



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Monday, June 02, 2025

12:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jensen at 12:00 noon.

PRESENT

Mayor Mark Jensen
Vice Mayor Donna Marsh
Assembly Member Bob Lynn
Assembly Member Scott Newman
Assembly Member Rob Schwartz
Assembly Member Jeigh Stanton Gregor
Assembly Member James Valentine

2. Voluntary Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

3. Approval of Minutes

A. Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes May 19, 2025

The minutes of the May 19, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

4. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Schwartz.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

5. Public Hearings

A. Ordinance # 2025-06: An Ordinance Amending Section 4.28.130 of the Petersburg Municipal Code Relating to the Sales Tax Exemption for Seniors to Limit the Exemption to Low-Income Seniors, and Directing that the Proposed Amendment be Submitted to the Qualified Voters of the Borough

Liz Bacom, representing herself, spoke in favor of Ordinance #2025-06 and asked the Assembly to consider an accommodation for people who don't qualify for the Senior Benefit program according to the state of Alaska guidelines.

Rozanne Plew, representing herself, agreed with Ms. Bacom's remarks and requested that the Assembly get more information to the voters about Ordinance #2025-06.

B. Ordinance #2025-07: An Ordinance Updating Chapter 14.16 of the Municipal Code, Entitled "Electric Utility"

No testimony was given.

C. Ordinance #2025-08: An Ordinance Updating Chapter 14.04.420 of the Municipal Code, Entitled "Water Rate Schedule and Fees"

No testimony was given.

D. Ordinance #2025-09: An Ordinance Updating Chapter 14.08.320 of the Municipal Code, Entitled "Sewer Collection Rates"

No testimony was given.

E. Ordinance #2025-10: An Ordinance Adding "Section N - Marine Passenger Ship Refuse" to Chapter 14.12.140, Entitled "Rates for Refuse Collection"

No testimony was given.

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.

Bob Martin, the chair of the Harbor Board, but speaking for himself, shared his views about the FY2026 Budget and said that he is in support of American Cruise Lines and a dedicated dock for their use, but would recommend the money be paid back to the Harbor Fund from the cruise ship tourism revenue.

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.

John Havrilek, representing himself, requested that the Assembly consider passing an ordinance for people to leash their dogs and to clean up after them. He also requested that

there be a minimum age and some training for people before they are allowed to use scooters in town.

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. PMC CEO Hofstetter updated the Assembly on Medical Center activities.

B. Superintendent Taylor provided an update on school activities.

12. Mayor's Report

A. Mayor's Report June 2, 2025

Mayor Jensen read his report into the record. Mayor Jensen also announced that he would not be running for Mayor in the October 2025 election.

13. Manager's Report

A. Manager's Report June 2, 2025

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

A. Ordinance #2025-05: An Ordinance of the Petersburg Borough Adopting the Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 - Third Reading

In its second reading, the FY2026 Budget was amended to make an appropriation of \$1,000,000 from the Harbor Reserves for purposes of a contribution to the dock facility project to be conducted by American Cruise Lines at the Petersburg Harbor, and to direct the Manager to contact ACL to explore whether there is common ground on the proposed facility, including the possibility of developing a design aligned with Concept No. 7. If the parties are in agreement, the Manager is to return to the Assembly with a proposed financial plan and timeline. No funds may be spent under this appropriation without the Assembly's approval of a written agreement.

A motion was made by Member Lynn to amend the budget to spend up to \$6,000 from the property development fund to pay Harai and Associates to develop revised concept drawings for repairs and improvements to the Papke's Landing facility, and establish a committee led by Assembly Member Lynn and Manager Giesbrecht to work with the engineer and the Alaska Department of Transportation and for future funding to potentially come from the Dingell Johnson Act. Motion Failed 4-3.

Motion made by Assembly Member Lynn, Seconded by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor.

Voting Yea: Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor

Voting Nay: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Valentine

A motion was made by Member Marsh to use money from the Economic Development Fund instead of the Harbor Fund for the American Cruise Lines dock. Motion failed due to lack of a second.

Ordinance #2025-05, passed by a vote of 5 - 2 in its third and final reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Newman.

Voting Yea: Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

Voting Nay: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh

B. Ordinance # 2025-06: An Ordinance Amending Section 4.28.130 of the Petersburg Municipal Code Relating to the Sales Tax Exemption for Seniors to Limit the Exemption to Low-Income Seniors, and Directing that the Proposed Amendment be Submitted to the Qualified Voters of the Borough - Second Reading

By unanimous roll call vote, Ordinance #2025-06 approved in its second reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Assembly Member Newman.

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

C. Ordinance #2025-07: An Ordinance Updating Chapter 14.16 of the Municipal Code, Entitled "Electric Utility" - Second Reading

By unanimous roll call vote, Ordinance #2025-07 approved in its second reading.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

D. Ordinance #2025-08: An Ordinance Updating Chapter 14.04.420 of the Municipal Code, Entitled "Water Rate Schedule and Fees" - Second Reading

By unanimous roll call vote, ordinance #2025-08 was approved in its second reading.

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

Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly

Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

E. Ordinance #2025-09: An Ordinance Updating Chapter 14.08.320 of the Municipal Code, Entitled “Sewer Collection Rates” - Second Reading

By unanimous roll call vote, ordinance #2025-09 was approved in its second reading.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Marsh, Seconded by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor.
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

F. Ordinance #2025-10: An Ordinance Adding “Section N - Marine Passenger Ship Refuse” to Chapter 14.12.140, Entitled "Rates for Refuse Collection" - Second Reading

By unanimous roll call vote, ordinance #2025-10 was approved in its second reading.

Motion made by Assembly Member Valentine, Seconded by Vice Mayor Marsh.
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

15. New Business

A. Resolution #2025-11: A Resolution of the Petersburg Borough Setting the Millage Rates for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved Resolution #2025-11 to set the millage rate for Petersburg Borough property taxes for FY 2026.

Motion made by Assembly Member Lynn, Seconded by Assembly Member Valentine.
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

B. Letter of Support for Taku Watershed, Cleanup of Tulsequah Chief Mine

The letter to the Alaska Delegation, in support of the cleanup of Tulsequah Chief Mine, was unanimously approved.

Motion made by Assembly Member Valentine, Seconded by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor.
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine

16. Communications

A. Correspondence Received Since May 15, 2025

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Assembly Member Comments

Member Lynn reported on the SEAPA meeting last week regarding the third turbine at Tyee and the negotiation process for the materials for the turbine. A certain percentage of the materials must be made in the United States.

Member Lynn also mentioned that the marine passenger fees should be revisited at some point.

B. Recognitions

There were no recognitions.

18. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

Motion made by Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Seconded by Vice Mayor Marsh.
Voting Yea: Mayor Jensen, Vice Mayor Marsh, Assembly Member Lynn, Assembly Member Newman, Assembly Member Schwartz, Assembly Member Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Valentine