



Kenai Peninsula Borough

144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, AK 99669

Meeting Minutes - Final

Assembly

Ryan Tunseth, President

Kelly Cooper, Vice President

Willy Dunne

Cindy Ecklund

Dale Eicher

Scott Griebel

Michael Hicks

Lenora Niesen

Sarge Truesdell

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

6:00 PM

Betty J. Glick Assembly Chambers
Meeting ID: 897 1694 8642 Passcode: 075938
[https://yourkpb.zoom.us/j/89716948642?
pwd=fEb3zpJksgh1maera2nn3XZRWlPat.1](https://yourkpb.zoom.us/j/89716948642?pwd=fEb3zpJksgh1maera2nn3XZRWlPat.1)

Meeting ID: 897 1694 8642 Passcode: 075938

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Tim Weekley, Chaplain for Central Emergency Services.

ROLL CALL

Present: 8 - Ryan Tunseth, Kelly Cooper, Cindy Ecklund, Willy Dunne, Dale Eicher, Lenora Niesen, Michael Hicks, and Scott Griebel

Excused: 1 - Sarge Truesdell

Also present were:

Peter A. Micciche, Borough Mayor

Brandi Harbaugh, Finance Director

Sean Kelley, Borough Attorney

Michele Turner, Borough Clerk

Sue Ellen Essert, Deputy Borough Clerk

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Assembly Member Niesen stated the Finance Committee met and discussed its agenda items.

[8 Present: Cooper, Dunne, Ecklund, Eicher, Griebel, Hicks, Niesen, Tunseth]

[1 Absent: Truesdell]

Assembly Member Ecklund stated the Lands Committee met and discussed its agenda items.

[8 Present: Cooper, Dunne, Ecklund, Eicher, Griebel, Hicks, Niesen, Tunseth]

[1 Absent: Truesdell]

Assembly Member Griebel stated the Policies and Procedures Committee met and discussed its agenda items.

[8 Present: Cooper, Dunne, Ecklund, Eicher, Griebel, Hicks, Niesen, Tunseth]

[1 Absent: Truesdell]

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Cooper moved to approve the agenda and consent agenda.

Copies have been made available to the public, Borough Clerk Michele Turner noted by title only the resolutions, ordinances and other new business items that were on the consent agenda.

[KPB-7461](#) February 3, 2026 Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes
approved

[KPB-7464](#) A Resolution Commending the Homer High Schools Boys' Football Team - ASAA State Football Champions of the Year 2025 (Mayor, Cooper)
This Commending Resolution was adopted.

The following public hearing items met the required conditions of KPB 22.40.110 and were added to the consent agenda:

[2025-19-24](#) An Ordinance Accepting and Appropriating Opioid Settlement Funds for the Opioid Settlement Fund Grant Program (Mayor)

[Clerk's Note: At the 02/03/26 meeting President Tunseth ruled Mr. Dunne had a conflict regarding Ordinance 2025-19-24 as he was a board member of one of the grant recipients. Mr. Dunne abstained from the discussion and vote on Ordinance 2025-19-24.]

The Budget Ordinance was enacted.

Yes: 7 - Tunseth, Cooper, Ecklund, Eicher, Niesen, Hicks, and Griebel

Excused: 1 - Truesdell

Abstain: 1 - Dunne

[2025-19-25](#) An Ordinance Appropriating \$342,000 from the School Maintenance Fund for Snow Removal and Sanding (Mayor)

This Budget Ordinance was enacted.

[2026-03](#) An Ordinance Accepting Emergency Response Equipment from the Bear Creek Volunteer Fire & EMS, Inc. (BCV) on Behalf of Bear Creek Fire Service Area and Reconvening Used Equipment to BCV (Mayor)

This Ordinance was enacted.

[2025-19-26](#) An Ordinance Appropriating Local Area and Tribal Consistency Funds to Fund the 25% Cost Share Requirement for the FY26 Congressionally Directed Spending Award to Construct Telecommunications Infrastructure in Turnagain Pass (Mayor)

This Budget Ordinance was enacted.

NEW BUSINESS

[2026-010](#) A Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Bonds, in One or More Series, of the Kenai Peninsula Borough in an Amount Not to Exceed \$31,462,085 of Bond Proceeds to Finance Costs of Certain Educational Capital Improvements in the Borough; Authorizing the Sale of Such Bonds; Fixing Certain Details of Such Bonds; Pledging the Full Faith and Credit of the Borough to the Payment Thereof; Authorizing the Sale of Such Bonds; and Providing for Related Matters (Mayor)

This Resolution was adopted.

[2026-011](#) LAYDOWN A Resolution Authorizing a Letter of Support for the National Forest Foundation's Proposal to the Recreational Trails Program for the Construction of Wolverine Bridge (Tunseth)

[Clerk's Note: Section 1 of Resolution 2026-011 was amended to read, "That the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly supports the National Forest Foundation's proposal to the recreational trails program for the construction of the wolverine bridge. The Mayor, Clerk, or designee, are authorized to issue a letter of support on behalf of the Assembly for this proposal and project by or before close of business on February 18, 2026. This statement of support should not be interpreted as a commitment to or intent to provide financial support from the Kenai Peninsula Borough for this project at this time."]

This Resolution was adopted as amended.

[2025-19-27](#) An Ordinance Accepting and Appropriating Code Blue Grant Funds from the Southern Region Emergency Medical Services, Inc. on Behalf

of Western Emergency Service Area (Mayor)

This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2026-05](#)

An Ordinance Authorizing Retention or Sale of Certain Real Property Obtained by the Kenai Peninsula Borough Through Tax Foreclosure Proceedings (Mayor)

This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2026-07](#)

An Ordinance Authorizing the Kenai Peninsula Borough to Enter Into a Long-Term Lease Agreement with the City of Seward for Operation of a Public Outdoor Shooting Range (Mayor)

This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2026-08](#)

An Ordinance Authorizing a Communications Site Lease Agreement with Chugach Electric Association, Inc., in Cooper Landing (Mayor)

This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2026-04](#)

An Ordinance Amending KPB 2.56.030 to Adopt the 2045 Homer Comprehensive Plan as the Official Comprehensive Plan for that Portion of the Borough within the Boundaries of the City of Homer (Mayor)

This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2026-06](#)

An Ordinance Amending Borough Code Section 17.10.100(F) Regarding Methods of Disposition (Mayor)

This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[KPB-7470](#)

Authorizing the Issuance of a Letter of Non-Objection to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board Regarding the New Outdoor Recreation Lodge License, The Notch, LLC, dba Shearwater Cove License No. 16811, Resurrection Bay

approved

[KPB-7471](#)

Authorizing the Issuance of a Letter of Non-Objection to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board Regarding the New Restaurant Eating Place, AK Props and Fins LLC, dba AK Props and Fins License No. 16847, Nikiski

approved

[KPB-7472](#)

Authorizing the Issuance of a Letter of Non-Objection to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board Regarding the New Outdoor Recreation Lodge

License with Restaurant Endorsement, Snug Harbor Outpost LLC, dba Snug Harbor Outpost License No.16866, Chisik Island

approved

[KPB-7473](#) Petition to Vacate an irregular-shaped portion of Narrow Road as it is currently located east of Lots 14 and 15, north of the intersection with De Busk Drive, including all associated utility easements, as originally dedicated by Immanuel Subdivision No. 2, Plat KN 2025-14. Nikiski

[Clerk's Note: At its regular meeting of February 9, 2026, the Planning Commission unanimously approved the referenced petition to vacate.]

approved

[KPB-7474](#) Confirming an Appointment to Hope/Sunrise Advisory Planning Commission (Mayor)
Scotty Smith, Seat D, Term Expires 09/30/2028

approved

Approval of the Agenda and Consent Agenda as Amended

The motion to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda as amended carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Tunseth, Cooper, Ecklund, Dunne, Eicher, Niesen, Hicks, and Griebel

Excused: 1 - Truesdell

COMMENDING RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

[KPB-7464](#) A Resolution Commending the Homer High Schools Boys' Football Team - ASAA State Football Champions of the Year 2025 (Mayor, Cooper)

[Clerk's Note: Vice President Cooper stated that herself and the Mayor was presenting the commending resolution to the Homer High Schools Boys' Football team at a later date in Homer.]

This Commending Resolution was adopted.

PRESENTATIONS WITH PRIOR NOTICE

1. [KPB-7465](#) Alaska Small Business Development Center Overview, Clifford Cochran, Kenai Peninsula Director

[Clerk's Note: Clifford Cochran, Director, Alaska Small Business Development Center, presented a report to the Assembly.]

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

President Tunseth called for public comment:

Bob Harr, addressed the assembly regarding peninsula health care.

Nick Conner, addressed the assembly regarding correspondence between the Borough Attorney and his attorney.

There being no one else to speak, the public comment period was closed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor's Report Cover Memo

[KPB-7475](#) Mayor's Report Memo

1. Assembly Requests/Responses - None
2. Agreements and Contracts
 - a. [KPB-7476](#) Authorization to Award a Contract for RFP26-009 2026 Tax Foreclosure Land Sales Marketing & Auction Services
3. Other
 - a. [KPB-7477](#) Investment Report quarter ended December 31, 2025
 - b. [KPB-7478](#) Capital Project Reports- December 31, 2025

ITEMS NOT COMPLETED FROM PRIOR AGENDA - NONE

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ORDINANCES

[2026-02](#) An Ordinance Amending Title 4, Elections, to Update Election Worker Compensation, the Candidate Filing Period, add a New Candidate Withdrawal Period and Extend the Terms of Office for Current Elected Officials to Align with a November Election Date (Eicher, Niesen and Tunseth at the request of the Borough Clerk)

Griebel moved to enact Ordinance 2026-02.

President Tunseth called for public comment with none being offered.

Assembly Members Ecklund, Hicks and Tunseth spoke in support of Ordinance 2026-02.

The motion to enact Ordinance 2026-02 carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Tunseth, Cooper, Ecklund, Dunne, Eicher, Niesen, Hicks, and Griebel

Absent: 1 - Truesdell

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

President Tunseth called for public comment with none being offered.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Assembly Member Dunne stated that he attended the Seldovia Recreational Service Area Board, the Resilience and Security Advisory Commission, and the Kachemak Emergency Service Area meetings. He stated he also attended the South Kenai Peninsula Hospital Service Area Board meeting, and provided a brief update. Mr. Dunne noted that he was traveling to Juneau on February 18, 2026.

Assembly Member Niesen stated that she attended the Nikiski Fire Service Area Board meeting, the Nikiski Senior Service Area Board meeting, and the Nikiski Advisory Planning Commission meeting, and provided brief updates for each. Ms. Niesen stated that she was traveling to Juneau on February 18, 2026.

Assembly Member Griebel stated that he attended the Kenai Peninsula Borough Road Service Area Board meeting on February 10, 2026, and provided a brief update.

Assembly Member Hicks expressed appreciation to Finance Director Brandi Harbaugh for her work with the service area boards with budget preparations.

Assembly Member Eicher noted that he was traveling to Juneau on February 18, 2026.

Assembly Member Ecklund stated that she attended the Eastern Peninsula Highway Emergency Service Area Board meeting on February 16, 2026, and provided a brief update. Ms. Ecklund also thanked staff for their continued hard work.

Vice President Cooper expressed appreciation to staff for their ongoing support of the Assembly.

President Tunseth stated that he was traveling to Juneau on February 18, 2026. Mr. Tunseth also expressed appreciation to staff for their hard work and thanked Mr. Cochran for his presentation.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS AND REPORTS

ASSEMBLY MEETING AND HEARING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. March 17, 2026 6:00 PM
Regular Assembly Meeting
Betty J. Glick Assembly Chambers
Borough Administration Building
Remote participation available through Zoom
Meeting ID: 897 1694 8642 Passcode: 075938

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the assembly, President Tunseth adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

I certify the above represents accurate minutes of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly meeting of February 17, 2026.

Michele Turner, CMC, Borough Clerk

Approved by the Assembly: _____