



# Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive  
Petersburg, AK 99833

## Meeting Minutes Planning Commission Regular Meeting

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Tuesday, December 09, 2025

12:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

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### 1. Call to Order

Commissioner Vice-Chair Heather O'Neil called the meeting to order at 12:01PM

### 2. Roll Call

#### PRESENT

Commission Vice-Chair Heather O'Neil  
Commission Secretary Sarah Fine-Walsh  
Commissioner Joshua Adams  
Commissioner Mika Cline

#### ABSENT

Commission Chair Chris Fry  
Commissioner John Jensen  
Commissioner Marietta Davis

### 3. Acceptance of Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

Motion made by Commission Secretary Fine-Walsh, Seconded by Commissioner Adams.  
Voting Yea: Commission Vice-Chair O'Neil, Commission Secretary Fine-Walsh,  
Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Cline

### 4. Approval of Minutes

#### A. November 12, 2025, Meeting Minutes

The November 12, 2025, Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved.

Motion made by Commission Secretary Fine-Walsh, Seconded by Commissioner Adams.

Voting Yea: Commission Vice-Chair O'Neil, Commission Secretary Fine-Walsh,  
Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Cline

### 5. Public Comments

Judy Ohmer spoke representing herself to bring awareness to the lack of ordinances regarding the planning aspect of the towers being erected. She encouraged the Planning Commission to take a closer look at the ordinances, permitting and what needs to be in place to protect ourselves.

## **6. Consent Calendar**

None

## **7. Public Hearing Items**

- A. Recommendation to the Borough Assembly regarding an application from the Petersburg Borough to vacate a portion of N 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

Motion made by Commission Secretary Fine-Walsh, Seconded by Commissioner Adams.

Commission Vice-Chair O'Neil asked Director Liz Cabrera when vacating a right of way, are the owners on both sides are given a chance to acquire their half. Director Liz Cabrera replied yes, the owner declined purchasing so the vacated ROW will be absorbed into adjacent triangle lot.

Commissioner Adams commented that this is a good idea, it makes the triangular lot a buildable lot.

Voting Yea: Commission Vice-Chair O'Neil, Commission Secretary Fine-Walsh, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Cline

- B. Consideration of Planning Commission's procedure for adding agenda items.

Director Liz Cabrera explained that a couple of Commissioners asked what the process was to add agenda items to a meeting. A clear procedure has been written for the Commissioners to ensure the public hearing notice requirements are met.

Motion made by Commission Secretary Fine-Walsh, Seconded by Commissioner Adams.

Voting Yea: Commission Vice-Chair O'Neil, Commission Secretary Fine-Walsh, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Cline

## **8. Non-Agenda Items**

- A. Commissioner Comments

Recommendation to Borough Assembly regarding Wireless Communication Facilities.

Vice-Chair O'Neil proposed adding an agenda item for next month to consider zoning amendments to Industrial, Commercial 1, and Commercial 2 ordinances all which speak to communication towers as principal uses permitted. The amendments would add the language "communication equipment". Vice-Chair O'Neil quoted the Borough of Haines unadopted proposal for ordinances changes regarding communication towers.

## Commissioner discussion

Commission Secretary Fine-Walsh made a motion for next month's agenda consideration of zoning changes. Seconded by Commissioner Adams.

Discussion focused on the delayed submission of zoning changes, including concerns about the legality and the need for attorney review.

Commission Secretary Fine-Walsh retracted the motion.

Commissioner Cline submitted a written proposal for an action item to be included on the January 13, 2025 Planning Commission agenda. Recommendation to the Borough Assembly to pursue a land exchange with Tidal Networks for the Rory Rd property for publicly owned land for the purpose of relocating a planned communications equipment tower to a lower impact area, such as the shooting range.

Commissioner Adams spoke regarding parking code and his idea to repeal parking mandates in Petersburg all together.

## B. Staff Comments

None

## C. Next Meeting is January 13, 2026.

## 9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:36PM.

Motion made by Commission Secretary Fine-Walsh, Seconded by Commissioner Cline.  
Voting Yea: Commission Vice-Chair O'Neil, Commission Secretary Fine-Walsh,  
Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Cline