Kenai Peninsula Borough

144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, AK 99669

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Assembly

Ryan Tunseth, President
Kelly Cooper, Vice President
Willy Dunne
Cindy Ecklund
Dale Eicher
Scott Griebel
Michael Hicks
Lenora Niesen
Sarge Truesdell

Tuesday, February 3, 2026 | **6:00 PM** | **Betty J. Glick Assembly Chambers**
Meeting ID: 897 1694 8642 Passcode: 075938
https://yourkpb.zoom.us/j/89716948642?pwd=fEb3zpJksgh1maera2nn3XZRWIfPat.1

Meeting ID: 897 1694 8642 Passcode: 075938

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

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

ROLL CALL

[Clerk's Note: Assembly Members Cooper and Dunne attended via ZOOM.]

Present: 9 - Ryan Tunseth, Kelly Cooper, Cindy Ecklund, Willy Dunne, Dale Eicher, Lenora Niesen, Michael Hicks, Sarge Truesdell, and Scott Griebel

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Assembly Member Niesen stated the Finance Committee met and discussed its agenda items.
[9 Present: Cooper (via ZOOM), Dunne (via ZOOM), Ecklund, Eicher, Griebel, Hicks, Niesen, Truesdell, Tunseth]
Assembly Member Truesdell stated the Policies and Procedures Committee met and discussed its agenda items.
[9 Present: Cooper (via ZOOM), Dunne (via ZOOM), Ecklund, Eicher, Griebel, Hicks, Niesen, Truesdell, Tunseth]
Assembly Member Griebel stated the Legislative Committee met and discussed its agenda items.

[9 Present: Cooper (via ZOOM), Dunne (via ZOOM), Ecklund, Eicher, Griebel, Hicks, Niesen, Truesdell, Tunseth]

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Niesen 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-7432 January 20, 2026 Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes

approved

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

2025-19-26 LAYDOWN 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) (Hearing on 02/17/26)

This Budget Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

NEW BUSINESS

2026-007 A Resolution Designating the Newspaper and Authorizing Award of a Contract for the Publication of the 2026 Foreclosure List, and the Delinquent Leasehold, Mobile Homes, Personal and Other Tax List for the Tax Year 2025 and Prior (Mayor)

This Resolution was adopted.

2026-009 A Resolution Accepting $58,642.97 from the State of Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management to Reimburse Eligible Costs for Emergency Protective Measures (Mayor)

This Resolution was adopted.

2026-008 A Resolution Supporting the Recertification of the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council (Dunne)

This Resolution was adopted.

2025-19-25 An Ordinance Appropriating $342,000 from the School Maintenance Fund for Snow Removal and Sanding (Mayor) (Hearing on 02/17/26)

This Budget Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

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) (Hearing on 02/17/26)

This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

2025-19-24 An Ordinance Accepting and Appropriating Opioid Settlement Funds for the Opioid Settlement Fund Grant Program (Mayor) (Hearing on 02/17/26)

[Clerk's Note: Assembly Member Dunne declared a possible conflict as he was a board member of one of the grant recipients. President Tunseth ruled a conflict existed. Mr. Dunne abstained from the discussion and vote on Ordinance 2025-19-24.]

This ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

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

Abstain: 1 - Dunne

[Clerk's Note: President Tunseth passed the gavel to President Pro Tem Niesen.]

KPB-7435 Authorizing the Issuance of a Letter of Non-Objection to the Marijuana Control Board Regarding the New Marijuana Concentrate Manufacturing Facility, Requested by Smooth Like Butter, LLC, dba Smooth Like Butter, License No. 41639, Subject to Standard Conditions, Kasilof (Referred to Finance Committee)

[Clerk's Note: Assembly President Tunseth declared a possible conflict as the licensee was purchasing his marijuana business. President Pro Tem Niesen ruled a conflict existed. President Tunseth abstained from the discussion and vote on KPB-7435.]

approved

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

Abstain: 1 - Tunseth

KPB-7436 Confirming Appointment to the Seldovia Recreational Service Area Board (Mayor) (Referred to the Policies and Procedures Committee)
Marcia Patrick, Seat A, Term Expires 10/2028

approved

KPB-7437 Confirming Appointment to the Kachemak Emergency Service Area Board (Mayor)
Michael Wojciak, Seat C, Term Expires 10/2027

approved

Approval of the Agenda and Consent Agenda

President Tunseth called for public comment.

Mako Haggerty, spoke in support of Resolution 2026-008.

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 - Tunseth, Cooper, Ecklund, Dunne, Eicher, Niesen, Hicks, Truesdell, and Griebel

[Clerk's Note: President Pro Tem Niesen returned the gavel to President Tunseth.]

COMMENDING RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS - None

PRESENTATIONS WITH PRIOR NOTICE

1. KPB-7433 Central Peninsula General Hospital Quarterly Report, Angela Hinnegan, Chief Executive Officer (10 Minutes)

[Clerk's Note: Angela Hinnegan, CEO and Karl Hertz, COO, presented a quarterly report to the Assembly.]

2. KPB-7434 South Peninsula Hospital Quarterly Report, Ryan Smith, Chief Executive Officer (10 Minutes)

[Clerk's Note: Ryan Smith, CEO, presented a quarterly report to the Assembly.]

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

President Tunseth called for public comment with none being offered.

MAYOR'S REPORT

KPB-7440 Mayor's Report Cover Memo

1. Assembly Requests/Responses - None

2. Agreements and Contracts - None

3. Other

a. KPB-7438 Revenue Expenditure Report - December 2025

b. KPB-7439 Budget Revisions - December 2025

ITEMS NOT COMPLETED FROM PRIOR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ORDINANCES

2026-01 An Ordinance Amending Borough Code, KPB 22.40.130, Regarding Formal Presentations to the Assembly (Tunseth, Cooper)

Niesen moved to enact Ordinance 2026-01.

President Tunseth called for public comment with none being offered.

Griebel moved to amend Ordinance 2026-01 as follows:

Amend Section 2, at KPB 22.40.130, to read as follows:

"(B) Any member of the public may submit a request stating the subject of the presentation to the borough clerk to make a formal presentation before the borough assembly at a regular meeting or before the committee of the whole concerning a subject not contained in the assembly's agenda for that meeting and relating to [~~a~~] **borough** service**s,** [~~or power under borough code to report on financial status, construction progress, budgets, audits, code amendments, planning documents, and related items~~] **oversight and/or authorities granted to the assembly under borough code**. Upon concurrence of, and at the discretion of, the assembly president, the presentation will be scheduled for the next available meeting. The presenter must provide all presentation materials by the deadline for submitting items for the agenda set by KPB 22.40.050(C). The borough clerk will inform the presenter of the meeting date and time. If presentation materials are not received in the Clerk's Office by the deadline, the presenter may choose between giving the presentation without materials or have the presentation removed from the agenda and rescheduled for another meeting. The total time permitted for formal presentations with prior notice concerning a subject not contained in the assembly's agenda for that meeting will be limited to ten minutes per presentation. The assembly president may, with the concurrence of a majority of the assembly, allow additional time. Presentations before the assembly will be limited to two total presentations per regular meeting or committee of the whole meeting."

Assembly Members Eicher, Truesdell, Cooper, Niesen and Ecklund spoke in support of the amendment.

The motion to amend Ordinance 2026-01 carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Tunseth, Cooper, Ecklund, Dunne, Eicher, Niesen, Hicks, Truesdell, and Griebel

The motion to enact Ordinance 2026-01 as amended carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Tunseth, Cooper, Ecklund, Dunne, Eicher, Niesen, Hicks, Truesdell, and Griebel

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

President Tunseth called for public comment with none being offered.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Assembly Member Niesen expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to work with fellow Assembly members and wished everyone a pleasant evening.

Assembly Member Griebel also expressed his appreciation for working with fellow Assembly members and noted that meetings were running smoothly.

Assembly Member Hicks stated his appreciation for the professionalism of the borough staff.

Assembly Member Eicher stated he toured Sterling Elementary School and greatly enjoyed the visit.

Assembly Member Truesdell thanked the road crews for their hard work throughout the winter. He also stated he attended the School Board meetings on February 2, 2026, and provided a brief update.

Assembly Member Ecklund stated she attended the Seward Bear Creek Flood Service Area Board meeting on February 2, 2026, and provided a brief update.

Assembly Member Dunne thanked the Mayor for his report and thanked the Central Peninsula and South Peninsula Hospitals for their quarterly reports.

Vice President Cooper expressed appreciation for early discussions regarding school district funding. She also thanked the Mayor for meeting with local city mayors and staff.

President Tunseth thanked borough staff for their hard work and thanked the Mayor

for working with local legislators on school funding.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS AND REPORTS

ASSEMBLY MEETING AND HEARING ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. February 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 7:35 p.m.

I certify the above represents accurate minutes of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly meeting of February 3, 2026.

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Michele Turner, CMC, Borough Clerk

Approved by the Assembly: _____