



Kenai Peninsula Borough

144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, AK 99669

Meeting Minutes - Final

Assembly

Peter Ribbens, President

Kelly Cooper, Vice President

James Baisden

Tyson Cox

Willy Dunne

Cindy Ecklund

Brent Johnson

Leslie Morton

Ryan Tunseth

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

6:00 PM

The Porcupine Theater

106 W. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, Alaska

Meeting ID: 835 6358 3837 Passcode: 606672

[https://yourkpb.zoom.us/j/83563583837?](https://yourkpb.zoom.us/j/83563583837?pwd=eTO44Um9ao1JJGaVtBJG86PXlsuNvm.1)

[pwd=eTO44Um9ao1JJGaVtBJG86PXlsuNvm.1](https://yourkpb.zoom.us/j/83563583837?pwd=eTO44Um9ao1JJGaVtBJG86PXlsuNvm.1)

Meeting ID: 835 6358 3837 Passcode: 606672

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

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

ROLL CALL

[Clerk's Note: Ms. Morton attended via ZOOM.]

Present: 9 - Brent Johnson, Tyson Cox, Ryan Tunseth, Vice President Kelly Cooper, President Peter Ribbens, Cindy Ecklund, James Baisden, Willy Dunne, and Leslie Morton

Also present were:

Peter A. Micciche, Borough Mayor

Brandi Harbaugh, Finance Director

Sean Kelley, Borough Attorney

Michele Turner, Borough Clerk

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

[8 Present: Baisden, Cooper, Cox, Dunne, Ecklund, Morton (via ZOOM),

Tunseth, Ribbens]

[1 Excused: Johnson]

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

[8 Present: Baisden, Cooper, Cox, Dunne, Ecklund, Morton (via ZOOM),

Tunseth, Ribbens]

[1 Excused: Johnson]

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

[8 Present: Baisden, Cooper, Cox, Dunne, Ecklund, Morton (via ZOOM) ,

Tunseth, Ribbens]

[1 Excused: Johnson]

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-7067](#) July 8, 2025 Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes

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

[2025-19-02](#) An Ordinance Appropriating Funds for 911 Capital Replacement of Storage Array at Soldotna Public Safety Communication Center (Mayor)

This Budget Ordinance was enacted.

NEW BUSINESS

[2025-031](#) A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Joint Funding Agreement with the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey to Cooperatively Maintain the Stream River Gages and Gaging Stations (Mayor)

This Resolution was adopted.

[2025-032](#) A Resolution Authorizing a Standardization Policy for KPB-Owned Webpage Content Update Services (Mayor)

This Resolution was adopted.

[2025-19-03](#) An Ordinance Appropriating Funds from the General Fund for Election Publication Costs Related to Publishing Citizen Initiative Ordinances (Ribbens at the Request of the Borough Clerk)

This Budget Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2025-19-04](#) An Ordinance Appropriating Funds from the School Capital Project Fund for the Seward High School Flooring Replacement Project (Mayor)

This Budget Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2024-19-41](#) An Ordinance Recording FY2025 Expenditures Paid by the State of Alaska Department of Administration, Division of Retirement & Benefits on Behalf of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Toward the KPB's Unfunded PERS Liability (Mayor)

This Budget Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2025-19-06](#) An Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition, and Appropriating Funds for the Purchase, of Four Properties Located in Homer, Alaska on Behalf of the South Kenai Peninsula Hospital Service Area (Mayor)

This Budget Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[KPB-7068](#) Approving a Petition to Vacate the Entire Herbert Way Right-of-Way and Associated Utility Easements Located North and Adjacent to Lots 9 & 10, Steadman Subdivision Jessica Addition, Plat KN 2005-73 and South of and Adjacent to Lot 6, Lake View Terrance #3 Phase 3, Plat KN 1998-47, in the Sterling Area. Proposed Vacation is Approximately 22,515 square feet (Mayor)

[Clerk's Note: At its regular meeting of July 14, 2025, the Planning Commission unanimously approved the referenced petition to vacate.]

approved

[KPB-7078](#) Confirming Nick Kemp as Maintenance Director (Mayor)

approved

[KPB-7081](#) Confirming Appointments to the Planning Commission (Mayor)

Diane Fikes, City of Kenai Seat, Term Expires 07/31/2028

Franco Venuti, City of Homer Seat, Term Expires 07/31/2027

approved

[2025-15](#) WITHDRAWN BY SPONSOR An Ordinance Amending KPB 5.18.100 to Levy a Seasonal Sales Tax Rate, Resulting in a Net-Neutral Change for Residents, Subject to Voter Approval (Cooper, Mayor)

This Ordinance was withdrawn by the sponsor.

[KPB-7097](#) WITHDRAWN Approving the Proposition Summary to be Included in the Voter Pamphlet for Proposition No. ____: Ordinance 2025-15: Seasonal Sales Tax Rate Change (Borough Clerk)

Withdrawn

[2025-030](#) WITHDRAWN BY SPONSOR A Resolution Establishing a Seasonal Tax Working Group to Evaluate the Balance Between Positive and Negative Seasonal Tax-Related Impacts on Kenai Peninsula Borough Residents and Businesses (Cox) [Postponed on 07/08/25]

This Resolution was withdrawn by the sponsor.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

President Ribbens called for public comment:

Dr. Lucy Fisher, Homer, spoke in support of Ordinance 2025-19-06.

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

The motion to approve the agenda and consent agenda as amended carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

PRESENTATIONS WITH PRIOR NOTICE

1. [KPB-7121](#) South Peninsula Hospital Quarterly Report, Ryan Smith, Chief Executive Officer (10 Minutes)

[Clerk's Note: Ryan Smith, Chief Executive Officer, presented an update to the Assembly.]

2. [KPB-7122](#) Current Projects Update, Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Katherine Schake, Reserve Manager (10 Minutes)

[Clerk's Note: Katherine Schake, Reserve Manager, presented an update to the Assembly.]

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

President Ribbens called for public comment.

Stan Mishin, Homer, spoke regarding concerns about the brush pile burn program at the Homer transfer site.

Captain Greg Sutter, Fritz Creek, spoke on Alaska boating safety.

Helen Armstrong, Chair of the South Kenai Peninsula Hospital Service Area Board, welcomed and thanked the Assembly for appointing Erin Workman to the board. She invited the public to attend service area board meetings which are held the 2nd Thursday monthly at 6:30p.m. at the hospital, and announced that there are three board vacancies in the upcoming October 7, 2025 borough election. She announced the celebration of life for Roberta Highland on August 9, 2025 at 2:00pm.

Scott Wheat, Fritz Creek, addressed mental and behavioral health needs in the community.

Nona Safra, Homer, addressed the need for health care access on the South Kenai Peninsula.

Heath Smith, Homer, addressed concerns over property assessments and taxes.

Zen Kelly, Board of Education President, delivered a school board update.

Paul Seaton, Kachemak City, thanked the Assembly for funding to the cap.

[Clerk's Note: The 20 minute aggregate was reached and the public comment was closed.]

MAYOR'S REPORT

[KPB-7099](#) Mayor's Report Cover Memo

1. Assembly Requests/Responses - None
2. Agreements and Contracts
 - a. [KPB-7100](#) Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-042 Fire Alarm Inspections FY26
 - b. [KPB-7101](#) Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-043 Summer & Winter Road Maintenance East Region Unit 3A

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- | | | |
|----|--------------------------|---|
| c. | KPB-7102 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-053 Gravel Road Projects FY26 Central Region |
| d. | KPB-7103 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-054 Gravel Road Projects FY26 North Region Unit 3 |
| e. | KPB-7104 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-055 Gravel Road Projects FY26 South Region Units 3 & 4 |
| f. | KPB-7105 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-056 Gravel Road Projects FY26 West Region Unit 2 |
| g. | KPB-7106 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-062 Seward High School Bus Parking Improvements |
| h. | KPB-7107 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-064 Brushing Vegetation Control - North Region |
| i. | KPB-7108 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-065 Brushing Vegetation Control - South Region |
| j. | KPB-7109 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-066 Brushing Vegetation Control - East Region |
| k. | KPB-7110 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-067 Brushing Vegetation Control - West Region |
| l. | KPB-7111 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-068 Brushing Vegetation Control - Central Region |
| m. | KPB-7112 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-070 Gravel Road Projects FY26 South Region Unit 7 |
| n. | KPB-7113 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-074 Gravel Road Projects FY26 West Region Unit 7 |
| o. | KPB-7114 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-075 Gravel Road Projects FY26 East Region Unit 3 |
| p. | KPB-7115 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-076 Summer & Winter Road Maintenance East Region Unit 3B |
| q. | KPB-7116 | Authorization to Award Contract ITB25-078 Gravel Road Projects FY26 West Region Unit 7 - KB Drive, Bye Way, Sonder Street |

r. [KPB-7117](#) Authorization to Award Contract RFP25-027 Municipal Government Services & Tourism-Economic Development Public Relations Campaign

s. [KPB-7118](#) Authorization to Award Contract Sole Source NeoGov FY26

Other

a. [KPB-7119](#) Budget Revisions – June 2025

b. [KPB-7120](#) Revenue-Expenditure Report – June 2025

ITEMS NOT COMPLETED FROM PRIOR AGENDA

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ORDINANCES

[2025-14](#) An Ordinance Amending KPB 5.18.430 to Annually Adjust the Sales Tax Cap for Inflation Once every Fifth Year, Subject to Voter Approval (Johnson)

Tunseth moved to enact Ordinance 2025-14.

President Ribbens called for public comment.

Heath Smith, Homer, spoke in opposition to introducing Ordinance 2025-14.

Johnson moved to amend Ordinance 2025-14 as follows:

The title to read, "AMENDING KPB 5.18.430 TO ANNUALLY ADJUST THE SALES TAX CAP FOR INFLATION, SUBJECT TO VOTER APPROVAL" and

Add KPB 5.18.430(F) back in Section 2 to read, "Any increase to the maximum sales tax described in subsection (a), above, shall not take effect until ratified by a simple majority of voters at a regular borough election." and

Amend Section 4 to read, "[THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE EFFECTIVE ON JANUARY 1, 2026] That this ordinance shall take effect only upon approval by a majority of the voters in the borough qualified to vote on the question and who vote on the question during the regular KPB election scheduled for October 7, 2025, and, if approved, will take effect April 1, 2026."

The motion to amend Ordinance 2025-14 carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

Cox moved to amend Ordinance 2025-14 as follows:

Amend the title to read, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING KPB 5.18.430 TO [ANNUALLY] ADJUST THE SALES TAX CAP FOR INFLATION ONCE EVERY FIFTH YEAR, SUBJECT TO VOTER APPROVAL" and

Amend Section 2 to read, "5.18.430. Computation-Maximum tax.

A. The sales tax referred to in KPB 5.18.100 shall be applied only to the first \$500.00 of each separate sale, rent or service transaction, except as otherwise provided in this section. The maximum taxable amount under this subsection will be adjusted [YEARLY] once every fifth year based on the prior five years' [YEAR'S] annual Anchorage Consumer Price Index (CPI) as published by the state. Amount to be calculated by adding each of the five separate years' CPI adjustments together with the amount to be rounded to the nearest hundred dollars, and set as of January 1 for the calendar year.

B. Except as provided below for long-term vehicle leases, the payment of rent, whether for real or personal property, in excess of \$500.00 and for more than one month, shall be treated as several separate transactions covering the rental/lease for one month each with a maximum taxable amount of \$500.00 per transaction. [THE MAXIMUM TAXABLE AMOUNT UNDER THIS SUBSECTION WILL BE ADJUSTED YEARLY BASED ON THE PRIOR YEAR'S ANNUAL ANCHORAGE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) AS PUBLISHED BY THE STATE, ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST DOLLAR, AND SET AS OF JANUARY 1 FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR.]

C. Services provided on account and billed to the customer on a periodic basis are subject to application to the tax on a maximum of \$500.00 of each billing, per account. For purposes of this section, any advance payment for services other than to a trust or escrow account is considered to be paid pursuant to a "billing." The maximum taxable amount under this subsection will be adjusted [YEARLY] once every fifth year based on the prior five years' [YEAR'S] annual Anchorage Consumer Price Index (CPI) as published by the state. Amount to be calculated by adding each of the five separate years' CPI adjustments together with the amount to be rounded to the nearest hundred dollars, and set as of January 1 for the calendar year.

D. Each night's rental of each individual unit of temporary lodging shall be considered a separate transaction and therefore the maximum tax computation shall be calculated on a per unit per night basis. Rental by a single person or entity of an entire facility, such as a lodge or hotel for multi-person overnight use, does not affect this provision that each night's rental of each individual unit shall be considered a separate transaction.

E. Long-term vehicles leases shall be treated as one transaction per year, and per fractional year, of the lease term. The tax paid for any fraction of a year shall equal the tax paid for a whole year. The sales tax for the entire long-term vehicle lease shall be due and collected at the time of the first payment. Tax shall be calculated at the sales

tax rate in effect on the day the lease is signed. There shall be no refund of such taxes should the lease terminate earlier than on its terms. Any extension of the initial lease term shall be treated as a new long-term vehicle lease.

F. Any increase to the maximum sales tax described in subsection (a), above, shall not take effect until ratified by a simple majority of voters at a regular borough election.

G. Recreational sales shall be treated on a per person per day basis and therefore the maximum tax computation shall be calculated on a per person per day basis. For purposes of this subsection, the term "person" means an individual human being."

The motion to amend Ordinance 2025-14 carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

The motion to enact Ordinance 2025-14 as amended carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Johnson, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, and Dunne

No: 4 - Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, and Morton

[2025-16](#)

An Ordinance Amending KPB 5.12.115 to Increase the Residential Property Tax Exemption from \$50,000 to \$75,000 Subject to Voter Approval (Baisden, Mayor)

Tunseth moved to enact Ordinance 2025-16.

President Ribbens called for public comment.

The following people spoke in support of Ordinance 2025-16:

Debbie Cary, Ninilchik

Heath Smith, Homer

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

Baisden moved to amend Ordinance 2025-16 as follows:

Delete Section 3, "[THAT A BALLOT PROPOSITION SHALL BE PLACED BEFORE BOROUGH VOTERS AT THE REGULAR ELECTION ON OCTOBER 7, 2025 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

SHALL ORDINANCE 2025-16 BE APPROVED?

ORDINANCE 2025-16:

INCREASES THE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FROM \$50,000 TO \$75,000.

BECOMES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027.

YES ____ A "YES" VOTE MEANS YOU APPROVE INCREASING THE

RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FROM \$50,000 TO \$75,000.

NO ____ A "NO" VOTE MEANS YOU OPPOSE INCREASING THE RESIDENTIAL REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FROM \$50,000 TO \$75,000.]"

The motion to amend Ordinance 2025-16 carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

The motion to enact Ordinance 2025-16 as amended carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

[2025-17](#)

An Ordinance Establishing the Ninilchik Recreational Service Area Upon Voter Approval (Johnson)

Cox moved to enact Ordinance 2025-17.

President Ribbens called for public comment.

The following people spoke in favor of Ordinance 2025-17:

John McCombs, Ninilchik

Debbie Cary, Ninilchik

With no one else wishing to speak, the public comment period was closed.

The motion to enact Ordinance 2025-17 carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

Ordinances for Introduction

[2025-19-07](#)

An Ordinance Deobligating Funds Previously Appropriated for In-Kind School Maintenance as Part of the Maximum Allowable Local Contribution for Schools and Appropriating the Funds to the School Fund for School Operations (Dunne, Johnson)

Tunseth moved to introduce Ordinance 2025-19-07 and set for public hearing on 08/19/25.

President Ribbens called for public comment.

The following people spoke in support of introducing Ordinance 2025-19-07:

Randi Sweet, Seldovia

Ashley Keithley, Seldovia

Jennifer Swick, Seldovia

Heidi Geagle, Seldovia

Debbie Cary, Ninilchik

Zen Kelly, Homer

With no one else wishing to speak, the public comment period was closed.

Morton moved to call the question.

The motion to call the question carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

The motion to introduce Ordinance 2025-19-07 and set for public hearing on 08/19/25 carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Johnson, Cox, Cooper, Ecklund, Dunne, and Morton

No: 3 - Tunseth, Ribbens, and Baisden

3. Other

- d. [KPB-7093](#) Approving the Proposition Summary to be Included in the Voter Pamphlet for Proposition No. 1: Citizen Initiative: Hand Count In Person Paper Ballots for Borough Elections (Borough Clerk)

Cox moved to approve KPB-7093 Proposition No. 1 Summary.

President Ribbens called for public comment with none being offered.

Cox moved to amend Proposition No. 1 Summary as follows:

Amend Fiscal Impact to read, "[THE]Complete fiscal impacts are [NOT CURRENTLY KNOWN]unknown at this time. This change will require additional election workers."

The vote to amend Proposition No. 1 Summary carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

The motion to approve Proposition No. 1 Summary as amended carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

- e. [KPB-7094](#) Approving the Proposition Summary to be Included in the Voter Pamphlet for Proposition No. 2: Ordinance 2025-17: Establishing the Ninilchik Recreational Service Area (Borough Clerk)

Cox moved to approve Proposition No. 2 Summary.

President Ribbens called for public comment with none being offered.

Johnson moved to amend Proposition No. 2 Summary as follows:

Amend Fiscal Impact to read, "It is estimated that, if approved, the newly established Ninilchik Recreational Service Area will initially need approximately 1 mill to operate a community pool facility for 12 months at the Ninilchik School, which equates to \$100 for each \$100,000 in taxable value, or a lesser mill rate for 9 months."

The motion to amend Proposition No. 2 Summary carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

The motion to approve Proposition No. 2 Summary as amended carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

- f. [KPB-7095](#) Approving the Proposition Summary to be Included in the Voter Pamphlet for Proposition No. 3: Ordinance 2025-16: Residential Property Tax Exemption Change (Borough Clerk)

Cox moved to approve Proposition No. 3 Summary.

President Ribbens called for public comment with none being offered.

The motion to approve Proposition No. 3 Summary carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

- h. [KPB-7098](#) Approving the Proposition Summary to be Included in the Voter Pamphlet for Proposition No 4: Ordinance 2025-14: Adjust the Sales Tax Cap for Inflation Once Every Fifth Year (Borough Clerk)

Cox moved to approve Proposition No. 4 Summary as follows:

President Ribbens called for public comment with none being offered.

Cox moved to amend Proposition No. 4 Summary as follows:

Key Provisions to read, "1. The maximum sales tax amount will be adjusted once every fifth year [YEARLY] based on the prior five years' [YEAR'S] annual Anchorage Consumer Price Index (CPI) as published by the state.

2. The payment of rent for real or personal property will continue to have a maximum taxable amount up to \$500 per transaction.

3. If approved by the voters at the October 7, 2025 election, Ordinance 2025-14 will be effective on [JANUARY 1, 2026] April 1, 2026." and

Fiscal Impact to read, "[PER FISCAL NOTE, A]Adjusting the sales tax maximum amount every five years' end, and retaining the \$500 maximum sales tax for rental transactions. will result in increased revenue from sales tax [BY APPROXIMATELY \$250,000 TO \$500,000]." and

The Ballot Language to read, "Shall Ordinance 2025-14, amending the Kenai Peninsula Borough Code of Ordinances 5.18.430 to [ANNUALLY] adjust the sales

tax cap for inflation once every fifth year, be ratified?

YES A "Yes" vote means you approve amending the Kenai Peninsula Borough Code of Ordinances 5.18.430 to [ANNUALLY] adjust the sales tax cap for inflation once every fifth year based on the prior five years' [YEAR'S] annual Anchorage Consumer Price Index (CPI).

NO A "No" vote means you oppose amending the Kenai Peninsula Borough Code of Ordinances 5.18.430 to [ANNUALLY] adjust the sales tax cap for inflation once every fifth year based on the prior five years' [YEAR'S] annual Anchorage Consumer Price Index (CPI)."

The motion to amend Proposition No. 4 Summary carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

The motion to approve Proposition No. 4 Summary as amended carried by the following vote:

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

President Ribbens called for public comment.

Zen Kelly, thanked the Mayor for his kind words and announced he was not seeking another term on the school board. He expressed appreciation for the Assembly's hard work.

Elias Garvey, addressed parliamentary process during meetings and raised concerns regarding borough-assessed property values.

Heath Smith, Homer, spoke regarding the need for increased taxes.

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

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Assembly Member Morton attended the Funny River Festival on July 12, 2025, participated in the Sterling Substation to Quartz Creek Public Hearing in Sterling on July 15, 2025 and attended the Ninilchik Community Meeting on July 17, 2025, regarding the proposed Ninilchik Recreation Service Area.

Assembly Member Dunne expressed appreciation for conducting the meeting in Homer. He thanked the Porcupine Theater for the use of the facility, and thanked staff for their efforts. Mr. Dunne thanked the Mayor for offering to be the starting official for the Run for Recovery in Homer on August 30, 2025.

Assembly Member Johnson thanked the City of Homer and the Porcupine Theater

for use of their facility. Mr. Johnson stated he attended Salmon Fest in Ninilchik.

Assembly Member Ecklund appreciated the use of the Porcupine Theater and thanked the City of Homer for providing dinner. Ms. Ecklund gave an update on new housing developments in the Seward area.

Assembly Member Cox announced a meeting to discuss peninsula transportation gaps and solutions at the Challenger Learning Center on Thursday, August 14, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Mr. Cox complimented the meeting venue and enjoyed the concession stand.

Assembly Member Tunseth thanked the local legislative delegation and Mayor's office for their efforts on education funding. Mr. Tunseth recognized Zen Kelly for his service on the school board. He commended the Mayor's office for their presentation of the Soldotna Schools Feasibility Study presented at the 08/04/25 school board meeting.

Assembly Member Baisden wished everyone a good night.

Assembly Member Cooper noted that the Homer Harbor requires proof of insurance for boat launches. Ms. Cooper thanked South Kenai Peninsula Hospital for the tour and lunch and the City of Homer for dinner. Ms. Cooper thanked the Porcupine Theater for allowing the use of their facility and thanked Zen Kelly for his service on the school board.

Assembly Member Ribbens stated that the borough assessing program was not arbitrary, and praised the assessing staff for their hard work. Mr. Ribbens emphasized the importance of the borough investigating ways to diversify sound fiscal policies, noting that such efforts do not always require an increase in taxes.

PENDING LEGISLATION

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS AND REPORTS

ASSEMBLY MEETING AND HEARING ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. August 19, 2025 6:00 PM
Regular Assembly Meeting
Betty J. Glick Assembly Chambers
Borough Administration Building
Remote participation available through Zoom
Meeting ID: 835 6358 3837 Passcode: 606672

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the assembly, President Ribbens adjourned the meeting at 11:03p.m.

I certify the above represents accurate minutes of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly meeting of August 5, 2025.

Michele Turner, CMC, Borough Clerk

Approved by the Assembly: _____