



# Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive  
Petersburg, AK 99833

## Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

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Tuesday, January 16, 2024

6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

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### 1. Call To Order/Roll Call

Mayor Jensen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### PRESENT

Mayor Mark Jensen  
Vice Mayor Donna Marsh  
Assembly Member Thomas Fine-Walsh  
Assembly Member Bob Lynn  
Assembly Member Rob Schwartz  
Assembly Member Jeigh Stanton Gregor

#### EXCUSED

Assembly Member Scott Newman

### 2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

#### A. January 2, 2024 Assembly Meeting Minutes

The January 2, 2024 Assembly meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Marsh, Seconded by Assembly Member Lynn.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh,  
Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton  
Gregor

### 4. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as submitted.

### 5. Public Hearings

There were no public hearings.

## **6. Bid Awards**

There were no bid awards.

## **7. Persons to be Heard Related to Agenda**

*Persons wishing to share their views on any item on today's agenda may do so at this time.*

John Jensen, representing himself, spoke in support of the Assembly requesting a disaster declaration for 4 specific Southeast fisheries.

## **8. Persons to be Heard Unrelated to Agenda**

*Persons with views on subjects not on today's agenda may share those views at this time.*

No views were shared.

## **9. Boards, Commission and Committee Reports**

There were no reports.

## **10. Consent Agenda**

There were no consent agenda items.

## **11. Report of Other Officers**

### **A. Alaska Municipal League Annual Local Government Conference Report**

Member Fine-Walsh gave a report on his attendance at the AML Conference in December, 2023.

### **B. Police Department 2023 Annual Report**

Chief Kerr discussed his department's 2023 annual report with the Assembly.

### **C. Borough Safety Committee Report**

Mayor Jensen read Captain Holmgrain's Safety Committee report.

## **12. Mayor's Report**

There was no written report. Mayor Jensen shared that he has been in contact with Trident Seafoods and has been told there is a lot of interest in the Petersburg plant and that they hope to have an announcement by the end of this week.

## **13. Manager's Report**

### **A. January 16, 2024 Manager's Report**

Manager Giesbrecht read his report into the record, a copy of which is attached and made a permanent part of these minutes.

## **14. Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business.

## 15. New Business

### A. Resolution #2024-01: A Resolution to Support Efforts to Improve Competitiveness and Resilience of the Alaska Seafood Industry

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved Resolution #2024-01.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Marsh, Seconded by Assembly Member Lynn.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

### B. Resolution #2024-02: A Resolution Approving a Sole Source Award for Purchase and Installation of a Radio Communications System for the Petersburg School District that is Compatible with the Police Department's Public Safety Communications Network

Resolution #2024-02 was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Vice Mayor Marsh.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

### C. Fisheries Disaster Declaration Request

The request for a fisheries disaster declaration for four Southeast Alaska fisheries (Northern Southeast Herring Spawn on Kelp, Southeast Herring Gillnet, Southeast Red King Crab and Southeast Brown King Crab) was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Lynn, Seconded by Vice Mayor Marsh.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

### D. PMPL Service Truck #20 Replacement Award

Purchase of a replacement aerial service truck from Global Rental Co., Inc. for a cost not to exceed \$187,509 was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Fine-Walsh.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

**E. United Fisherman of Alaska Membership**

The Assembly unanimously approved the Borough's membership in the UFA at a cost of \$350 annually.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Marsh, Seconded by Assembly Member Schwartz.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

**F. Approval for Mayor Jensen and/or Assembly Member Lynn to Travel with Petersburg Medical Center's CEO Hofstetter and CFO McCormick to Juneau to Visit with our Alaska Legislators Regarding the New Hospital Project**

Approval for Member Lynn and Mayor Jensen to accompany PMC CEO Hofstetter and CFO McCormick to Juneau in February to discuss with Senator Stedman and other legislators the financial benefits regarding reimbursements and depreciation of a new critical care hospital and how it differs from current financial operations of a critical care hospital was unanimous.

Motion made by Assembly Member Lynn, Seconded by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

**G. Approval for Manager Giesbrecht to Attend the Alaska Municipal League Winter Legislative Conference and Meet with State Agencies**

The Assembly unanimously approved Manager Giesbrecht to attend the AML Conference and meet with State agencies.

Motion made by Assembly Member Lynn, Seconded by Vice Mayor Marsh.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

**H. Approval for Manager Giesbrecht to File Grant Applications for the Dingell Johnson and Pittman Robertson Funds for Repairs to the Papke's Landing Facility**

Motion was made to authorize Manager Giesbrecht to pursue the grant funding and engage the services of an engineering firm to help the Borough through the NEPA process, which is required by both grants.

Motion was made to amend the original motion to remove approval to hire an engineer at this time but to approve the Manager to research whether filing applications for the grants would be beneficial.

Motion to amend made by Vice Mayor Marsh, Seconded by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

The original motion, as amended, was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Fine-Walsh.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

## **16. Communications**

There were no communications for this meeting.

## **17. Assembly Discussion Items**

### **A. Topics for the Work Session with Mental Health Trust and DNR**

The Assembly discussed topics for the work session scheduled for January 22, 2024, regarding future subdivision development within the Borough. Topics include road access, road and utility rights of way, lot size for septic system requirements, access to Mitkof Highway, and emergency services access.

### **B. Assembly Member Comments**

Member Marsh gave appreciation to Utility Director Hagerman and Manager Giesbrecht for all the information provided to the Assembly regarding the Blind Slough Hydro project. She also thanked Chief Kerr for his annual Police Department report.

### **C. Recognitions**

Member Stanton Gregor thanked everyone who volunteered their time either financially or emotionally to help those in need around the holidays.

## **18. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Vice Mayor Marsh.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor