29

30 David EVANS commented positively on the professional facility and employees at the landfill.
31

32 COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCES

33 ORDINANCES

34 ORDINANCES TO BE INTRODUCED:

35 ORDINANCE 13-10: An ordinance for the Denali Borough amending the budget for fiscal year 2014
36
37

38 ZIMMERMAN MOVED to introduce Ordinance 13-10. Rusty LASELL seconded. Mayor Walker
39 explained that an amendment is necessary to comply with borough code and charter regarding the
40 budget. Points of discussion that followed include the fluid nature of the forward funding amount,
41 which is dependent upon reserves on the date of budget approval, the importance of knowing the
42 forward funding amount while going through the budgeting process, and the effect of cuts on
43 operations and fund account savings. The maximum amount of General Fund expenditures in
44 Fiscal Year 2014 is \$4,851,020. The roll call VOTE on the motion to introduce Ordinance 13-10 was
45 unanimous.
46

47 Rusty LASELL MOVED to postpone Ordinance 13-10 to the next meeting. David EVANS seconded.
48 The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

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2 PENDING ORDINANCES:

3 ORDINANCE 13-07: An ordinance amending Denali Borough Code, Chapter 3.05.040 titled
4 Budget Expenditures

5
6 Terry ASBURY MOVED to postpone Ordinance 13-07 to the next meeting. Jared ZIMMERMAN
7 seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

8
9 ORDINANCE 13-09: An ordinance amending Denali Borough Code, Chapter 3.25 titled
10 Overnight Accommodations Tax

11
12 Terry ASBURY MOVED to postpone Ordinance 13-09 to the next meeting. Jared ZIMMERMAN
13 seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

14
15 RESOLUTIONS

16 RESOLUTION 13-10: A resolution in support of Department of Transportation (DOT) Project No.
17 61074/TEA-000S(785) Parks Highway Rest Areas and to recommend a year around rest area
18 facility at MP 286.7 pull-out located within the Denali Borough

19
20 David EVANS MOVED to approve Resolution 13-10. Rusty LASELL seconded. Points of
21 discussion included the early scoping comment period and the importance of commenting to have
22 the ability to provide input later. The roll call VOTE was unanimous.

23
24 2.) RESOLUTION 13-11: A resolution in support of Department of Transportation (DOT) Project No.
25 61299/TE-0A4-4(20) Parks Highway MP 231 enhancements

26
27 Rusty LASELL MOVED to postpone Resolution 13-11 to the next meeting. Paddy TATUM
28 seconded. Mayor Clay Walker explained that the public comment period deadline would be missed
29 if the resolution is postponed. Points of discussion that followed include the increased impact
30 growth would have on emergency services, safety enhancements included in the project, the
31 importance of commenting to have the ability to provide input later. The planning commission has
32 this item on their July 16 meeting agenda. The VOTE by show of hands was 5 - 1, with Rusty
33 LASELL opposed. The motion passed.

34
35 Terry ASBURY MOVED to approve Resolution 13-11. David EVANS seconded. The roll call VOTE
36 was unanimous.

37
38 OTHER BUSINESS

39 Update on Alaska Gas Development Corp. (AGDC)

40
41 Mayor Clay Walker explained that representatives of the Alaska Gas Development Corporation
42 (AGDC) spoke at a planning commission meeting, and their latest request is permission to drill up to
43 twenty-eight (28) boreholes in three different areas. The pipeline route through Denali National Park
44 was listed as a viable alternative, and was the only one listed in the Environmental Impact
45 Statement. The potential for the highway route is still alive. This permit request is for the bypass
46 route. At their last meeting, the planning commission requested that the assembly delay action on
47 the bypass route while the highway route is pursued. More information is needed from AGDC,
48 including maps of the proposed routes.

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2 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED that borough administration not request borehole logs as part of the
3 AGDC permitting process. Rusty LASELL seconded. The VOTE by show of hands 4 – 2 as follows:
4 Yes – David EVANS, Rusty LASELL, Jared ZIMMERMAN, Rick WEIBEL; No – Terry ASBURY,
5 Paddy TATUM. The motion passed.
6

7 Impounded Vehicles at Landfill

8 Mayor Clay Walker explained that the local Alaska State Trooper approached the borough to see if
9 there is some accommodation that could be made at the landfill for the state's contracted hauler of
10 impounded vehicles. Points of discussion that followed centered around the Borough's role in a
11 state issue. This is a topic that could be discussed at the work session at the landfill.
12

13 PUBLIC COMMENTS

14 Vernon Carlson, Cantwell resident, commented that abandoned vehicles are the problem of the
15 state, not the borough. Vehicle owners should take responsibility for their vehicles.
16

17 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

18
19 Jared ZIMMERMAN thanked staff for their work on the budget amendment.
20

21 Rusty LASELL and Paddy TATUM thanked those in attendance for coming to the meeting.
22

23 David EVANS, Terry ASBURY, and Rick WEIBEL had no comment.
24

25 NEXT ASSEMBLY MEETING

26 There will be a Work Session at the Denali Borough Landfill at 4:30 PM on August 14, 2013.
27 The next regular meeting of the Borough Assembly will be held at the Anderson School on
28 August 14, 2013; Public Hearing at Anderson School 6:00 PM, and Regular Meeting to follow.
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30 ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.
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35 APPROVED:  _____
36 Rick Weibel, Presiding Officer

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38
39 ATTEST:  _____ Date Approved: AUGUST 14, 2013
40 Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk
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42