



# Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive  
Petersburg, AK 99833

## Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

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Monday, September 18, 2023

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 Bob Lynn  
Assembly Member Thomas Fine-Walsh  
Assembly Member David Kensinger  
Assembly Member Donna Marsh  
Assembly Member Jeff Meucci  
Assembly Member Scott Newman

### 2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

### 3. Non-Compliance Hearing Under the Dangerous Buildings Code for 410 Mitkof Highway

A non-compliance hearing was held for a structure located at 410 Mitkof Highway that is not connected to the Borough's sanitary sewer system. Motion was made that the structure be determined to meet the definition of a Dangerous Building, as defined in PMC 920.010(I) and (J); that the structure be ordered to be vacated until such time as it is properly connected to the sewer system; and that Borough staff draft findings and an order for consideration and approval at the next regular Assembly meeting.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

### 4. Approval of Minutes

#### A. September 5, 2023 Assembly Meeting Minutes

The September 5, 2023 Assembly meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Marsh, Seconded by Assembly Member Meucci.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

## **5. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda**

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Motion made by Assembly Member Meucci, Seconded by Assembly Member Newman.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

## **6. Public Hearings**

There were no public hearings.

## **7. Bid Awards**

### **A. Scow Bay Generator #2 Procurement Award**

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved award of a contract to Marine Services, Inc./Virdi Power for supply of a 3.5MW EMD diesel generator, remote radiator, coolant expansion tank, motor control center, compressed air starting system, equipment engineering and on-site commissioning support for a cost not to exceed \$ 2,047,000.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

## **8. 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.*

Melody Kirchner, representing herself, spoke in opposition of the Borough's denial to accept dedications of easements, rights-of-way, alleys and roadways proposed on the Alaska Mental Health Trust's plat of the South Mitkof Subdivision and asked the Assembly to reconsider so the land sale may move forward.

Niccole McMurren, representing herself, thanked the Alaska Public Entity Insurance for the detailed report on the Safety and Human Resources Review. She requests the Borough receive specific training to manage crisis intervention.

R.D. Parks, speaking for himself, his wife, Madonna, and their daughter, Molly, spoke regarding the APEI Safety and Human Resources Review report, stating it is a detailed roadmap for the Borough to follow. He shared his hopes that the Borough will get behind

the review and take all recommendations and assistance APEI has to offer and hopes this will be the start of a robust, dynamic safety culture.

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

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

Everett Bennett, Executive Director of WAVE, invited the community to a Reconnect Petersburg event on Friday, September 22, 2023 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the SONS of Norway Hall.

Cindy Lynn, representing herself, requested the Borough task a committee or an individual to look at the community impact of the development being discussed on our roads, sidewalks, traffic, noise, police and fire services, sewer and water services, electrical services, etc.

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

There were no reports.

## **11. Consent Agenda**

### **A. The 420 Retail Marijuana Store License Renewal**

The Assembly unanimously supported renewal of The 420's marijuana store license.

Motion made by Assembly Member Meucci, Seconded by Assembly Member Marsh.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

### **B. Sea\*Weed Farms Standard Marijuana Cultivation Facility License Renewal**

The renewal of Sea\*Weed Farms' standard marijuana cultivation facility license was unanimously supported by the Assembly.

Motion made by Assembly Member Meucci, Seconded by Assembly Member Marsh.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

## **12. Report of Other Officers**

### **A. Alaska Public Entity Insurance**

APEI Executive Director, Barbara Thurston, Deputy Director, Carleen Mitchell, and Loss Control Manager Cole Cummins presented and discussed the Safety and Human Resources Review report and APEI's recommendations going forward.

### **B. Administration / Human Resources**

Borough Clerk and Human Resources Director Thompson reported to the Assembly that Borough staff will be implementing the recommendations provided by APEI beginning with establishing of a safety committee who will prioritize the order of recommendation implementation and how the implementation will take place.

### **C. US Forest Service**

USFS Special Uses Permit Administrator Uppencamp informed the public that the US Forest Service is reviewing a proposal submitted to them to utilize Little Duncan Bay for the filming of a wilderness survival television show beginning on October 4 and ending on November 11. Comments regarding the proposal may be submitted to [bret.uppencamp@usda.gov](mailto:bret.uppencamp@usda.gov).

## **13. Mayor's Report**

### **A. September 18, 2023 Mayor's Report**

Mayor Jensen read his report into the record, reminded the public that the first meeting in October was moved to October 9th at 12:00 p.m. and thanked Assembly Member Kensinger for his 3 years of service on the Assembly.

## **14. Manager's Report**

### **A. September 18, 2023 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.

## **15. Unfinished Business**

### **A. Ordinance #2023-13: An Ordinance Adjusting the FY 2024 Budget for Known Changes – Third and Final Reading**

Ordinance #2023-13 was unanimously approved in its third and final reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Kensinger, Seconded by Assembly Member Meucci.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

## **16. New Business**

### **A. Resolution #2023-12: A Resolution Approving the Disposal of Borough Owned Property Located at 10 N. 12th Street (Parcel #01-006-431) by Direct Sale to the Petersburg Indian Association for \$45,000**

The Assembly unanimously approved Resolution #2023-12.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

**B. Land Exchange to Benefit Pump Station 4 Project**

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved the concept for land acquisition for the Pump Station 4 project and to allow the Wastewater Department to file an application with the Planning Commission for vacation of portions of the Ramona Street right-of-way and to seek land for the pump station via a major subdivision of Lot 10 at 1320 N. Nordic Drive.

Motion made by Assembly Member Meucci, Seconded by Assembly Member Kensinger.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

**C. Letter to the Alaska Trust Land Office Regarding Proposed Development of the South Mitkof Subdivision**

The letter to the Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Office was unanimously approved by the Assembly.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

**D. Approval of 2023 Election Officials for the October 3, 2023 Municipal Election**

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved this year's Election Officials, as follows:

Joe Bertagnoli	Stephanie Payne
Tim Chittenden	Tina Sakamoto
Dianne Christensen	Julianne Thompson
Martha Cummins	Yvonne Thynes
Angela Davis	Marina Whitacre
Mara Lutomski	Cena Worhatch
Malena Marvin	Erica Worhatch

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman

**17. Communications**

**A. Correspondence Received Since August 31, 2023**

**18. Assembly Discussion Items**

**A. Extending Platting Authority Outside of Service Area 1**

The Assembly discussed the steps that would need to be taken to extend the Borough's platting authority outside of Service Area 1 and what the effect of doing so might be.

**B. Housing Task Force**

Assembly Member Kensinger is not running to renew his seat on the Assembly and requested that, if the Assembly decides to continue the Housing Task Force after the Housing Needs Assessment is finalized, he be allowed to remain a member and that the Assembly appoint another Assembly member as Chair of the Task Force.

**C. Petersburg Municipal Code Chapter 4.35 Property Development Fund**

Assembly Member Meucci discussed creating a Building Maintenance fund that each department would contribute to annually much like the motor pool fund and re-titling the Property Development Fund chapter of Borough Code.

**D. Scholarship Program for Trade Schools**

The Assembly discussed the communication taking place between Manager Giesbrecht and the Alaska Vocational Technical Center (Avtec). Manager Giesbrecht explained it will take time to get all the details ironed out before the subject is brought before the Assembly.

**E. Southeast Alaska Sea Otter Stakeholder Update**

Assembly Member Meucci shared the latest notes from the Sea Otter Stakeholder meeting which are attached to this meeting's agenda packet.

**F. Assembly Member Comments**

Assembly Member Lynn thanked Member Kensinger for his time serving on the Borough Assembly.

Assembly Member Kensinger thanked the community for the opportunity to serve on the Borough Assembly.

**G. Recognitions**

There were no recognitions.

**19. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Fine-Walsh, Assembly Member Kensinger, Assembly Member Marsh, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Newman