

Minutes of the Public Hearing  
Denali Borough Assembly  
McKinley Community Center  
September 14, 2016

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7 CALL TO ORDER: The public hearing was called to order by Presiding Officer Jared Zimmerman at  
8 6:06 p.m.  
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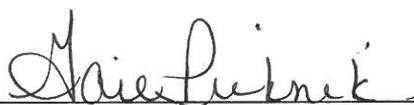
10 ROLL CALL: Assembly members present: Jared ZIMMERMAN, Don DEBLAUW, Tallon SHREEVE,  
11 Jill BOELSMA, Krista ZAPPONE, Joe CHATFIELD, Paddy TATUM and David EVANS. Absent:  
12

13 ORDINANCE 16-12, Version A: An ordinance amending Denali Borough Code of Ordinances Title 4,  
14 Real Property Acquisition, Management and Disposal  
15

16 There were no public comments.  
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20 ADJOURNMENT: The public hearing was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.  
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25 APPROVED:  \_\_\_\_\_  
26 Jared Zimmerman, Presiding Officer  
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31 ATTEST:  \_\_\_\_\_ Date Approved: OCTOBER 12, 2016  
32 Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk  
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**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
Denali Borough Assembly  
McKinley Community Center  
September 14, 2016**

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

Roll Call

Assembly members present: Don DEBLAUW, Jill BOELSMA, Tallon SHREEVE, Krista ZAPPONE, Paddy TATUM, Joe CHATFIELD, David EVANS and Jared ZIMMERMAN. Mayor Clay Walker was also present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vernon Carlson, Cantwell resident, thanked the assembly for the service it provides to citizens. Mr. Carlson commented negatively on the new meeting rotation schedule, which has six meetings each year in Healy and six in outlying areas. Mr. Carlson asked that the assembly go back to the old schedule.

Sterling Shreeve, Cantwell resident, spoke in opposition to zoning in the Denali Borough. Mr. Shreeve commented that he has an unofficial petition with about 55 signatures opposing zoning.

Barbara Brease, Healy resident, spoke in opposition to Resolution 16-14, regarding the Alaska Liquefied Natural Gas project alternate route through Denali National Park, commenting that a pipeline will affect climate change and increase methane emissions. Ms. Brease further commented that it is unlikely that there will be a local benefit, such as cheap natural gas or employment, from a pipeline, yet the impact would be significant. A pipeline crossing the Denali Fault would take massive engineering to keep it from leaking, and would create a huge scar on the ground. Ms. Brease also voiced support of Resolution 16-15 opposing lease of Alaska Railroad Corporation land for a Monofill.

Shawn Burton, Denali Chamber of Commerce, updated the assembly on Chamber activity since the last meeting, including rentals of the Chamber building, and the recent Blueberry Festival. The Blueberry Dash raised \$1,000 for a Children's Organ Transplant Association fund, the rubber duckie race raised over \$3,000 for Kids in Motion, the Blueberry Bash Carnival was successful, and all events were sponsored by local businesses. Future events planned include pumpkin carving and Trunk or Treat for Halloween, and pictures with Santa near Christmas. Frosty Recycling is collecting aluminum cans at the Chamber office on a trial basis. The Chamber is selling ads for their 2017 brochure, and is working with Denali National Park on centennial celebrations.

Donna Mears, Design Engineer for Clear View Project, commented that since July the project schedule has changed. Building demolition at Clear Air Force Station has not begun, and there is more time for communication between Central Monofill and the Borough. Ms. Mears commented that there is not much planning statewide regarding waste disposal, and that there is no existing infrastructure to deal with waste for the Clear Air Force Station demolition project.

1 AGENDA

2 David EVANS MOVED to approve the meeting agenda as presented. The motion was seconded.  
3 The VOTE by show of hands to approve the agenda was unanimous.

4  
5 MINUTES

6 August 10, 2016 Denali Borough Assembly Public Hearing and Regular Meeting

7  
8 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2016 public hearing and regular  
9 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

10  
11 REPORTS

12 July 2016 Financial Report

13  
14 David EVANS MOVED to receive the July 2016 financial report. The motion was seconded. The  
15 VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

16  
17 MAYOR REPORT

18 Mayor Clay Walker verbally highlighted activity included in a written report, including the following:

- 19 - Mayor Walker attended the Alaska Municipal League (AML) Summer Conference in August, and  
20 while there, met with Governor Bill Walker who again thanked the Denali Borough for holding  
21 back capital project requests for the current fiscal year. During the conference, Mayor Walker  
22 was able to tour Point MacKenzie, led by Matanuska Susitna Borough Port Director Marc  
23 VanDongen. Mayor Walker reported that Mr. VanDongen would be willing to present information  
24 to the assembly regarding Point MacKenzie. The 2018 AML Summer Conference will be held in  
25 Denali.
- 26 - The AML Fall Conference will be held in Anchorage in November, and assembly members  
27 interested in attending should let the Borough office know by October 5. Attendance at AML  
28 Newly Elected Officers training is highly recommended.
- 29 - There was an inspection of the landfill on August 26, and the inspector was impressed with the  
30 condition of the landfill property.
- 31 - Eight contractors attended a pre-bid conference for the landfill shop extension. Assembly  
32 member Don DeBlauw will serve on the bid scoring committee.
- 33 - In 2003, the City of Anderson approached the borough with a request to exchange municipal  
34 land entitlement (MLE) lands to facilitate the expansion of their sewage lagoon. At the time the  
35 exchange was first proposed, the MLE lands had not yet been conveyed to the City of  
36 Anderson. No exchange has taken place, and the current regional septage facility is partially  
37 located on borough land. The exchange needs to be finalized, and work is in process toward  
38 that end.
- 39 - The Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs would like the borough to comment  
40 on conveyance of 14(C)(3) lands in the Cantwell area, and has asked the borough to consider  
41 potential future needs for borough facilities or services in the Cantwell area.
- 42 - Candidate packets are available at the borough office and online for the November 8 election.  
43 Packets are due in to the borough office by September 22 at 3:00 pm.
- 44 - There is an Anderson area seat open on the planning commission. Applications for appointment  
45 are available at the borough office and online.
- 46 - Alaska Department of Natural Resources (DNR) representatives recently visited the borough to  
47 discuss the property description of the communication site within the borough's Yanert MLE

1 lands, and DNR's position that managing platted rights of way within the borough is the  
2 responsibility of the borough and not DNR.

- 3 - Public meetings will be held the end of September in both Cantwell and Healy to provide project  
4 updates on the proposed Alaska Liquefied Natural Gas pipeline.
- 5 - A vacancy announcement has been posted for an Administrative Assistant position.

### 6 7 SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT

8 Denali Borough School District (DBSD) Superintendent Dan Polta

9  
10 Superintendent Dan Polta reported on DBSD activities including;

- 11 - The school year is off to a good start, with enrollment numbers close to projections, and news  
12 that the cut in funding from the State of Alaska is not as deep as initially thought.
- 13 - Denali National Park sponsored three day long student intensive studies focusing on five  
14 different themes exploring how to preserve national parks while sharing the parks with visitors.
- 15 - There will be a strategic planning retreat the end of this month. The leadership team for the  
16 retreat is being put together.
- 17 - The Cantwell Sprinkler System Project is progressing toward completion. Several small pieces  
18 are not ready, and there are concerns about some construction pieces of the project.
- 19 - The Tri-Valley Boiler Tie-In Project is complete, work is in progress to get the coal boiler up and  
20 running.
- 21 - Auditors completed field work for the DBSD's annual audit in August, and are now looking for  
22 information coming out regarding GASB 68. The audit report is anticipated in November.

### 23 24 PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

25 Baxter Mercer, Denali Borough Planning Commission, reported that Assembly Chair Jared  
26 Zimmerman attended the last planning commission meeting, and that the commission is looking to  
27 the assembly for direction now that their work on Title 4 is complete. Projects in progress include  
28 Title 9 regarding subdivisions and a sign ordinance. After a discussion regarding the Clear View  
29 Monofill project, the commission unanimously approved sending a letter to the Alaska Railroad  
30 Corporation in support of the City of Anderson's recent resolution regarding that project.

31  
32 Set the November Canvass Committee

33 David EVANS MOVED to appoint the Denali Borough Assembly to serve as the Canvass Committee  
34 for the November 8, 2016 regular election, and to include provisions for staff members to be  
35 appointed by the borough clerk if a quorum is not present. The motion was seconded. The VOTE by  
36 show of hands was unanimous.

### 37 38 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

39 Assembly members thanked those in the audience for attending the meeting. Other comments  
40 include the following:

41  
42 Tallon SHREEVE and Jared ZIMMERMAN expressed interest in a presentation on Point  
43 MacKenzie.

44  
45 Jared ZIMMERMAN also thanked the rock mitigation workers for their part in making the project  
46 go smoothly for motorists.

1 COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCES

2 Kohler, Schmitt & Hutchison: Denali Borough Fiscal Year 2016 pre-audit discussion

3  
4 Laurie Gieck, CPA with Kohler, Schmitt and Hutchison, introduced herself to the assembly and  
5 explained that the firm is conducting field work related to the borough's annual audit. As part of  
6 the audit process, auditors will review financial statements prepared by borough staff, and  
7 discuss roles and procedures with staff to develop an opinion that they will present at the  
8 December assembly meeting. Borough administration has the responsibility of providing  
9 financial records, borough staff has the responsibility of producing financial statements and  
10 ensuring that controls are in place to prevent fraud. The Denali Borough School District is a  
11 component unit of the borough, and conducts their own audit, which is then incorporated into the  
12 borough audit.

13  
14 Dave Schirokauer, Resources and Science Team Leader, Denali National Park and Preserve,  
15 information regarding Denali National Park World Biosphere Reserve designation

16  
17 Dave Schirokauer explained that Denali National Park and Preserve is seeking to retain its  
18 United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) "Man in the  
19 Biosphere" designation, which it received in 1976. Denali Park applied to retain this designation  
20 in 2013, and is now providing UNESCO with detailed information regarding conservation,  
21 international research and monitoring, and development. Information is also being provided to  
22 demonstrate existence of three areas; a core protected area (the original Park area), a buffer  
23 zone, and a flexible transition area or "an area of partnership and cooperation." Mr. Schirokauer  
24 reported that many current practices are compatible with the Biosphere designation, including  
25 sport and subsistence hunting, Usibelli Coal Mine operations, the proposed pipeline, and wildlife  
26 harvesting. The Biosphere designation increases Denali Park's international profile. Denali Park  
27 is the only Biosphere to seek to retain the designation of three originally named in Alaska. Mr.  
28 Schirokauer asked that the assembly consider passing a resolution in support of Denali Park  
29 retaining the Man in the Biosphere designation.

30  
31 Planning Commission memo requesting direction from the assembly dated August 17, 2016

32  
33 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to receive the Denali Borough Planning Commission memo dated August  
34 17, 2016. The motion was seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous. Mayor Walker  
35 applauded the commission for communicating to ensure alignment with assembly concerns. It was  
36 decided by consensus that further discussion of the request would take place when discussing  
37 Resolution 16-15.

38  
39 PENDING ORDINANCES

40 ORDINANCE 16-12, Version A: An ordinance amending Denali Borough Code of Ordinances Title  
41 4, Real Property Acquisition, Management and Disposal

42  
43 Mayor Clay Walker explained that Ordinance 16-12, Version B is not ready to bring to the assembly  
44 as requested at the last meeting. Staff will continue working on the ordinance in the hope that it will  
45 be ready to present to the assembly at the October meeting.

46  
47 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to postpone Ordinance 16-12 to the next meeting. The motion was  
48 seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

1  
2 RESOLUTIONS

3 RESOLUTION 16-12: A resolution extending appreciation and gratitude to University Dispatch  
4 Center for their professional and dedicated service to the citizens and visitors of the Denali  
5 Borough  
6

7 David EVANS MOVED to approve Resolution 16-12. The motion was seconded. The roll call VOTE  
8 was unanimous.  
9

10 RESOLUTION 16-13: A resolution supporting the State of Alaska Department of Transportation  
11 and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) proposal to resurface the Healy River Airport runway, aprons  
12 and taxiways  
13

14 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to approve Resolution 16-13. The motion was seconded. The roll call  
15 VOTE to approve Resolution 16-13 was unanimous.  
16

17 RESOLUTION 16-14: A resolution supporting the identified Alaska Liquefied Natural Gas  
18 (AKLNG) project (PF 14-21-000) alternative route passing through Denali National Park and  
19 closely aligned with the Parks Highway  
20

21 Joe CHATFIELD MOVED to approve Resolution 16-14. The motion was seconded. Points of  
22 discussion that followed include the alternative routing of the AKLNG to bypass wetland and  
23 residential areas, the potential for a bike path along the highway portion of the route, the viability  
24 of the project's completion, the necessity of some overland exposure due to the Denali Fault, the  
25 likelihood that the exposed portion would not be visible from the highway, the need to explore  
26 emergency response implications of the pipeline and this resolution supports the route  
27 alternative and not the project as a whole. The roll call VOTE to approve Resolution 16-14 was  
28 unanimous.  
29

30 Presiding Officer Jared Zimmerman called for a meeting recess at 7:30 PM. The meeting  
31 reconvened at 7:44 PM.  
32

33 RESOLUTION 16-15: A resolution opposing the leasing of the approximately 753 acres of  
34 Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC) land at railroad milepost 388 for a Monofill and class I  
35 landfill  
36

37 Joe CHATFIELD MOVED to postpone indefinitely Resolution 16-15. The motion was seconded.  
38 Discussion that followed included concern that the assembly decision making process on a  
39 landfill application may be affected by action on the resolution. The VOTE by show of hands was  
40 7-1, with Paddy TATUM opposed. The motion passed.  
41

42 Krista ZAPPONE MOVED to request that the planning commission not take any action related to  
43 the Clear View Monofill project pending more details and borough process. The motion was  
44 seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.  
45

46 Points of discussion that followed include the desire to hold a public hearing in Anderson  
47 regarding the application, Central Monofill's intent to continue with the project, the potential need

1 to engage an environmental engineering consultant, the lack of specific guidance for borough  
2 landfill approval, and the need for the assembly to consider an ordinance regarding the project.

3  
4 David EVANS MOVED that staff craft an ordinance regarding the Clear View Monofill project for  
5 the next meeting. The motion was seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

6  
7 Assembly Chair Jared Zimmerman asked Donna Mears, Design Engineer for Clear View Monofill  
8 project, to clarify assembly questions. Ms. Mears stated that the demolition project at Clear Air  
9 Force Station has been delayed, and that information and clarification was requested of Central  
10 Monofill by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Ms. Mears is working  
11 on a response to the request from DEC, as well as modifications to the landfill application. Ms.  
12 Mears urged those present to read over Alaska Administrative Code 18 AAC 60.005, which  
13 describes standards for solid waste. The original application was for a Class 1 landfill, but the  
14 current application is for a Monofill for inert waste. The existing borough landfill is a Class 2  
15 landfill, with a limit of how much waste may be accepted. There is a bit of room, given current  
16 acceptance levels, but there is insufficient capacity for the amount of waste that will be  
17 generated by the Clear demolition project. There is some question if the current subcontractor on  
18 the demolition has completed their phase of the project.

19  
20 OTHER BUSINESS

21 Discussion on how to approach zoning and land use planning

22  
23 Following is a summary of discussion on next steps for land use planning and zoning:  
24 It was noted that discussion of zoning is a challenging topic, and there are differing opinions of the  
25 level of zoning desired in the borough. A consultant (Agnew Beck) has been helping create land  
26 management code revisions, and has offered to provide a list of options for continuing to address  
27 comments received from the public. The borough has a comprehensive plan, which should be used  
28 to guide zoning action. The current comprehensive plan states a goal of creating a land use plan,  
29 which may be the next step in our land use planning. The planning commission would be very  
30 involved in a land use plan.

31  
32 Jill BOELSMA MOVED that Agnew Beck be asked to create an option plan for next steps in borough  
33 land planning. The motion was seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

34  
35 Discussion regarding the planning commission's request for direction from the assembly followed.  
36 Points of discussion include the idea that the assembly is working on code changes to clarify and  
37 assist the planning commission in performing their function, the need to craft ordinance language to  
38 describe a process for platted easements, the value of inviting a DNR representative to present to  
39 the planning commission on the status of, and past process for, platted rights of way.

40  
41 Assembly Chair Jared Zimmerman passed gavel to Deputy Chair at 8:47 PM. Mr. Zimmerman  
42 resumed the chair at 8:52 PM.

43  
44 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to request the Mayor communicate via memo to the planning commission  
45 conveying an assembly request that the commission work on Title 9 regarding subdivisions,  
46 specifically to define borough responsibility for platted easements and rights of way. The motion was  
47 seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

1 PUBLIC COMMENTS

2 Baxter Mercer, Healy resident, commented negatively on the new meeting rotation. Mr. Mercer also  
3 commended the University of Alaska Fairbanks Police Dispatch for their service to the Denali  
4 Borough, and commented that things are working with the City of Fairbanks dispatch.

5  
6 Barbara Brease, Healy resident, commented that she was disappointed that Resolution 16-15 was  
7 postponed indefinitely, stating that it would be prudent to honor the action taken by the City of  
8 Anderson regarding the Clear View Monofill project.

9  
10 Susan Braun, Healy resident, commented positively on the new meeting rotation, stating that the  
11 population is concentrated in the Healy area, and six meetings a year in that community makes  
12 sense.

13  
14 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

15 Assembly members thanked those in the audience for their attendance.

16  
17 Joe CHATFIELD commented that the reason for postponing Resolution 16-15 was that action on  
18 the resolution could restrict the assembly from having a voice on the issue in the future. If the  
19 assembly does not have a voice, the wishes of the community may not be taken into account.  
20 Advice from borough legal counsel is that now is not yet the time to voice an opinion.

21  
22 Jill BOELSMA thanked planning commissioners for their input at this meeting, and commented  
23 that she is looking forward to November's election.

24  
25 Don DEBLAUW commented that he put forward Resolution 16-15, but realized after hearing  
26 from borough legal counsel that it was not the proper action at this time. Mr. DeBlauw further  
27 commented on the need to follow the process that is in Denali Borough Code.

28  
29 Krista ZAPPONE commented that there is a lot happening with the assembly, and it is important  
30 to act in a way that will allow assembly decisions to carry weight. Ms. Zappone further  
31 commented that the Tri-Valley Library Mystery Theater will take place this fall, and that Healy  
32 Hockey registration is just around the corner.

33  
34 Jared ZIMMERMAN thanked the planning commission for the work that they do.

35  
36 Tallon SHREEVE commented that he appreciated the discussion that took place at tonight's  
37 meeting.

38  
39 Paddy TATUM commented that she felt this was a productive meeting.

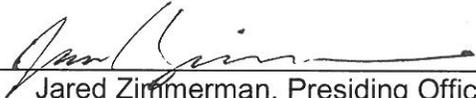
40  
41 David EVANS commented that the current meeting rotation was intended to include borough  
42 District 4.

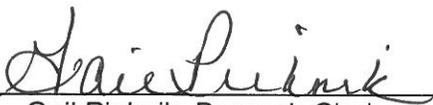
43  
44 NEXT ASSEMBLY MEETING

45 The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 in Healy; work session  
46 5:00 PM at Tri-Valley School to tour the facility, regular meeting at the Tri-Valley Community  
47 Center; Public Hearing 6:00 PM with the Regular Meeting following the public hearing.

1 The Canvass Committee meeting and Assembly Special Meeting to certify the November 8,  
2 2016 Regular Election will be held at the Tri-Valley Community Center, Healy, Alaska on  
3 Thursday, November 10, 2016 at 6:00 PM.  
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5  
6 ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 PM.  
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11 APPROVED:   
12 Jared Zimmerman, Presiding Officer  
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18 ATTEST:  Date Approved: OCTOBER 12, 2016  
19 Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk