

Minutes of the Public Hearing
Denali Borough Assembly
Anderson School
August 14, 2013

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7 CALL TO ORDER: The public hearing was called to order by Presiding Officer Rick Weibel at 6:14
8 PM.
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10 ROLL CALL: Assembly members present: Rusty LASELL, Steve ANASTASIA, Jared
11 ZIMMERMAN, Gordon CARLSON, Rick WEIBEL, Terry ASBURY and Patty TATUM. Absent: David
12 EVANS
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 Jodi Rodwell, Denali Education Center, spoke in support of overnight accommodation tax
23 exemptions for 501(c)(3) corporations, stating that non-profit organizations offer services
24 governments ordinarily do not provide, and are typically mission driven, volunteer based
25 organizations. The Denali Education Center currently operates an educational campus in
26 partnership with Denali National Park, providing programs to mostly out of state clients that are
27 designed to create stewards for the national parks.
28

29 ORDINANCE 13-10, Version A: An ordinance the Denali Borough amending the budget for fiscal
30 year 2014
31

32 There were no comments.
33

34 ADJOURNMENT: The public hearing was adjourned at 6:33 PM.
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39 APPROVED: 
40 Richard Weibel, Presiding Officer
41

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45 ATTEST:  Date Approved: SEPTEMBER 11, 2013
46 Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk
47

1 **Minutes of the Regular Meeting**
2 **Denali Borough Assembly**
3 **Anderson School**
4 **August 14, 2013**
5
6

7 CALL TO ORDER: Presiding Officer Richard Weibel called the regular meeting to order at 6:34 PM.
8 Mayor Clay Walker led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
9

10 ROLL CALL

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

14 Gordon CARLSON MOVED to excuse Mr. Evans. Rusty LASELL seconded. The VOTE by show of
15 hands was unanimous.
16

17 PUBLIC COMMENTS

18 There were no comments from the public.
19

20 AGENDA

21 Rusty LASELL MOVED to approve the agenda as presented. Steve ANASTASIA seconded. The
22 VOTE by show of hands to approve the agenda was unanimous.
23

24 MINUTES

25 July 10, 2013 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
26

27 Rusty LASELL MOVED to approve the July 10, 2013 public hearing and regular meeting minutes.
28 Gordon CARLSON seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.
29

30 REPORTS

31 June 2013 Financial Report
32

33 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to receive the June 2013 financial report. Steve ANASTASIA
34 seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.
35

36 MAYOR'S REPORT

37 Mayor Clay Walker thanked those who attended the landfill work session prior to the meeting, noting
38 that the landfill is a large part of borough operations. Mayor Walker expressed his pleasure with the
39 concerted team effort at the landfill, which has resulted in a well-functioning operation. There have
40 been no bears inside the landfill fence thus far this year.
41

42 Equipment and training requests were solicited from fire departments within the borough to be
43 included in a Homeland Security grant application, which had a two-week deadline. A resolution
44 regarding this grant application for \$63,650 will be on next month's agenda.
45

46 Mayor Walker and Emergency Services Director Steve Eddington toured Clear Air Force Station on
47 July 23 with Commander Jennifer Jeffries, where they discussed coordination and joint training
48 opportunities. A contract has been signed with Interior Surveying for the survey of Panguingue B

1 subdivision, and a contract agreement signed for the Cantwell K-12 School Sprinkler and Fire Alarm
2 Upgrades project.

3
4 Mayor Walker drew attention to a letter included in the assembly packet from City of Anderson legal
5 counsel regarding radio transmission issues. Borough legal counsel response was included in the
6 packet, as well. Mayor Walker explained that the letters could have been avoided with better
7 communication, and the issues presented cannot be resolved by money, a phone call, or an
8 ordinance. The Tri-Valley Volunteer Fire Department is awaiting State approval to place repeaters
9 on the Kobe tower, the borough accepts no liability in this situation, and the City of Anderson's Fire
10 Department page out test this week was successful.

11
12 All office staff recently participated in a social media webinar and will be working toward a social
13 media policy. Mayor Walker visited two parcels of land off the Stampede Road that were nominated
14 for classification by the planning commission. The two parcels were formerly state-owned and
15 permitted for grazing activities. The mayor intends to host a town hall meeting in the Panguingue
16 Creek Subdivision in early September to solicit comments and ideas from the public on how the land
17 should be classified.

18
19 The Summer Alaska Municipal League (AML) Conference of Mayors will be held August 19-23 in
20 Valdez, and Mayor Walker will be attending. Conference topics include health insurance costs and
21 the Public Employees Retirements System. Assembly members were encouraged to consider
22 attending the AML conference in Anchorage November 18 - 22.

23
24 The mayor recently visited the gravel pit for which Great Northwest holds a temporary use permit to
25 use as a staging area for road construction. Mayor Walker would like to see this handled as a short
26 term lease, but that option does not appear to be available per Denali Borough Code.

27
28 Candidate packets are available at the borough office for those interested in running for seats on the
29 school board and assembly in the November election.

30
31 SCHOOL REPORT

32 Denali Borough School District Superintendent Dr. Jim Elliott extended an invitation to the assembly
33 to discuss school capital improvement projects with the school board. The school district's first
34 priority is to recoup money spent on the Anderson School waterline project, with school security
35 upgrades and roof improvements for the Anderson and Cantwell schools also on the list.

36
37 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

38 Gordon CARLSON, Paddy TATUM, Terry ASBURY, Rusty LASELL and Rick WEIBEL had no
39 comment.

40
41 Jared ZIMMERMAN thanked landfill staff for the work session and commented that a social
42 media policy is a good idea.

43
44 Rusty LASELL commented that social media is viewed more than newspapers, and expressed
45 appreciation to landfill employees for keeping the landfill clean.

1 COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCES

2 Sandra Wilson, Wilson & Wilson CPA to discuss the annual financial statement and audit
3 preparation
4

5 Sandra Wilson of Wilson & Wilson, CPAs introduced staff accountant Kayla Warnick, who will be
6 working with Ms. Wilson to compile annual financial statements for the borough. Professional
7 accounting standards require financial statements be created (this is done in collaboration with
8 the borough), as well as a management discussion and analysis, and financial statement of
9 revenues and expenditures. Ms. Wilson explained the process for closing the books, and
10 expressed the goal of getting financial statements to auditors by September 10. It was noted
11 that a large majority of small governments use QuickBooks as their accounting software; as does
12 the Denali Borough.
13

14 ORDINANCES

15 PENDING ORDINANCES:

16 ORDINANCE 13-07, Version A: An ordinance amending Denali Borough Code, Chapter
17 3.05.040 titled Budget Expenditures
18

19 Terry ASBURY MOVED to postpone Ordinance 13-07 to the next meeting. Paddy TATUM
20 seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.
21

22 ORDINANCE 13-09, Version A: An ordinance amending Denali Borough Code, Chapter 3.25
23 titled Overnight Accommodations Tax
24

25 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to amend by substitution Ordinance 13-09, Version B for Version
26 A. Gordon CARLSON seconded. Discussion that followed focused on the question of exempting
27 501(c)(3) non-profit corporations from collecting the tax, and included the point that tax revenue
28 provides funds that are given to non-profits. The VOTE by show of hands was 3 -4 as follows:
29 Yes – Jared ZIMMERMAN, Rick WEIBEL, Paddy TATUM; No – Terry ASBURY, Steve
30 ANASTASIA, Rusty LASELL, Gordon CARLSON. The motion failed.
31

32 Rusty LASELL MOVED to postpone Ordinance 13-09, Version A to the next meeting. Gordon
33 CARLSON seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.
34

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

38 Terry ASBURY MOVED to postpone Ordinance 13-10, Version A to the next meeting. Paddy
39 TATUM seconded. Mayor Walker noted that the purpose of the amendment is to bring the
40 budget in line with Denali Borough Code, and to approve a working budget for Borough
41 operations. It was noted that, while most ordinances are brought to all communities as a
42 courtesy to constituents, ordinances may be approved after one public hearing. The VOTE by
43 show of hands on the motion to postpone Ordinance 13-10, Version A was 1-6 as follows: Yes –
44 Rick WEIBEL; No – Gordon CARLSON, Terry ASBURY, Paddy TATUM, Steve ANASTASIA,
45 Rusty LASELL, Jared ZIMMERMAN. The motion failed.
46

47 Gordon CARLSON MOVED to adopt Ordinance 13-10, Version A. Jared ZIMMERMAN
48 seconded. The roll call VOTE was 6-1 as follows: Yes – Paddy TATUM, Jared ZIMMERMAN,

1 Rusty LASELL, Rick WEIBEL, Gordon CARLSON, Steve ANASTASIA; No – Terry ASBURY.
2 The motion passed.

3
4 RESOLUTIONS

5 There were no resolutions to consider.
6

7 OTHER BUSINESS

8 Monthly financial report requirements per Denali Borough Code

9 The current monthly financial report includes much more information than is required by Denali
10 Borough Code 3.20.010(B), and extends to thirteen pages. Code requires a summary statement of
11 cash receipts and disbursements, a reconciliation statement, and a statement of expenditures
12 compared with appropriations. Sandra Wilson commented that there is too much detail on a
13 monthly basis to capture salient points, and that more information could be gleaned from a more
14 summarized statement. Ms. Wilson suggested that the most important statement is the balance
15 sheet, followed by the budget versus actual reports, and that the reconciliation statement
16 requirement could be considered as met by the balance sheet, although it is not in an accountant's
17 format for a reconciliation statement. The consensus was that the Treasurer will produce a more
18 condensed report for the next meeting, and more information will be provided as requested.
19

20 Presiding Officer Rick Weibel called a meeting recess at 7:50 pm. The meeting resumed at 8:13
21 pm.
22

23 Update on Alaska Gas Development Corp. (AGDC)
24

25 Mayor Clay Walker recently participated in a teleconference with the Alaska Gas Development
26 Corporation, and attended a presentation AGDC made to the community of Healy on July 31, where
27 there were approximately thirty individuals in attendance. The borough received a revised borehole
28 permit application, breaking the initial request into three separate permit requests as of July 24.
29 Mayor Walker has requested public comment on the permits, with a comment deadline of August 28.
30 Drilling has begun on boreholes that are not on borough land. Mayor Walker will make a decision on
31 the permits after the closing date for public comment. Points of discussion included requests for
32 pipeline takeoff points within the borough and the possibility of partnering with municipalities to the
33 north and south when making such requests.
34

35 Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Oil & Gas request for comment on
36 proposed regulation change
37

38 The Department of Natural Resources has requested comment on new regulations dealing with oil
39 and gas exploration and development by geographical area to implement legislation enacted in
40 2013. It is unclear how the Denali Borough would be affected by the proposed changes, particularly
41 in regard to active exploration leases, and the comment period closes August 19, 2013. Making
42 comment at this time allows the opportunity to comment further at a later date. Mayor Walker will
43 register comment.
44

45 PUBLIC COMMENTS

46 There were no public comments.
47
48

1 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

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

3
4 Jared ZIMMERMAN thanked those in the audience for attending the meeting.

5
6 Steve ANASTASIA thanked Jared Zimmerman for investigating issues related to DNR
7 regulations, and commented that he is feeling that organizations want to take advantage of our
8 borough, and that we need to make sure we are doing the best we can to protect our interests.

9
10 Gordon CARLSON verbalized his resignation from Assembly Seat A as of this meeting. He
11 expressed his regret at having to resign due to overwhelming obligations.

12
13 NEXT ASSEMBLY MEETING

14 The next regular meeting of the Borough Assembly will be held at the Tri-Valley Community
15 Center on September 11, 2013; Work Session at 5:00 PM, Public Hearing at 6:00 PM, and
16 Regular Meeting to follow.

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18 ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

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23 APPROVED:  _____
24 Rick Weibel, Presiding Officer

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28 ATTEST:  _____ Date Approved: SEPTEMBER 11, 2013
29 Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk
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