

Minutes of the Public Hearing  
Denali Borough Assembly  
McKinley Community Center  
October 09, 2013

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7 CALL TO ORDER: The public hearing was called to order by Presiding Officer Rick Weibel at 6:03  
8 PM.

9  
10 ROLL CALL: Assembly members present: Jared ZIMMERMAN, Rick WEIBEL, Terry ASBURY,  
11 Paddy TATUM, Steve ANASTASIA and David EVANS. Absent: Rusty LASELL

12  
13 ORDINANCE 13-09, Version A: An ordinance amending Denali Borough Code, Chapter 3.25 titled  
14 Overnight Accommodations Tax

15  
16 There were no comments.

17  
18 ORDINANCE 13-11, Version A: An ordinance appropriating up to \$12,143 from the General Fund for  
19 reimbursable expenditures related to grant 14LEPC-GR

20  
21 There were no comments.

22  
23 ORDINANCE 13-12, Version A: An ordinance appropriating up to \$176,216 from the Major School  
24 Maintenance Fund for the Cantwell K-12 School sprinkler and fire upgrade project

25  
26 There were no comments.

27  
28  
29 ADJOURNMENT: The public hearing was adjourned at 6:04 PM.

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34 APPROVED:  \_\_\_\_\_

35 Rusty Lasell, Presiding Officer

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40 ATTEST:  \_\_\_\_\_

41 Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk

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43  
44  
45 Date Approved: December 11, 2013

1 **Minutes of the Regular Meeting**  
2 **Denali Borough Assembly**  
3 **McKinley Community Center**  
4 **October 09, 2013**  
5  
6

7 CALL TO ORDER: Presiding Officer Richard Weibel called the regular meeting to order at 6:05 PM.  
8 Mayor Clay Walker led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
9

10 ROLL CALL

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

14 David EVANS MOVED to excuse Mr. Lasell. Steve ANASTASIA seconded. The VOTE by show of  
15 hands was unanimous.  
16

17 PUBLIC COMMENTS

18 There were no public comments.  
19

20 AGENDA

21 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to approve the agenda as presented. David EVANS seconded. The  
22 VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.  
23

24 MINUTES

25 September 11, 2013 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting  
26

27 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to approve the September 11, 2013 public hearing and regular  
28 meeting minutes. Steve ANASTASIA seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.  
29

30 REPORTS

31 August 2013 Financial Report  
32

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

36 MAYOR'S REPORT

37 Mayor Clay Walker reported that he received a communication from the National Association of  
38 Counties (NACo) stating that Denali Borough residents saved \$2,600 by participating in the  
39 prescription drug discount card program. The mayor met with representatives from the Alaska  
40 Railroad Corporation (ARRC) and discussed the Healy wye project and related infrastructure. On  
41 October 1, Pacific Waste purchased Lausen's Dependable Disposal, and will be taking over the  
42 contract for hauling service from the Cantwell Transfer Station to the landfill. At the last Planning  
43 Commission meeting, Kristen Friesen presented concerns related to issues created by the growing  
44 number of seasonal employees in the Healy area. Mayor Walker recently met with Bonnie Westlund,  
45 General Manager for Princess Tours, regarding mitigation of potential impacts of an increased  
46 number of employees housed in Healy beginning next summer. Mayor Walker has also discussed  
47 the issue with the Alaska State Troopers.

1 The landfill underwent a Department of Environmental Conservation site inspection on October 1,  
2 and it went well. Mayor Walker advised the assembly that there was an omission in the revised  
3 budget, and that line item 4082 Audit Fees will be included in a future amendment. Jeff Roach,  
4 Department of Transportation Planner, will be meeting with the mayor on October 10 to discuss  
5 planning issues including that of an airport reserve area for a future regional airport. Mayor Walker  
6 has been working on the annual work plan related to borough land, and expects to present this, and  
7 a three year plan for municipal land, at the next meeting. Public meetings may be planned to solicit  
8 public input on a request to the state for survey instructions to convey patented land to the borough.  
9

10 Absentee and early voting begins in the borough office on October 16. There are three seats open  
11 on the assembly with no candidate on the ballot. Voting for seats is borough-wide, and  
12 representatives must reside in the district for which they hold a seat. We are a home rule borough,  
13 and for the home to rule we need people to step up. Mayor Walker suggested the assembly consider  
14 a short work session at the Cantwell Transfer Station prior to the next assembly meeting, which will  
15 be in Cantwell. The manager of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough has requested a tri-borough get  
16 together with representatives of the Mat-Su, Denali, and Fairbanks Boroughs the last weekend in  
17 February.  
18

19 Mayor Walker noted that this was Terry Asbury's last meeting on the assembly. He thanked Mr.  
20 Asbury for his dedication to the continued sound functioning of the borough.  
21

#### 22 SCHOOL REPORT

23 Denali Borough School District Superintendent Dr. Jim Elliott thanked Terry Asbury for his service on  
24 the assembly, and reported that the FY2014 count period is underway for the school district, with  
25 enrollment looking to be just under that projected. Dr. Elliott also reported that the school district's  
26 audit will be completed by the November 15 due date.  
27

#### 28 APPROVAL OF ELECTION BOARD

29 Borough Clerk Gail Pieknik drew the assembly's attention to an updated list of election board  
30 workers. Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to approve the election board for the November 5, 2013  
31 Denali Borough Regular Election. David EVANS seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was  
32 unanimous, with Terry Asbury abstaining, as his wife was on the list.  
33

#### 34 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

35 Terry ASBURY, Rick WEIBEL, and Paddy TATUM had no comment.  
36

37 Steve ANASTASIA commented on ways to alert voters to requirements for write-in candidates  
38 for open seats prior to voting. Information is posted throughout the borough several times prior to  
39 the election, on the borough website, and will be in the newspaper.  
40

41 Jared ZIMMERMAN thanked those on the election board for stepping up to the task.  
42

43 David EVANS commented that there are numerous write-ins, which will complicate the vote, and  
44 that there will be maps showing district boundaries at the polls.  
45  
46  
47  
48

1 COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCES

2 Kristen Friesen: Impacts of additional employee housing in the Healy area

3 Kristen Friesen, Healy resident, spoke regarding concerns related to current and proposed  
4 increased numbers of employees housed near her home. Several anecdotes of disturbances  
5 created by seasonal employees ranging from noise to fire to unruly behavior were presented.  
6 Ms. Friesen has contacted the main employer, who has been receptive to discussion of the  
7 issue, and has visited the area to view property damage and remove litter. Ms. Friesen stressed  
8 that her focus is on working toward a solution, not on placing blame. Other community members  
9 have expressed their concern and have ideas for solutions such as a task force, community  
10 meetings, and planning for change. Ms. Friesen concluded by asking what the borough will do.

11  
12 ORDINANCES

13 DRAFT ORDINANCES:

14 ORDINANCE 13-13: An ordinance appropriating up to \$24,000 from the General Fund for  
15 expenditures related to grant 13EMPG-34457

16  
17 Steve ANASTASIA MOVED to introduce Ordinance 13-13, Version A. Jared ZIMMERMAN  
18 seconded. The roll call VOTE was unanimous.

19  
20 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to postpone Ordinance 13-13, Version A to the next meeting.  
21 Steve ANASTASIA seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

22  
23 ORDINANCE 13-14: An ordinance setting the Denali Borough Solid Waste Tipping Fees

24  
25 Paddy TATUM MOVED to introduce Ordinance 13-14, Version A. Terry ASBURY seconded.  
26 Mayor Walker noted that there is a six month minimum time lapse between adoption and  
27 enactment of the proposed increase per Denali Borough Code 6.15.070(B). An increase enacted  
28 on July 1 would coincide with the beginning of a new fiscal year. The roll call VOTE was  
29 unanimous.

30  
31 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to postpone Ordinance 13-14, Version A to the next meeting.  
32 Steve ANASTASIA seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

33  
34 ORDINANCE 13-15: An ordinance to create a finance committee

35  
36 David EVANS MOVED to introduce Ordinance 13-15, Version A. Jared ZIMMERMAN seconded.  
37 The roll call VOTE was unanimous.

38  
39 Paddy TATUM MOVED to postpone Ordinance 13-15, Version A to the next meeting. David  
40 EVANS seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

41  
42 ORDINANCE 13-16: An ordinance to increase the Mayor's annual salary from \$65,000 to  
43 \$81,000

44  
45 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to introduce Ordinance 13-16, Version A. Steve ANASTASIA  
46 seconded.

1 Terry ASBURY MOVED to amend Ordinance 13-16, Version A by adding “and approved by a  
2 majority vote at the next regular election” to the last sentence under Section 4, Effective Date.  
3 Paddy TATUM seconded. Points of discussion that followed included tying salary to the  
4 Anchorage consumer price index, local wage rates, and the fact that if an adjustment is not  
5 made by the 2014 election, the next opportunity for change would be 2017. The VOTE by show  
6 of hands was 5-1 as follows: Aye – Steve ANASTASIA, Paddy TATUM, David EVANS, Terry  
7 ASBURY, Rick WEIBEL; No – Jared ZIMMERMAN. The motion passed.

8  
9 The roll call VOTE on the main motion to introduce Ordinance 13-16, Version A was 5-1 as  
10 follows: Aye – Jared ZIMMERMAN, Paddy TATUM, Rick WEIBEL, David EVANS, Steve  
11 ANASTASIA; No – Terry ASBURY. The motion passed.

12  
13 Terry ASBURY MOVED to postpone Ordinance 13-16, Version A to the next meeting. David  
14 EVANS seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

15  
16 ORDINANCE 13-17: An ordinance amending the Denali Borough Code Chapter 3.35 titled  
17 Procurement Procedures and Contracting Standards

18  
19 Steve ANASTASIA MOVED to introduce Ordinance 13-17, Version A. Paddy TATUM seconded.  
20 The roll call VOTE was unanimous.

21  
22 David EVANS MOVED to postpone Ordinance 13-17, Version A to the next meeting. Jared  
23 ZIMMERMAN seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

24  
25 ORDINANCE 13-18: An ordinance amending the Denali Borough Code of Ordinances Chapter  
26 5.05 titled Denali Borough School District

27  
28 David EVANS MOVED to introduce Ordinance 13-18, Version A. Steve ANASTASIA seconded.  
29 The roll call VOTE was unanimous.

30  
31 Steve ANASTASIA MOVED to postpone Ordinance 13-18, Version A to the next meeting. David  
32 EVANS seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

33  
34 Presiding Officer Rick Weibel called a meeting recess at 7:24 pm. The meeting resumed at 7:50  
35 pm.

36  
37 PENDING ORDINANCES:

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

40  
41 Terry ASBURY MOVED to amend by substitution Version D for Version A. The motion failed for lack  
42 of a second.

43  
44 Steve ANASTASIA MOVED to amend by substitution Version C for Version A. Jared ZIMMERMAN  
45 seconded. Points of discussion that followed include the fact that the current overnight  
46 accommodations tax rate of seven percent was approved by a vote of the people, raising the tax  
47 rate would require a separate ordinance, and several attempts to enact new or increased taxes have  
48 been defeated at the polls. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

1  
2 Paddy TATUM MOVED to adopt Ordinance 13-09, Version C. Terry ASBURY seconded. The roll  
3 call VOTE was unanimous.

4  
5 ORDINANCE 13-11, Version A: An ordinance appropriating up to \$12,143 from the General Fund for  
6 reimbursable expenditures related to grant 14LEPC-GR35602

7  
8 David EVANS MOVED to adopt Ordinance 13-11, Version A to the next meeting. Paddy TATUM  
9 seconded. The roll call VOTE was unanimous.

10  
11 ORDINANCE 13-12, Version A: An ordinance appropriating up to \$176,216 from the Major School  
12 Maintenance Fund for the Cantwell K-12 School sprinkler and fire upgrade project

13  
14 Jared ZIMMERMAN MOVED to adopt Ordinance 13-12, Version A. Steve ANASTASIA seconded.  
15 The roll call VOTE was unanimous.

16  
17 RESOLUTIONS

18 RESOLUTION 13-14: A resolution of the Denali Borough Assembly approving the destruction of  
19 records

20  
21 Steve ANASTASIA MOVED to approve Resolution 13-14. Jared ZIMMERMAN seconded. The roll  
22 call VOTE was unanimous.

23  
24 OTHER BUSINESS

25  
26 PUBLIC COMMENTS

27 There were no public comments.

28  
29 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

30  
31 David EVANS thanked those in attendance for coming to the meeting and urged all to vote.

32  
33 Jared ZIMMERMAN thanked those in attendance for coming to the meeting and Kristen Friesen  
34 for her presentation. Mr. Zimmerman commented that he would be interested in participating in a  
35 public meeting to discuss impacts of seasonal housing of employees in the Healy area.

36  
37 Steve ANASTASIA thanked fellow assembly members for allowing him to serve, and commented  
38 that he will not be seeking his seat in the coming election. Mr. Anastasia commented that his  
39 heart is in the Denali Borough, which is at a crossroads. The borough has held its ground as a  
40 "non-government government," but things are changing. We, as a borough, are choosing not to  
41 accept the responsibilities that having a government requires.

42  
43 Paddy TATUM wished Mr. Anastasia well, and commented that she will miss his voice on the  
44 assembly.

45  
46 Terry ASBURY had no comment.

1 Rick WEIBEL commented that he is sorry to see Mr. Asbury leave the assembly, and that he has  
2 appreciated his expertise on the budget.

3  
4 Mayor Clay Walker thanked Mr. Anastasia for his service on the Assembly.

5  
6 NEXT ASSEMBLY MEETING

7 The *Canvass Committee* meeting and *Assembly Special Meeting* to certify the election will be held  
8 in Healy at the Tri-Valley Community Center on Thursday, November 7, 2013 at 6:00 PM.

9  
10 The next regular meeting will be held at the Cantwell School, Cantwell, Alaska on Wednesday,  
11 November 13, 2013: Work Session at 5:30 at the Cantwell Transfer Station, Public Hearing 6:00 PM  
12 and the Regular meeting to follow at the Cantwell School.

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14  
15 ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm.

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18  
19 APPROVED:   
20 Rusty Lasell, Presiding Officer

21  
22  
23 ATTEST:  Date Approved: December 11, 2013  
24 Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk