



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Monday, March 16, 2026

6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT

Mayor Bob Lynn
Assembly Member Rob Schwartz
Vice Mayor J Leigh Stanton Gregor
Assembly Member James Valentine
Assembly Member Jeff Meucci
Assembly Member Bob Martin

EXCUSED

Assembly Member Scott Newman

2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

3. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes, February 17, 2026

The minutes of the February 17, 2026 were unanimously approved as submitted.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Martin

B. Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes, March 2, 2026

The minutes of the March 2, 2026 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Martin

4. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as submitted.

Motion made by Assembly Member Meucci, Seconded by Assembly Member Valentine.
Voting Yea: Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor,
Assembly Member Valentine, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Martin

5. Public Hearings

There were no public hearings.

6. Bid Awards

A. Main Street Lighting Materials - Intent to Award

Utility Director Harbour requests approval to award the Main Street Lighting Materials project to North Coast in an amount not to exceed \$132,101.00. A memo from Director Harbour with the bidder information from the March 6, 2026 bid opening is attached to the meeting packet.

The bid award to award the Main Street Lighting Materials project to North Coast in an amount not to exceed \$132,101.00 was unanimously approved.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor,
Assembly Member Valentine, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Martin

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.

Glo Wollen asked that the Assembly pass Resolution #2026-04 to approve the PEDC lease.

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.

Tom Kowalske, representing himself and residents near the Mill Road communications tower, said that they are looking for grants to relocate the Mill Road Tower and encouraged the Assembly to add grant writing to the job description if a position is added to the Community Development department. He also asked the Assembly to consider the effect that cell towers will have on property values.

Ayla Dupree spoke about moving the Mill Road tower and about the effects of towers on health and property values. She asked the Assembly to continue considering other locations for the cell towers.

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. Petersburg's Electrical Resilience & System Health Presentation - Utility Director Harbour

Utility Director Harbour provided a report.

12. Mayor's Report

A. March 16, 2026 Mayor's Report

Mayor Lynn read his report into the record.

13. Manager's Report

A. March 16, 2026 Manager's Report

Manager Giesbrecht read his report into the record.

14. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

15. New Business

A. Resolution 2026-04: A Resolution Extending the Petersburg Economic Development Council's (PEDC) Lease for the Community Cold Storage Property for Another Five (5) Years and Including Certain Seafood Processing as a Permitted Use

If approved, this resolution will extend PEDC's lease for the Community Cold Storage for another five years and will update the lease to allow limited small- scale seafood processing.

Resolution #2026-04 was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Schwartz, Seconded by Assembly Member Valentine.

Voting Yea: Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Martin

B. Resolution #2026-05: A Resolution Approving the Sole- Source Procurement of Self- Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Air Tanks and Face Masks in the Amount of \$301,327 From Municipal Emergency Services (MES), and Authorizing the Borough Manager to Execute All Necessary Purchase Documents

If approved, this resolution will authorize Director Hankins to procure SCBA air tanks and face masks from Municipal Emergency Services (MES), the sole authorized provider capable of providing equipment compatible with the Fire Department's existing equipment in the amount of \$301,327. Of this amount, \$225,000 will be covered by Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) grant funds, with the remaining \$76,327 proposed to come from general fund reserves.

A memo from Director Hankins is attached to this agenda item.

By unanimous roll call vote, Resolution #2026-05 was approved.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Martin

C. Resolution #2026-06: A Resolution Opposing Alaska Board of Fisheries Proposals 170, 171, and 172, Which Seek to Impose Statewide Reductions and Moratoria on Salmon Hatchery Production

If approved, this resolution will affirm the Borough's support for stable, science-based hatchery management by opposing statewide restrictions that could undermine local fisheries, economic activity, and community sustainability.

Resolution #2026-06 was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Schwartz, Seconded by Assembly Member Valentine.

Voting Yea: Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Martin

D. Republic Services Municipal Solid Waste Transportation and Disposal Contract Extension

Public Works Director Marohl requests an extension of the Borough's Municipal Solid Waste Transport and Disposal Agreement with Republic Services for another year. SEASWA is conducting a study of solid waste management in SE Alaska and at the conclusion of the study in late 2026 we will have a better understanding of alternative solutions for the region.

The monetary value of extending the contract for one year is expected to be between \$510,000 and \$550,000 at a rate of \$207.40/ton starting September 1, 2026 and continuing through the end of August 2027.

A memo from Director Marohl is attached to this agenda item.

The extension of the Republic Services Contract was approved.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Martin

E. Southeast Alaska Solid Waste Authority (SEASWA) Alternate Representative Appointment

Appointment of Assistant Public Works Director, Thomas Rummel, as the Borough's Alternate Representative to the Southeast Alaska Solid Waste Authority.

The appointment provides backup representation for SEASWA meetings and decisions when the Borough's primary representative, Director Marohl, isn't available.

Without opposition, Thomas Rummell was appointed to serve as the Alternate Representative to SEASWA.

F. Letter of Interest for Board Appointment: Planning Commission

The Assembly has received a letter of interest from Thomas Kowalske to serve on the Planning Commission until October 2026.

His letter is presented for Assembly review and consideration for appointment.

Without opposition, Thomas Kowalske was appointed to serve on the Planning Commission.

16. Communications

A. Correspondence Received Since 2.25.2026

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Housing Working Group

Member Meucci spoke about what the next steps would be to move forward with a housing working group. Manager Giesbrecht spoke about plans for multi-family housing and Tlingit Haida housing plans.

Member Stanton Gregor spoke in support of a housing working group and that he would like to make sure it had a clear purpose.

Member Martin said he thinks a housing task force would be beneficial for the community and that a lot of good ideas came out of the last work session.

B. Marine Passenger Fee

Member Meucci spoke about moving forward with increasing the Marine Passenger Fee and about some of the projects that could be completed.

Member Valentine also spoke in support of increasing the Marine Passenger Fee for various projects.

C. Assembly Member Comments

Member Schwartz spoke about the possibility of starting a fish box tax.

Member Valentine also discussed the fish box tax and indicated that it should be revisited. He also addressed the communication towers, noting his understanding of the community's frustration with the process and expressing willingness to continue the discussion.

D. Recognitions

Member Meucci reminded everyone about the St Patrick's Day parade tomorrow.

Emergency Services Director Hankins recognized the five community members who recently completed the EMT1 course. Carin Christensen, Luke Sinclair, Edwin Loyo, Nick Espeseth and Sadia Aurna.

Member Martin thanked the staff and the Mayor for coordinating Congressman Begich's visit to Petersburg.

Mayor Lynn said that the visit with Congressman Begich was productive.

18. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Motion made by Assembly Member Valentine, Seconded by Assembly Member Martin.
Voting Yea: Mayor Lynn, Assembly Member Schwartz, Vice Mayor Stanton Gregor,
Assembly Member Valentine, Assembly Member Meucci, Assembly Member Martin