



Kenai Peninsula Borough

144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, AK 99669

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Assembly

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

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

6:00 PM

Betty J. Glick Assembly Chambers
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](#)

Meeting ID: 835 6358 3837 Passcode: 606672

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Frank Alioto, Chaplain for Central Emergency Services.

ROLL CALL

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
Sue Ellen Essert, Deputy Borough Clerk

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

[8 Present: Baisden, Cooper, Cox, Dunne, Johnson, Morton, Tunseth, Ribbens]

[1 Excused: Ecklund]

Assembly Member Baisden stated the Lands Committee met and discussed its

agenda items.

[8 Present: Baisden, Cooper, Cox, Dunne, Johnson, Morton, Tunseth, Ribbens]

[1 Excused: Ecklund]

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

[8 Present: Baisden, Cooper, Cox, Dunne, Johnson, Morton, Tunseth, Ribbens]

[1 Excused: Ecklund]

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-7126](#) August 5, 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:

[2025-19-03](#) 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 enacted.

[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 enacted.

[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 enacted.

NEW BUSINESS

[2025-033](#) A Resolution Authorizing KBP to Accept a Public Access Easement to Provide Access to the Proposed Graham Ranch Subdivision (Mayor)

This Resolution was adopted.

[2025-034](#) A Resolution Authorizing the Acquisition of a Perpetual Easement Located in Kachemak Selo, Alaska, for Future School Purposes (Mayor)

This Resolution was adopted.

[2025-035](#) A Resolution Supporting the City of Kachemak and Requesting that the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Conduct a Speed Limit Review on East End Road to Evaluate Decreasing the Current 45 Mile Per Hour Speed Limit to a Posted 35 Mile Per Hour Speed Limit on the Portion of East End Road from Rochelle Road to Kachemak Drive (Cooper)

This Resolution was adopted.

[2025-19-08](#) An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2024-19-36, Relating To Commercial Passenger Vessel Tax Proceeds Received From the State of Alaska to the Cities of Seward and Homer, to Provide a Revised Effective Date (Mayor)

This Budget Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2025-19-09](#) An Ordinance Approving the Use of Funds for the Costs of Distributing Informational and Promotional Materials About Ballot Proposition No. 1 Seeking Voter Approval to Require Hand Counting of In Person Ballots Voted on Election Day (Cooper)

This Budget Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2025-18](#) An Ordinance Amending Borough Code, KPB 14.06.240 and KPB 14.06.250 Regarding Decertification (Mayor) (Hearing on 09/16/25)

This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2025-20](#) An Ordinance Amending KPB 21.18.025 to Address Adoptions and Deletions of Anadromous Waters Within the West District of the KPB 21.18 Appendix (Mayor, Johnson) (Hearing on 09/16/25)

This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2025-19-07](#) WITHDRAWN BY SPONSOR 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)

Dunne moved to withdraw Ordinance 2025-19-07 from the agenda.

Per KPB 22.40.055(c), the motion to withdraw Ordinance 2025-19-07 carried by the following vote:

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

Approval of the Agenda and Consent Agenda

President Ribbens called for public comment with none being offered.

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 - None

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

President Ribbens called for public comment with none being offered.

MAYOR'S REPORT

[KPB-7129](#) Mayor's Report Cover Memo

1. Assembly Requests/Responses - None
 2. Agreements and Contracts - None
 3. Other
- a.** [KPB-7130](#) Investment Report Quarter Ended 06/30/25

ITEMS NOT COMPLETED FROM PRIOR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ORDINANCES

[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)

Tunseth moved to enact Ordinance 2025-19-06

President Ribbens called for public comment.

Charles Barnwell, Homer, addressed the Assembly regarding Parcel No. 17506104.

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

The motion to enact Ordinance 2025-19-06 carried by the following vote:

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolutions

[2025-036](#) A Resolution Urging the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District to Utilize Existing Operating Funds in Order to Provide an Interim Solution to Keep the School Pools in Seldovia and Ninilchik Open for FY2026 (Dunne, Johnson)

Cox moved to adopt Resolution 2025-036.

President Ribbens called for public comment with none being offered.

The motion to adopt Resolution 2025-036 carried by the following vote:

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

Other

[KPB-7150](#) Approving the Proposition Summary to be Included in the Voter Pamphlet for Proposition No. 5: Citizen Initiative: Change the Current Election Date to Align with the State of Alaska Election Date (Borough Clerk)

Cox moved to approve KPB-7150 Proposition No. 5 Summary.

President Ribbens called for public comment.

The following people spoke in support of Ballet Proposition Summary No. 5:

Brian Poziembo, Nikiski

Ben Carpenter, Nikiski

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

Cox moved to amend Proposition No. 5 Summary as follows:

Amend Fiscal Impact to read, "The full fiscal impacts are unknown. Changing the election date could impact the availability of polling locations as well as the availability of election workers since the State of Alaska has stated separate election workers are needed for each election, and will require purchasing election equipment such as voting booths, signs, tables and chairs for each polling location."

The motion to amend Proposition No. 5 Summary carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Johnson, Cox, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Dunne, and Morton

No: 1 - Baisden

The motion to approve Proposition No. 5 Summary as amended carried by the following vote:

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

President Ribbens called for public comment.

Ben Carpenter, Nikiski, addressed the Assembly regarding Proposition No. 5.

Zen Kelly, Homer, spoke in support of Resolution 2025-036. He reminded everyone that school starts on Wednesday, August 20th.

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

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Assembly Morton stated she attended the Grand Jury Town Hall on August 18, 2025.

Assembly Member Johnson wished everyone a safe return to school.

Assembly Member Baisden wished everyone a good night.

Assembly Member Tunseth thanked the public and staff; and commented on recent discussions about school funding and recreation services.

Assembly Member Dunne stated he toured Chapman School and thanked the borough and school district for improved traffic safety. Mr. Dunne noted two e-comments were submitted.

Assembly Member Cox reminded drivers that school starts tomorrow. Mr. Cox attended the Soldotna Field House opening and highlighted Central Peninsula Hospital was sponsoring senior morning walks. Mr. Cox attended the Kenai Peninsula Transportation Gaps and Solutions meeting and noted there were good ideas and participation from several groups.

Assembly Member Ecklund thanked everyone for their testimony and reminded drivers to watch for school buses and children.

Assembly Member Cooper wished everyone a good evening.

Assembly Member Ribbens spoke about voter turnout.

PENDING LEGISLATION - None**INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS AND REPORTS****ASSEMBLY MEETING AND HEARING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. September 2, 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 7:37p.m.

I certify the above represents accurate minutes of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly meeting of August 19, 2025.

Michele Turner, CMC, Borough Clerk

Approved by the Assembly: _____