

Minutes of the Public Hearing
Denali Borough Assembly
Cantwell School
November 16, 2011

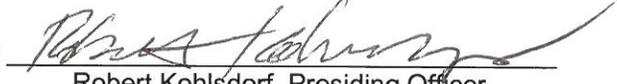
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7 CALL TO ORDER: The public hearing was called to order by Presiding Officer Robert Kohlsdorf at 6:00 PM.
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9 ROLL CALL: Assembly members present: John WINKLMANN, Gordon CARLSON, Robert
10 KOHLSDORF, Paddy TATUM and David EVANS. Absent: Clay WALKER, Terry ASBURY, Cyrus
11 COOPER and Rusty LASELL.
12

13
14 ORDINANCE 11-21: An ordinance amending the fiscal year 2012 budget.
15

16 There was no public comment.
17

18 ADJOURNMENT: The public hearing was adjourned at 6:01 PM.
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26 APPROVED: 
27 Robert Kohlsdorf, Presiding Officer
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32 ATTEST:  Date Approved: DECEMBER 14, 2011
33 Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk
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**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Denali Borough Assembly
Cantwell School
November 16, 2011**

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8 CALL TO ORDER: Presiding Officer Robert KOHLSDORF called the regular meeting to order at
9 6:01 PM. Mayor David Talerico led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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11 ROLL CALL:

12 Assembly members present: John WINKLMANN, Robert KOHLSDORF, Paddy TATUM, Gordon
13 CARLSON and David EVANS. Absent: Cyrus COOPER, Clay WALKER, Terry ASBURY and Rusty
14 LASELL.

15
16 David EVANS MOVED to excuse Cyrus Cooper, Terry Asbury, Rusty Lasell and Clay Walker. John
17 WINKLMANN seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

18
19 SELECTION OF PRESIDING OFFICER

20 David EVANS MOVED to nominate Robert Kohlsdorf for Presiding Officer. Gordon CARLSON
21 seconded. There being no other nominations, Mr. Kohlsdorf was elected Presiding Officer by
22 acclamation.

23
24 SELECTION OF DEPUTY PRESIDING OFFICER

25 Gordon CARLSON MOVED to nominate John WINKLMANN for Deputy Presiding Officer. David
26 EVANS seconded. There being no other nominations, Mr. Winklmann was elected Deputy Presiding
27 Officer by acclamation.

28
29 PUBLIC COMMENTS

30 Rod Smith, owner of Bluesberry Inn and resident of Cantwell, expressed his thanks to Mayor
31 Talerico for being a friend to small business. Mr. Smith relayed his view that Denali Borough
32 penalties for filing late, or not filing, returns for Overnight Accommodations tax are excessive and
33 need to be changed, as penalties hit small operators much harder than large operators. Mr. Smith
34 suggested a penalty that would cover administrative costs would be reasonable, and urged the
35 Assembly to amend Borough Code regarding penalties.

36
37 Armeda Bulard, Cantwell resident, noted that Mayor Talerico is currently serving on the Alaska
38 Municipal League (AML) Board of Directors as a past president and urged Assembly members to
39 consider running when the District Six seat comes open. Ms. Bulard emphasized the importance of
40 AML for small governments in the state of Alaska, and remarked that Board membership is not
41 necessary to serve on a committee. Ms. Bulard also commented that she is actively seeking
42 signatures to restore the Alaska Coastal Management Program. Twenty-six thousand signatures
43 are needed for the initiative.

44
45 Michelle Hartley, Healy Hockey Association (HHA) representative, spoke to the Assembly regarding
46 a letter dated May 3, 2011 that was written explaining circumstances that resulted in HHA neglecting
47 to submit an application for Nonprofit Contributions funding. Ms. Hartley noted that projected
48 expenses for utilities are rising, and requested that the Assembly consider appropriating funding for
49 HHA.

1
2 AGENDA

3 David EVANS MOVED to approve the agenda as submitted. John WINKLMANN seconded. The
4 VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

5
6 MINUTES

7 **October 12, 2011 Assembly Public Hearing and Regular Meeting -**

8 David EVANS MOVED to approve the October 12, 2011 public hearing minutes as submitted. John
9 WINKLMANN seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

10
11 David EVANS MOVED to approve the October 12, 2011 regular meeting minutes as submitted.
12 John WINKLMANN seconded. John WINKLMANN MOVED to amend the minutes on page 3 of 5, to
13 strike the word "east" on line 41, and to add the word "west" of the Parks Highway and on the same
14 page, under "Assembly approval of election informational mail-out flyer" adding the discussion on his
15 concern about placing the candidate names on the ballot without prior consultation with the Borough
16 Assembly. David EVANS seconded. The VOTE by show of hands on the motion to amend was
17 unanimous. The VOTE by show of hands on the main motion to approve was unanimous.

18
19 REPORTS

20 **September 2011 Financial Report**

21 John WINKLMANN MOVED to receive the September 2011 financial report. David EVANS
22 seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.

23
24 MAYOR'S REPORT

25 Mayor Dave Talerico reported that a joint work session with the Denali Borough School Board is
26 scheduled for December 1, and that he is working to get confirmation from the Alaska Railroad
27 Corporation on a work session at 5:00 pm prior to the regular Assembly meeting on January 11,
28 2012. Borough residents have saved a little over \$200 through the National Association of Counties
29 NACO) Prescription Discount Card Program.

30
31 Mayor Talerico attended the Alaska Conference of Mayors and AML annual meeting in Fairbanks,
32 and encouraged Assembly members to visit akml.org to find information regarding decisions made
33 at the meeting. The Conference of Mayors passed a resolution and funding in support of the Alaska
34 Coastal Management Plan Initiative. Mayor Talerico pointed out that, while the Denali Borough is in
35 interior Alaska, it is affected by coastal management. The port of Nenana is one of the busiest ports
36 in Alaska during summer months, and Port McKenzie could greatly affect interior rail transportation.
37 The Denali Borough needs to get involved to have a say in what happens in our state, as coastal
38 areas are now part of our legislative district.

39
40 Mayor Talerico reported that he has been elected NACO representative for the Alaska Municipal
41 League.

42
43 SCHOOL REPORT

44 Kimberly Bergey, Denali Borough School District Superintendent, reported official student enrollment
45 for Anderson at 31.5, Cantwell at 22, Tri-Valley at 176.25, and Denali Peak at 503. The Apple ipad
46 rollout was held a few weeks ago, which was very well received by students. All newly elected
47 School Board members attended the Alaska Association of School Board Conference in Anchorage.
48 Ms. Bergey noted the Cantwell School sprinkler system, Anderson School exterior siding, and door

1 replacement for all three schools are all on the state Capital Improvement Project list. Ms. Bergey
2 also reported that she may be unable to attend the December Assembly meeting.

3
4 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

5 David EVANS commented that a percentage penalty for late payments on overnight
6 accommodations tax may be more palatable than current fixed penalties, and that it is important
7 that a penalty encourage on-time payment.

8
9 David EVANS MOVED to partially fund the Healy Hockey Association in the amount of \$3,000
10 from 4310 Assembly Contingency fund. John WINKLMANN seconded. Points of discussion
11 that followed include application deadlines and procedures, rising utility prices, and Borough
12 responsibility to communities. The roll call VOTE was 4-1 as follows: Ayes – John WINKLMANN,
13 Paddy TATUM, David EVANS, Robert KOHLSDORF; No – Gordon CARLSON. The motion
14 failed due to lack of the required five votes.

15
16 Gordon CARLSON, Paddy TATUM, John WINKLMANN and Robert KOHLSDORF had no
17 comment.

18
19 COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUEST

20 **Cantwell School students to present their investigation on garbage and offer solutions**

21 Cantwell School K-12 students presented a video report of their project related to recycling
22 possibilities in the Denali Borough.

23
24 Presiding Officer Robert Kohlsdorf called a meeting recess at 7:22 pm. The meeting
25 resumed at 7:37 pm.

26
27 PENDING ORDINANCES

28 ORDINANCE 11-21: An ordinance amending the fiscal year 2012 budget.

29 John WINKLMANN MOVED to adopt Ordinance 11-21. Robert EVANS seconded. John
30 WINKLMANN MOVED to amend line item 5200 Nonprofit Contributions to include an additional
31 \$3,000 for Healy Hockey Association Maintenance Rescue. David EVANS seconded. Mayor
32 Talerico stated that if the amendment was approved, he would meet with HHA Board members to
33 explain the importance of meeting filing deadlines. The VOTE by show of hands on the motion to
34 amend was unanimous. The roll call VOTE on the main motion to adopt was unanimous.

35
36 RESOLUTIONS:

37 RESOLUTION 11-24: A resolution extending to Mr. Joe Mueller recognition and congratulations for
38 his accomplishments.

39
40 John WINKLMANN MOVED to approve Resolution 11-24. David EVANS seconded. Mayor Talerico
41 read the Resolution 11-24 into the record. The roll call VOTE was unanimous.

42
43 OTHER BUSINESS

44 **Approval of a 5-year lease extension with the same provisions as previously held with the**
45 **state of Alaska. Municipal Land Entitlement (MLE) transferred to the Borough from the state**
46 **of Alaska located at T12S, R8W, Fairbanks Meridian, a portion of the SE ¼ of Section 2. The**
47 **property is approximately 60 acres located north of Stampede Road and west of the Parks**
48 **Highway, Healy, Alaska. Lessor: Denali Borough: Lessee: Baxter Mercer.**

1 Presiding Officer Robert Kohlsdorf asked Baxter Mercer to speak regarding his requested lease
2 extension. Mr. Mercer explained that he is requesting an extension for a grazing permit in an area
3 defined by recognizable boundaries, which is a portion of an area for which his family has held a
4 lease/permit with the State of Alaska since 1957. The area was part of a municipal land entitlement
5 conveyed to the Denali Borough in February, 2009. Mr. Mercer pointed out that there is a precedent
6 for lease renewal in the Borough, that he has followed Borough procedures, and that the Denali
7 Borough Planning Commission voted in favor of the permit. The area is currently surrounded by a
8 fence and horses occasionally graze there.
9

10 Points of discussion that followed include the need to classify and appraise the land per Denali
11 Borough Code, posting requirements for proposed leases per Denali Borough Code, the change of
12 status from lease to permit in 1997, other state leases/permits for land conveyed to the Denali
13 Borough, the possible option of a temporary special use permit, and the lessee's responsibility for
14 cost of an appraisal.
15

16 John WINKLMANN MOVED to request the Planning Commission make the classification of lands a
17 priority, specifically those lands subject to upcoming lease extensions. Gordon CARLSON
18 seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.
19

20 **Liquor Licenses/Restaurant Designation Permits:**

21 Type: Renewal Package Store Seasonal
22 License: Denali Grizzly Bear
23 Location: Mile 231.1 Parks Highway, Denali, Alaska
24

25 David EVANS MOVED to approve Denali Grizzly Bear's seasonal package store liquor license.
26 John WINKLMANN seconded. The VOTE by show of hands was unanimous.
27

28 **Legislative requests**

29 Mayor Dave Talerico presented a list of suggested legislative project requests, and asked the
30 Assembly to contact him with other appropriate projects to be drafted into resolution form for the
31 December meeting. Projects suggested by the Mayor include a request that funding be directed to
32 Alaska Department of Transportation for pedestrian paths, a diesel chassis cab vehicle for the Tri-
33 Valley Volunteer Fire Department, Denali Landfill shop extension, and Ferry community fire station.
34 Mayor Talerico noted that direct funding is available to organizations, but the organizations need to
35 apply themselves.
36

37 **Community Block Grant (CDBG)**

38 Mayor Dave Talerico reported that the requirements for Community Development Block Grants
39 preclude the Denali Borough from applying. The community of Cantwell fits within the requirements,
40 and the Borough could assist with their grant application, but cannot be signatory.
41

42 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

43 Armeda Bulard, Cantwell resident, thanked those who volunteered to get signatures for the Coastal
44 Management Plan Initiative and noted that the Plan would include six districts, with a board drawn
45 from residents of those districts.
46

47 Tara Berg, Healy Hockey Association representative, thanked the Assembly for appropriating funds
48 for HHA.
49

1 Justin Mason, Denali Borough School District Maintenance Supervisor, offered to provide
2 information such as photos and energy audit results, that would support legislative requests for
3 school related projects.
4

5 ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

6 John WINKLMANN asked Mayor Dave Talerico if there are plans for a Homeland Security
7 inventory and audit. The auditor will be at the December meeting, and plans to bring a letter of
8 engagement at that time.
9

10 David EVANS congratulated newly elected Assembly members Paddy Tatum and Gordon
11 Carlson, and noted that the recent election designated Borough districts for the next ten years.
12

13 Gordon CARLSON thanked those present for attending the meeting, and the voters for trusting
14 him to be their Assembly representative. Mr. Carlson commented that the process to implement
15 large projects is lengthy, and that there are projects currently being discussed by the state
16 (Susitna Hydroelectric Project and the Northern Access Route into the project) that could have
17 significant impacts on the Cantwell community.
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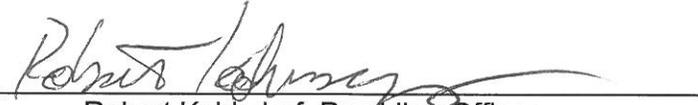
19 Robert KOHLSDORF congratulated Paddy Tatum, Gordon Carlson, and Mayor Talerico on their
20 recent elections.
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22 Paddy TATUM had no comment.
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24 NEXT ASSEMBLY MEETING:

25 The next regular meeting of the Borough Assembly will be held at the Anderson School on
26 December 14, 2011; Public Hearing at 6:00 PM, and regular meeting to follow.
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28 ADJOURN: The presiding officer adjourned the regular meeting at 8:52 pm.
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34 APPROVED: 
35 Robert Kohlsdorf, Presiding Officer
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39 ATTEST: 
40 Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk
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45 Date Approved: DECEMBER 14, 2011