

Assembly on 2016-08-23 6:00 PM

Meeting Time: 08-23-16 18:00

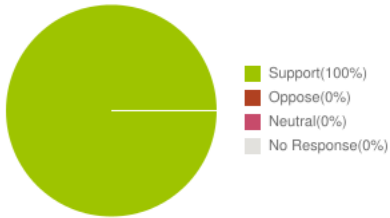
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Assembly on 2016-08-23 6:00 PM	08-23-16 18:00	56	3	3	0	0

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment



Assembly on 2016-08-23 6:00 PM

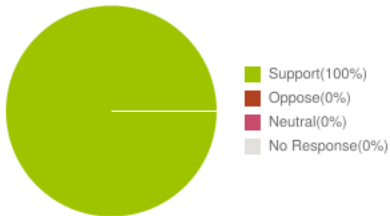
08-23-16 18:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
*d. 2016-32 Amending KPB 22.40.080 and KPB 22.40.090 to Transition the Invocation to a Moment of Silence (Johnson) (Hearing on 09/20/16)	3	3	0	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

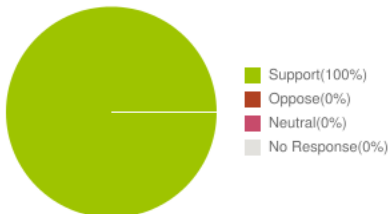
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Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for *d. 2016-32 Amending KPB 22.40.080 and KPB 22.40.090 to Transition the Invocation to a Moment of Silence (Johnson) (Hearing on 09/20/16)

Overall Sentiment



Dollynda Phelps

Location:

Submitted At: 4:06pm 08-23-16

I thought I sent a statement a moment ago, but it looks like the new comment system did not record it.

I support this ordinance. Our community is diverse and lacks acceptance of other beliefs. A moment of silence would allow individuals to pray to whomever they wish, or to nothing, without offending others.

Wayne Aderhold

Location:

Submitted At: 5:49am 08-22-16

I support **2016-32**: replacing the "invocation" with a simple moment of silence.

We, as a Borough and a Nation, need more unity, not division. The current situation is an example of what the Founding Fathers intended to avoid when drafting both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. From hearing the recent testimony of some, it is clear to me that the myth that we were founded as a Christian

nation is unfortunately still prevalent in the Kenai Borough. Failure to clear up this misunderstanding is a recipe for continued unnecessary strife and potentially even disaster given the current state of conversation.

Acknowledging that neither did the Founders see us as a purely secular society either, I think it best to go with respectful silence for the time being.

For a thorough and balanced treatment of the history of this issue (both public and private religion in our nation), I highly recommend Jon Meacham's "American Gospel – God, the Founding Fathers, and the making of a nation".

To quote a piece from his Introduction:

"Properly understood, the God of public religion is not the God of Abraham or God the Father of the Holy Trinity. The Founding Fathers had ample opportunity to use Christian imagery and language in the Declaration of Independence and Constitution, but did not. At the same time, they were not absolute secularists. They wanted God in American public life, but, given the memory of religious warfare that could engulf and destroy whole governments, they saw the wisdom of distinguishing between private and public religion. In churches and in homes, anyone could believe and practice what he wished. In public business of the nation, however, it was important to the Founders to speak of God in a way that was unifying, not divisive. "Nature's God" was the path they chose, and it has served the nation admirably. Despite generations of subsequent efforts to amend the Constitution to include Jesus or to declare that America is a "Christian nation," no president across three centuries has made even a remotely serious attempt to do so."

If any members of the Assembly are interested in reading Mr. Meacham's excellent book, I am ordering some additional (used) copies and will gladly furnish you one if you simply let me know via return email.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Wayne Aderhold/ Homer, AK

Brian Olson

Location:

Submitted At: 1:23am 08-18-16

I ask all of our assembly members to support this amendment by Mr Johnson. This will be the wisest way to deal with this contentious issue.