



Kenai Peninsula Borough

144 North Binkley Street
Soldotna, AK 99669

Meeting Minutes - Final

Assembly

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

Tuesday, May 19, 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](https://yourkpb.zoom.us/j/89716948642?pwd=fEb3zpJksgh1maera2nn3XZRWifPat.1)

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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 Member Ecklund attended via Zoom.]

Present: 8 - Ryan Tunseth, Kelly Cooper, Cindy Ecklund, Willy Dunne, Dale Eicher, Lenora Niesen, Michael Hicks, and Sarge Truesdell

Excused: 1 - Scott Griebel

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 President Tunseth stated Budget Work Session #3 and #4 were held.
[8 Present: Cooper, Dunne, Ecklund (via Zoom), Eicher, Hicks, Niesen, Truesdell, Tunseth; 1 Absent: Griebel]

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

[8 Present: Cooper, Dunne, Ecklund (via Zoom), Eicher, Hicks, Niesen, Truesdell, Tunseth; 1 Absent: Griebel]

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

[8 Present: Cooper, Dunne, Ecklund (via Zoom), Eicher, Hicks, Niesen, Truesdell, Tunseth; 1 Absent: Griebel]

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

[8 Present: Cooper, Dunne, Ecklund (via Zoom), Eicher, Hicks, Niesen, Truesdell, Tunseth; 1 Absent: Griebel]

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-7688](#) May 5, 2026 Regular Assembly Meeting Minutes
approved

[KPB-7699](#) A Resolution Commending the Kenai Peninsula Borough Athletes of the 2026 Arctic Winter Games
This Commending Resolution was adopted.

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

[2025-19-38](#) An Ordinance Appropriating \$31,460,051.15 in Educational Bond Proceeds for the Purpose of Financing the Certain Educational Capital Improvements in the Borough (Mayor)
This Budget Ordinance was enacted.

[2026-22](#) An Ordinance Authorizing a Communications Site Lease Agreement with Vertical Bridge S3 Assets, LLC, in Kenai (Mayor)
This Ordinance was enacted.

NEW BUSINESS

[2026-030](#) A Resolution Approving a Subaward Grant Agreement with the State of Alaska for Woody Fuel Disposal (Mayor)

This Resolution was adopted.

[2026-031](#) A Resolution Authorizing a Sole Source Contract to Alternative Support Apparatus for an Offroad UTV Ambulance Purchase for the Nikiski Fire Service Area (Mayor)

This Resolution was adopted.

[2026-029](#) A Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Agreement for the Purpose of Intergovernmental Administration of Borough and City Elections with Participating Cities (Tunseth at the Request of the Borough Clerk)

This Resolution was adopted.

[2025-19-40](#) An Ordinance Accepting and Appropriating Funds to Replace a Western Emergency Service Area Vehicle (Mayor)

This Budget Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2025-19-41](#) An Ordinance Accepting and Appropriating Funds to Repair a Central Emergency Service Area Fire Engine (Mayor)

This Budget Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2025-19-42](#) An Ordinance Accepting and Appropriating Grant Funds from the State of Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for Revetment and Drainage Improvements on Bruno Road (Mayor)

This Budget Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2025-19-43](#) An Ordinance Accepting and Appropriating Grant Funds from the State of Alaska for the Installation of a Building Automation System at Nanwalek School (Mayor)

This Budget Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2026-23](#) An Ordinance Authorizing the Conveyance of the Nikolaevsk School Property to Alaska Homestead Education, Inc. in Support of Community K-12 Education (Mayor) (Hearing on 06/16/26)

[Clerk's Note: The public hearing date was amended to 06/16/26.]

This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[2026-24](#) An Ordinance Amending KPB Chapter 5.19, Uniform Remote Seller Sales Tax Code, in Accordance with Amendments Adopted by the Alaska Remote Seller Sales Tax Commission (Mayor) (Hearing on 06/16/26)

This Ordinance was introduced and set for public hearing.

[KPB-7698](#) Petition to Vacate KPB 2026-021V SLEV: Vacate an irregular portion of the southern 33-foot section line easement located on the northern boundary of Lot 1, Block 4, Hill Park Estates Subdivision Unit 1, Plat HM 76-50, within Section 2, Township 5 South, Range 14 West, said irregular shape being 1,762 square foot in area and the closest corner being 3.72 feet south and 6.28 feet east of the W1/16th corner, as shown on the sketch of vacation in said Lot 1, Block 4.

[Clerk's Note: At its regular meeting of April 27, 2026, the Planning Commission unanimously approved the referenced petition to vacate.]

approved

[2025-19-39](#) WITHDRAWN BY SPONSOR An Ordinance Appropriating Funds from the North Peninsula Recreation Service Area Operating Fund for Heater Replacements at the North Peninsula Community Recreation Center (Mayor)

Cooper moved to move the Mayor's Report before Unfinished Business on the agenda.

The motion to move the Mayor's Report before Unfinished Business on the agenda carried by the following vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Griebel

Approval of the Agenda and Consent Agenda as Amended

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

Absent: 1 - Griebel

COMMENDING RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

[KPB-7699](#) A Resolution Commending the Kenai Peninsula Borough Athletes of the 2026 Arctic Winter Games

[Clerk's Note: Assembly President Tunseth presented the Commending

Resolution to the Kenai Peninsula Borough Athletes of the 2026 Arctic Winter Games.]

PRESENTATIONS WITH PRIOR NOTICE - None

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

President Tunseth called for public comment with none being offered.

ITEMS NOT COMPLETED FROM PRIOR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ORDINANCES

2026-19

An Ordinance Appropriating Funds for Fiscal Year 2027 (Mayor)

Niesen moved to enact Ordinance 2026-19.

President Tunseth called for public comment:

Brian Krauklis, Sterling, addressed the Assembly regarding school funding.

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

Niesen moved to amend the FY2027 budget document as follows:

Page 75, "Clk- Elections", increase line item 100.11130.00000.40120 "Temp Wages" by \$42,937.

Page 75, "Clk-Elections", increase line item 100.11130.00000.40210 "FICA" by \$3,285.

The motion to amend the FY2027 budget document carried by the following vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Griebel

Niesen moved to postpone Ordinance 2026-19 as amended to 06/02/26.

The motion to postpone Ordinance 2026-19 as amended to 06/02/26 carried by the following vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Griebel

Cooper moved to suspend the rules and move the Mayor's Report after Assembly Comments on the agenda.

The motion to suspend the rules and move the Mayor's report after Assembly Comments on the agenda carried by the following vote:

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

Excused: 1 - Griebel

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

President Tunseth called for public comment with none being offered.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Assembly Member Eicher stated this was his first year participating in the budget process and expressed appreciation for everyone's hard work.

Assembly Member Hicks thanked the Administration for the budget presentations and expressed appreciation for the guidance provided by fellow Assembly Members throughout the budget process.

Assembly Member Niesen stated she attended the Nikiski Town Hall meeting on May 15, 2026, and the Nikiski Community Council meeting, and provided brief updates from both meetings.

Assembly Member Dunne thanked everyone for their participation and public comments. Mr. Dunne stated he attended the May 6, 2026, Resilience and Security Advisory Commission meeting and announced that the next meeting is June 10, 2026. Mr. Dunne also announced that the next meeting of the Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve is June 5, 2026, at 12:30 p.m.

Assembly Member Truesdell thanked the Borough department heads and fire chiefs for their budget presentations. Mr. Truesdell congratulated all high school graduates and their families. He stated that he spoke to the kindergarten class at Mountain View Elementary during Career Day and enjoyed the opportunity to visit with the students.

Vice President Cooper thanked everyone for attending. Ms. Cooper stated that the Assembly has held four budget work sessions and appreciated the presentations and opportunities to ask questions. She encouraged the public to attend future meetings.

Assembly President Tunseth thanked Borough staff and the Clerk's Office for their hard work throughout the budget process and stated that he appreciates working with everyone.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor's Report Cover Memo

[KPB-7703](#) Mayor's Memo

- 1. Assembly Requests/Responses - None
- 2. Agreements and Contracts
 - a. [KPB-7693](#) Authorization to Award a Contract for ITB26-027 Summer & Winter Maintenance- Central Region, Unit 1
 - b. [KPB-7694](#) Authorization to Award a Contract for ITB26-028 Summer & Winter Maintenance- Central Region, Unit 2
 - c. [KPB-7695](#) Authorization to Award a Contract for ITB26-029 Boiler Replacement Skyview Middle School
 - d. [KPB-7696](#) Authorization to Award a Contract for ITB26-030

ASSEMBLY MEETING AND HEARING ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. June 2, 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 7:07 p.m.

I certify the above represents accurate minutes of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly meeting of May 19, 2026.

Michele Turner, MMC, Borough Clerk

Approved by the Assembly: _____