



# 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*

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Tuesday, June 3, 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=eTO4Um9ao1JJGaVtBJG86PXlsuNvm.1)

[pwd=eTO4Um9ao1JJGaVtBJG86PXlsuNvm.1](https://yourkpb.zoom.us/j/83563583837?pwd=eTO4Um9ao1JJGaVtBJG86PXlsuNvm.1)

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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:** 8 - Brent Johnson, Ryan Tunseth, Vice President Kelly Cooper, President Peter Ribbens, Cindy Ecklund, James Baisden, Willy Dunne, and Leslie Morton

**Excused:** 1 - Tyson Cox

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, Dunne, Ecklund, Johnson, Morton, Tunseth, Ribbens / 1 Absent: Cox]*

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

*[8 Present: Baisden, Cooper, Dunne, Ecklund, Johnson, Morton, Tunseth, Ribbens / 1 Absent: Cox]*

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

*[8 Present: Baisden, Cooper, Dunne, Ecklund, Johnson, Morton, Tunseth, Ribbens / 1 Absent: Cox]*

## **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 and ordinances on the consent agenda.

[KPB-6957](#) May 20, 2025 Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes  
**approved**

[KPB-6990](#) A Resolution in Memoriam Commending the Contributions and Commitments of Roberta Highland  
**This Commending Resolution was adopted.**

[2025-023](#) A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Fiscal Year 2026 Alaska Land Mobile Radio Communication System Membership Agreements (Mayor)  
**This Resolution was adopted.**

[2025-024](#) A Resolution Approving Twenty-Seven Unincorporated Communities for Participation in the State's Fiscal Year 2026 Community Assistance Program (Mayor)  
**This Resolution was adopted.**

[2025-026](#) A Resolution Authorizing Participation of the Kenai Peninsula Borough and Kenai Peninsula Borough School District in the Alaska Public Risk Alliance (Mayor)  
**This Resolution was adopted.**

[2024-19-39](#) An Ordinance Appropriating Funds from the Central Emergency Service Area Capital Project Fund to Replace the Septic and Wastewater Return System at Station Four (Mayor)

**This Budget Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.**

[2025-10](#) An Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Certain Parcels Owned by the Kenai Peninsula Borough via a Live Public Outcry/Simulcast Online Auction Followed by a Secondary Online-Only Auction (Mayor)

**This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.**

[2025-11](#) An Ordinance Amending KPB 2.56.007 to Adopt the 2025 Kenai Peninsula Borough Safe Streets and Roads for All Comprehensive Safety Action Plan as an Element of the 2019 Kenai Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Plan (Mayor) (Hearing on 07/08/25)

**This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.**

[2025-12](#) An Ordinance Amending KPB 21.18.081 to Clarify the Requirements for Conditional Use Permits and Amending KPB 21.18.140 to Define “Water-Dependent” (Mayor) (Hearing on 07/08/25)

**This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.**

[KPB-6970](#) Confirming an Appointment to the Nikiski Senior Service Area Board (Mayor)

Reginald D. May, Seat D, Term Expires 10/2026

**This Board Appointment was approved.**

[KPB-6971](#) Confirming an Appointment to the Nikiski Advisory Planning Commission (Mayor)

Colton Anderson, Seat C, Term Expires 09/30/27

**This Board Appointment was approved.**

## 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:** 8 - Johnson, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Baisden, Dunne, and Morton

**Absent:** 1 - Cox

## COMMENDING RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

[KPB-6990](#) A Resolution in Memoriam Commending the Contributions and

### Commitments of Roberta Highland

*[Clerk's Note: Mayor Micciche presented the commending resolution to Ms. Highland's family.]*

### PRESENTATIONS WITH PRIOR NOTICE

1. [KPB-6958](#) Positive Impacts to the Borough, Ben Wright, Chief Executive Officer Peninsula Community Health Services of Alaska, Inc. (10 Minutes)  
*[Clerk's Note: Ben Wright, Chief Executive Officer of Peninsula Community Health Services, presented to the Assembly.]*

### PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

President Ribbens called for public comment with none being offered.

### MAYOR'S REPORT

#### [KPB-6960](#) Mayor's Report Cover Memo

1. Assembly Requests/Responses
2. Agreements and Contracts
  - a. [KPB-6961](#) Authorization to Award Contract - ITB25-025 CPL Leachate Phase II SCADA System 05.14.25
  - b. [KPB-6962](#) Authorization to Award Contract - ITB25-060 Streambed Maintenance of Upper Kwechak Creek 05.19.25
  - c. [KPB-6963](#) Authorization to Award Contract - ITB25-063 Gravel Project Bonita Avenue, Fern Forest Street and Knackstedt Street 05.21.25
  - d. [KPB-6964](#) Authorization to Award Contract - ITB25-069 Hohe Street Abatement and Demolition 05.14.25
  - e. [KPB-6965](#) Authorization to Award Contract RFP25-025 2025 General Land Sale Marketing & Auction Services
  - f. [KPB-6966](#) Authorization to Award Contract RFP25-001 Deep Creek Fish Passage
  - a. [KPB-6967](#) Budget Revisions – April 2025
  - b. [KPB-6968](#) Revenue-Expenditure Report - April 2025 05.22.25

### ITEMS NOT COMPLETED FROM PRIOR AGENDA - None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ORDINANCES****2025-19**

An Ordinance Appropriating Funds for Fiscal Year 2026 (Mayor)

*[Clerk's Note: The motion to enact Ordinance 2025-19 is on the floor from the 05/20/25 meeting.]*

**Morton moved to postpone Ordinance 2025-19 to June 17, 2025.**

President Ribbens called for public comment with none being offered.

**The motion to postpone Ordinance 2025-19 to June 17, 2025, carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Cox

**2025-08**

An Ordinance Approving Humpy Point (R-1) Local Option Zoning District and Amending KPB 21.46.040 (Mayor)

**Ecklund moved to enact Ordinance 2025-08.**

President Ribbens called for public comment with none being offered.

**The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Cox

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS****NEW BUSINESS****Resolutions****2025-025**

A Resolution Setting the Rate of Levy for Real and Personal Property Taxes for the Kenai Peninsula Borough and its Service Areas for Fiscal Year 2026, Tax Year 2025 (Mayor)

**Tunseth moved to adopt Resolution 2025-025.**

President Ribbens called for public comment.

The following people spoke against decreasing the Bear Creek Fire Service Area mill rate:

**Josh Beiningen**

**Karen Wright**

**Jeff Wolf**

**Colin Brayton**

**Andra Woodard  
Doyle Brueckner**

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

**Ecklund moved to amend Resolution 2025-025 as follows:**

Amend Section 3 to read, "That in addition to any other rate or rates of levy applicable for other purposes, the rate of levy of taxes on all real and personal property within the Bear Creek Fire Service Area for said area for the Fiscal Year 2026 is hereby set at [3.25] 3.00 mills on each one dollar of assessed value as determined by the assessment roll and any supplemental rolls hereafter certified by the Borough Assessor."

Assembly Members Johnson and Baisden spoke in opposition to the Ecklund amendment.

President Ribbens passed the gavel to Vice President Cooper and spoke in opposition to the Ecklund amendment. Vice President Cooper returned the gavel to President Ribbens.

**Ecklund moved to Call the Question.**

**The motion to Call the Question carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 7 - Johnson, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Ecklund, Dunne, and Morton

**No:** 1 - Baisden

**Excused:** 1 - Cox

**Ecklund's motion to amend Resolution 2025-025 failed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 2 - Ecklund, and Dunne

**No:** 6 - Johnson, Tunseth, Cooper, Ribbens, Baisden, and Morton

**Absent:** 1 - Cox

**The motion to adopt Resolution 2025-25 carried by the following vote:**

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

**Absent:** 1 - Cox

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

President Ribbens called for public comment with none being offered.

## **ASSEMBLY COMMENTS**

Assembly Member Morton stated she was excited to hear a data center may be

coming to the borough.

Assembly Member Johnson expressed his appreciation for the Alaska Municipal League and Finance Director Brandi Harbaugh. Mr. Johnson appreciated knowing Roberta Highland and acknowledged her husband and friend that were present here tonight.

Assembly Member Baisden congratulated the Kenai High School boys soccer team for finishing third at state, and to Soldotna High School boys for taking second. He congratulated the Kenai High School girls soccer team for winning the state tournament and to Soldotna High School girls for their second place finish.

Assembly Member Tunseth thanked the Mayor and borough staff for always being so responsive and doing a fantastic job. Mr. Tunseth thanked Clerk Turner and staff for all of their hard work and appreciated his fellow assembly members as well.

Assembly Member Dunne discussed Resolution 2025-025 and Ordinance 2025-10. Mr. Dunne appreciated the commending resolution for Roberta Highland. Mr. Dunne expressed his condolences to the family of Dave Seaman.

Assembly Member Cooper congratulated the Homer Lady Mariners for winning the state track title. Ms. Cooper announced the first-ever Homer Harbor Fest was June 7, 2025.

Assembly Member Ribbens was glad to hear that the private sector plans to build around 200 housing units in the Nikiski/Kenai area this summer.

## **PENDING LEGISLATION**

1.     [2024-19-38](#)     An Ordinance Appropriating an Additional \$150,029.03 to the Special Assessment Fund for the Rollins Way Road Improvement Assessment District (Mayor) (Hearing on 06/17/25)
2.     [2025-19](#)     An Ordinance Appropriating Funds for Fiscal Year 2026 (Mayor)

## **INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS AND REPORTS**

1.     [KPB-6969](#)     Tourism Industry Working Group Final Report

## **ASSEMBLY MEETING AND HEARING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. June 17, 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 7:54 p.m.

I certify the above represents accurate minutes of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly meeting of June 3, 2025.

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Michele Turner, CMC, Borough Clerk

Approved by the Assembly: \_\_\_\_\_