



Petersburg Borough

12 South Nordic Drive
Petersburg AK, 99833

Meeting Minutes Borough Assembly

Tuesday, January 2, 2018

12:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

Mayor Jensen called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Present: 7 - Mayor Mark Jensen, Assembly Member Eric Castro, Assembly Member Brandi Marohl, Assembly Member Jeffrey Meucci, Assembly Member Jeigh Stanton Gregor, Assembly Member Nancy Strand and Assembly Member Kurt Wohlhueter

2. Voluntary Pledge

The Pledge was recited.

3. Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes available for approval.

4. Amendment and Approval of Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

5. Public Hearings

No public hearings were held.

6. Bid Awards

There were no bids to award.

7. Visitors' Views Related to Agenda

Marlene Cushing, a member of the Hospital Board, spoke to Agenda Item 15B, FY 2018 Capital Projects List, specifically, the \$33,000,000 estimated cost for a hospital renovation that is included on the list. A facility conditions survey done in 2015 by Jensen Yorba Lott, Inc. provided the estimate to extend the life of the current facility.

John Murgas, representing himself, spoke to Agenda Item 15C, Special Use Permit Application. Mr. Murgas is requesting a special use permit to construct a new ramp at Scow Bay. He also shared his view against the proposed \$100 administrative fee for applying for a senior citizen sales tax exemption card.

Joni Johnson, representing herself, spoke to Agenda Item 15D, Knotweed Herbicide Treatment. Ms. Johnson is requesting Borough support and collaboration to apply for a grant to fight knotweed on Mitkof Island.

8. Visitors' Views Unrelated to Agenda

No views were shared.

9. Board, Commission and Committee Reports

No reports.

10. Consent Agenda

A. Kito's Kave, Inc. Package Store Liquor License Renewal

Attachments: [Kito's Kave Package Store Application](#)

By unanimous roll call vote, the package store liquor license renewal application for Kito's Kave was approved.

B. Kito's Kave, Inc. Beverage Dispensary Liquor License Renewal

Attachments: [Kito's Kave Beverage Dispensary Application](#)

The beverage dispensary liquor license renewal application for Kito's Kave was unanimously approved.

11. Report of Other Officers

A. Washington, D.C. Lobbyist Brad Gilman

The Borough's federal lobbyists, Brad Gilman and Sebastian O'Kelly, spoke with the Assembly regarding Petersburg's top federal priorities and projects. They suggest the primary topic of the Borough's visit to Washington, D.C. should be the remaining presence of the US Coast Guard in Petersburg. Other issues discussed were an extension of Secure Rural Schools funding, an Alaska Native Subsistence Exemption to the Marine Mammal Protection Act for the harvesting of sea otters, and infrastructure issues (Scow Bay and harbor dredging). Mr. Gilman also stated they would attempt to set up a meeting with the Canada desk of the State Department regarding the Transboundary Waters issue.

B. Presentation on Proposed New Development Code

Attachments: [Code Revision information](#)

Petersburg Community & Economic Development Director Cabrera explained why the department and the Planning Commission are proposing to combine the current zoning and subdivision codes into one code - the Petersburg Development Code. The proposed code will regulate land use and development within the Borough, particularly within Service Area 1. The current zoning and subdivision codes, which were written approximately 30 years ago, are inconsistent, lack specific guidance and are cumbersome in some areas. The proposed Development Code will increase allowable uses, improve downtown zoning, and implement land use goals of the Comprehensive Plan adopted by the Assembly in February of 2016. The Planning Commission is holding public meetings to review the proposed code and hear citizens' concerns and suggestions on January 9, February 6, and March 6, 2018. The proposed code approved by the Planning Commission will then go before the Assembly in ordinance form for three readings at the April 2, April 16, and May 7, 2018 Assembly meetings.

12. Mayor's Report

A. January 2, 2018 Mayor's Report

Attachments: [1-2-18 Mayor's Report](#)

Mayor Jensen read his report aloud. The Assembly requested a resolution for the next agenda in support of repeal of the Roadless Rule on the Tongass National Forest to give the Borough's Southeast Conference Board Member, Cindi Lagoudakis, guidance in addressing the issue.

13. Manager's Report

Manager Giesbrecht reminded the public of the upcoming open house planning meetings he is hosting on Wednesday, January 3rd from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m., Thursday, January 18th from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., and Saturday, January 27th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Manager Giesbrecht is seeking community input in identifying areas where the Borough could reduce expenses or increase revenues. An email address has also been set up for these suggestions in the event a community member is unable to attend the open house meetings - Petersburgplan@petersburgak.gov.

14. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

15. New Business

- A. Ordinance #2018-03: An Ordinance Amending the Official Zoning Map for Service Area 1 of the Petersburg Borough to Rezone Lot 10, Blk 234, USS 1252A; Lot SW PTN 9, Blk 234, USS 1252A; and Lot NE PTN 9, Blk 234, USS 1242A, All Located in Section 27, T58S, R79E, CRM at 1320 N. Nordic Drive (Parcels #01-002-161, #01-002-162 and #01-002-163) From Open Space-Recreational (O.S.R.) to Single-Family Residential (S-F)

Attachments: [Ordinance #2018-03](#)
[Planning Commission Report](#)

Ordinance #2018-03 was unanimously approved in its first reading.

B. Fiscal Year 2019 Capital Projects List

Attachments: [FY 2018 Capital Projects List](#)

The Assembly unanimously approved the FY 2019 State Capital Projects List, which includes:
Petersburg School District Food Service Preparation and Renovation
Scow Bay Haul Out & Wash Down Pad
Hospital Renovation
Clausen Memorial Museum Design, Plans and Drawings
Recycling Equipment (glass crusher, tire cutter)

C. Special Use Permit Application

Attachments: [Planning Commission Report - Murgas](#)

By a vote of 6-1, Member Wohlhueter in favor, the Assembly denied a special use permit requested by Island Ventures LLC (or more appropriately, recommended the Planning Commission deny to expand the interpretation of a special use permit to include use of Borough tidelands by commercial operations), and recommended a lease agreement for the subject property.

D. Knotweed Herbicide Treatment

Attachments: [Johnson letter](#)

The Assembly unanimously approved Borough involvement to apply for a grant to fight knotweed on Mitkof Island in partnership with Borough resident Joni Johnson. Assembly Member Castro volunteered to become State certified to apply the herbicide treatment to affected areas.

16. Communications**17. Assembly Discussion Items****A. Recognitions**

Assembly Member Castro thanked the paid and unpaid first responders for their efforts and recognized the increased call volume during the month of December.

Assembly Member Stanton Gregor thanked Manager Giesbrecht for organizing the upcoming open house planning meetings and encouraged the public to attend or otherwise take part in sharing their ideas to reduce Borough expenses or increase revenues. Mayor Jensen added that it is important that Borough residents participate in this discussion, stating that Manager Giesbrecht has chosen varying days of the week and times of the day to help make the meetings accessible to everyone.

B. Possible Land Trade

The Assembly discussed the idea of a possible land trade with Petro Marine, a subject that has been brought forward by Petro Marine and has been discussed in the past. The Assembly requested Manager Giesbrecht research what the numbers would look like if the land trade were to be made (loss of lease revenue and property taxes, etc.).

C. Senior Citizen Exemption Application Fee

Attachments: [Ordinance #2018-01](#)

Assembly Member Meucci requested to add the subject of the proposed Senior Citizen Sales Tax Exemption Card Application Fee to the work session scheduled on Monday, January 8, 2018 on the proposed Marine Passenger Fee. The Assembly agreed and scheduled the work session for 5:00 p.m. on January 8th. The Assembly is looking for input from Borough residents on both proposed fees.

D. Marine Passenger Fee

Attachments: [Draft Ord #2018-02](#)

Further discussion of the proposed Marine Passenger Fee will take place at the January 9, 2018 work session scheduled to begin at 5:00 p.m. in the Assembly Chambers.

18. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 p.m.