



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg, AK 99833

Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly Regular Meeting

Monday, April 03, 2023

12:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

Mayor Jensen called the meeting to order at 12:00 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. Approval of Minutes

A. March 20, 2023 Assembly Meeting Minutes

The March 20, 2023 Assembly meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

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. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

5. Public Hearings

A. Public Hearing for Ordinance #2023-04: An Ordinance Adjusting the FY 2023 Budget for Known Changes

No testimony was received during this public hearing.

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.

Brandi Boggs, PMC Patient Navigator, spoke in favor of approval of the letter of support for PMC's Home Health Department (agenda item 15D) and a grant they are applying for. She outlined how PMC could use the funds if the grant is approved.

Tony Vinson shared his views in favor of passage of Ordinance #2023-03, which, if approved by the voters, will amend the Borough Charter to allow Borough employees, including hospital and school employees, to serve on certain boards and commissions.

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

A. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Report

Parks & Recreation Board Chair Fine-Walsh read a letter the Board sent to the Petersburg Indian Association recognizing them for their ongoing efforts to improve Petersburg's community trail network.

10. Consent Agenda

There were no consent agenda items.

11. Report of Other Officers

A. Petersburg Medical Center Update

PMC CEO Hofstetter reviewed his written report and gave an update on the Medical Center.

B. US Forest Service Update

Petersburg Ranger District Silviculturist Case gave an update on Forest Service activities.

C. Petersburg School District Financial Update

Superintendent Kludt-Painter and Finance Director Morrison gave the Assembly an update on the school district's finances, and explained the need for an increase in funding from the Borough.

12. Mayor's Report

A. April 3, 2023 Mayor's Report

Mayor Jensen read his report into the record.

13. Manager's Report

There was no written report for this meeting.

14. Unfinished Business

A. Ordinance #2023-03: An Ordinance Proposing Amendments to the Home Rule Charter of the Petersburg Borough to Allow Borough Employees, Including Employees Working at Petersburg Medical Center and Petersburg School District, to Serve on Certain Boards and Commissions, and Directing that the Proposed Charter Amendments be Submitted to the Qualified Voters of the Borough - Third and Final Reading

If adopted in three readings and then approved by Petersburg voters on October 3, 2023, Ordinance #2023-03 will allow Borough, Medical Center and School District employees to serve on certain local boards and commissions, but not including those which directly administer their employment. Examples: 1) a Borough employee may serve on the School Board or Hospital Board but may not run for Assembly; 2) a Medical Center employee may serve on the Assembly or the School Board but may not run for the Hospital Board; 3) a School District employee may serve on the Assembly or Hospital Board but may not run for School Board. Ordinance #2023-03 was approved by a vote of 6-1 in its first and second readings.

Ordinance #2023-03 was unanimously approved in its third and final reading. The proposition will now go before the Petersburg voters in October, 2023.

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

B. Ordinance #2023-04: An Ordinance Adjusting the FY 2023 Budget for Known Changes - Second Reading

If approved in three readings, Ordinance #2023-04 will: 1) transfer 50% of General Fund surplus from FY 2022 to the Property Development Fund; 2) transfer \$65,432 from the Property Development Fund to the Community Center Sewer Line project; 3) transfer \$21,165.46 from the Hydro Substation project to the Blind Slough Hydro project; 4) transfer \$12,916 from the Wastewater Department reserves to the Ira II Street project; 5) transfer \$170,000 from the Electric Department reserves to the Diesel Plant Fuel budget line item to assure adequate funds for the annual SEAPA maintenance shutdown and diesel run in May/June; 6) increase the General Fund Attorney budget by \$90,000 due to unanticipated legal expenses from the Pitta Rosse, Kerr and Koenigs lawsuits; 7) increase the South Harbor Dredging project budget of \$635,000 due to encountering hard material during dredging operations; 8) increase to

the Wastewater Professional Services budget of \$35,000 to cover the hire of HDR Engineering to assist in completing ADEC forms for retention of the NPDES 301h secondary treatment waiver; 9) transfer \$189,000 to a new Middle Harbor Dredging budget line item for removal of landslide debris from the Hammers Slough slide that is damaging the Middle Harbor; 10) increase of \$20,000 to the Fire Engine Motor Pool budget line item to cover various equipment needed for the new vehicle; 11) increase of \$80,000 to the Streets Department Motor Pool O&M budget line item due to increased parts costs and unanticipated necessary repairs; and 12) increase of \$10,000 each to the Motor Pool Patrol Unit #54 and Patrol Unit #96 budget line items due to increased costs of chassis and vehicle uplifts. Ordinance #2023-04 was unanimously approved in its first reading.

The Assembly unanimously approved Ordinance #2023-04 in its second reading.

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

15. New Business

A. Ordinance #2023-05: An Ordinance Updating Chapter 17.02 of the Municipal Code, Entitled "Safety Code Adoption"

If approved in three readings, Ordinance #2023-05 will (1) update the local amendment to the International Building Code snow load requirement, and (2) adopt a local amendment to the International Residential Code for new insulation values.

By unanimous roll call vote, Ordinance #2023-05 was approved in its first 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

B. Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) Ferry Focus Group Appointment

ADOT&PF is organizing locally-based Ferry Focus Groups to provide further insight into how AMHS can best serve communities with available resources while they work toward more reliable service. They are requesting local participation in upcoming service schedule planning/schedule development and will have more opportunities for involvement in the future. Assembly Member Kensinger is willing to participate in the Ferry Focus Group for Petersburg if the Assembly so desires.

Assembly Member Kensinger was unanimously appointed by the Assembly to serve on the Ferry Focus Group.

Motion made by Vice Mayor Lynn, 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

C. Petersburg Medical Center Project Steering Committee Appointment

Manager Giesbrecht was unanimously appointed to the PMC Project Steering Committee.

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

D. Petersburg Medical Center Home Health Letter of Support

The letter of support was unanimously approved.

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

E. Petersburg Municipal Employees Association Collective Bargaining Agreement Negotiation Team

By unanimous roll call vote, the Assembly approved Manager Giesbrecht, Finance Director Tow, Clerk Thompson and Deputy Clerk Regula as the negotiating team for the upcoming PMEA contract negotiations.

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

16. Communications

A. Correspondence Received Since March 16, 2023

17. Assembly Discussion Items

A. Southeast Alaska Sea Otter Abundance Estimate

Assembly Member Meucci reported that the Sea Otter Stakeholder Group released their findings of a sea otter survey performed in SE Alaska last year. With a 95% confidence rate, they estimate the number of sea otters in SE Alaska to be 22,359. They also report they believe the carrying capacity of sea otters for SE Alaska to be 48,000.

B. Assembly Member Comments

No comments were shared.

C. Recognitions

Assembly Member Newman recognized Mayor Jensen and Manager Giesbrecht for their work representing Petersburg in Washington, D.C. last week.

18. Executive Session

The Assembly adjourned to executive session to discuss the status of and strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Petersburg Municipal Employees Association.

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

The Assembly came out of executive session at 2:47 p.m. and reconvened regular session.

19. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

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