



JOINT CITY COUNCIL AND SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Monday, March 23, 2026 at 5:30 PM

MINUTES

Our Vision. To have an infrastructure and city workforce that supports a sustainable, diversified and growing economy. We will partner with others to achieve economic development and other common goals that assure a high quality of living, and excellence in education.

MEETING INFORMATION

JOINT CITY COUNCIL/ SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Dillingham City School District Office and available via Google Meet:

<https://tinyurl.com/dcsdsbmeet>

565 Seward St.

Dillingham, AK 99576

5:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting called to order at 5:31 PM by Mayor Alice Ruby, Presiding

ROLL CALL

City Council Present:

- Alice Ruby, Mayor (Presiding)
- Triston Chaney
- Jean Barrett
- Steven Carriere
- Curt Armstrong
- Kevin McCambly

Late Arrival:

- Kaleb Westfall (arrived 5:36 PM)

Staff:

- Jack Savo Jr.

School Board Present:

- Cassie MacDonald (via Zoom)
- Heather Savo, President

- Nick Schollmeier, Vice President
- Chrissie Greene

Staff:

- Chris Aguirre, Superintendent
- Quorum established

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Carriere moved to approve the agenda

Second: Barrett

Issues Discussed:

- None

Vote:

- Unanimous
- Result: Motion carried

SPECIAL BUSINESS

1. Purpose of Meeting

Issues Discussed:

- Coordination between City Council and School Board
- Current financial conditions
- Future policy considerations
- Legislative update to be provided

2. School District Presentation

Issues Discussed:

- FY27 budget development and structural adjustments
- Enrollment decline (down 49 students) and impact on funding
- Cost drivers:
 - Energy
 - Food services

- Transportation
- Activity costs and fundraising contributions
- Air travel costs for student activities
- Medical costs (self-insured liability)
- Homeschool and MAPS program options
- Partnership with university and tuition opportunities
- Financial transparency improvements
- May 1 deadline for budget submission to City
- Local contribution and tax base uncertainty
- Bond payments (approximately \$400,000 annually; two years remaining)
- Deferred maintenance:
 - Fire suppression system
 - Electrical panels
 - HVAC systems
- Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) needs
- Food supply costs and logistics
- Staffing and recruitment challenges

3. City Presentation

Issues Discussed:

- City financial position
- Infrastructure needs (potholes, snow removal)
- Existing and potential MOUs
- Combined purchasing (fuel)
- Identification of additional revenue sources
- Opportunities for shared services and in-kind support
- Shared contractor use for cost savings
- Bulk purchasing opportunities (materials, supplies)
- Facility-related coordination (locks, rekeying, maintenance)

4. Legislative Update – Representative Edgmon

Issues Discussed:

- Major election bill passed; pending signature

- Oil price increases and potential state revenue impacts
- State budget deficit (~\$500 million)
- Efforts to increase Base Student Allocation (BSA)
- Inflation impacts on education funding
- School bond funding at 100% for current year
- Uncertainty of forward funding for school districts
- Statewide depletion of school district reserves
- Legislative session timeline (adjournment expected third week of May)

CITIZEN DISCUSSION

Issues Discussed:

- Head Start enrollment needs
- Support for non-competitive practices
- Importance of early childhood programs

COUNCIL / BOARD COMMENTS

NEXT MEETING

- Scheduled for third week of April

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM

ATTEST:

Abigail Flynn, City Clerk, City of Dillingham
[SEAL]

Date of Approval

_____, _____
Dillingham City School Board

Date of Approval