



# Kenai Peninsula Borough

144 North Binkley Street  
Soldotna, AK 99669

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Assembly

*Kelly Cooper, President*  
*Hal Smalley, Vice President*  
*Norm Blakeley*  
*Jesse Bjorkman*  
*Kenn Carpenter*  
*Tyson Cox*  
*Willy Dunne*  
*Brent Hibbert*  
*Brent Johnson*

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Friday, April 3, 2020

2:00 PM

Betty J. Glick Assembly Chambers

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### Special Assembly Meeting

#### CALL TO ORDER

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### ROLL CALL

*[Clerk's Note: All Assembly Members participated virtually on the Zoom meeting platform.]*

**Present:** 9 - Jesse Bjorkman, Norm Blakeley, Kenn Carpenter, Tyson Cox, Willy Dunne, Brent Hibbert, Brent Johnson, Hal Smalley, and Kelly Cooper

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Smalley's motion to approve the agenda as amended carried by the following vote:

**Yes:** 9 - Bjorkman, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cox, Dunne, Hibbert, Johnson, Smalley, and Cooper

#### BRIEFING REGARDING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC WITHIN THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

*[Clerk's Note: Dan Nelson, Senior Manager of the Office of Emergency Management provided the Assembly with a status update regarding the COVID-19 Incident Management Team's response.]*

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### [2020-12](#)

An Emergency Ordinance Extending the Annual Payment Deadline of March 31, 2020 until June 30, 2020 for All Outstanding Special Assessment Districts with Outstanding Balances as of March, 2020 (Mayor) (Hearing on 04/03/20)

Hibbert moved to enact Emergency Ordinance 2020-12.

*President Cooper called for public comment with none being offered.*

**The motion to enact Emergency Ordinance 2020-12 carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 9 - Bjorkman, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cox, Dunne, Hibbert, Johnson, Smalley, and Cooper

2020-13

An Emergency Ordinance Providing for an Exception to the Operating Agreement Between the Kenai Peninsula Borough and South Peninsula Hospital, Inc. to Allow Cash in Excess of 90 Days to be Retained by South Peninsula Hospital, Inc., as of March 31, 2020 and Allow the Mayor to Provide for Certain Additional Exceptions to the Operating Agreement during the COVID-19 Pandemic (Mayor) (Hearing on 04/03/20)

**Hibbert moved to enact Emergency Ordinance 2020-13.**

President Cooper called for public comment with none being offered.

Assembly Member Dunne declared a possible conflict as his wife was an employee of South Peninsula Hospital. After consultation with legal counsel, President Cooper ruled a conflict did not exist as Mr. Dunne had no substantial direct or indirect financial interest.

**The motion to enact Emergency Ordinance 2020-13 carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 9 - Bjorkman, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cox, Dunne, Hibbert, Johnson, Smalley, and Cooper

2019-19-31

An Emergency Ordinance Appropriating Funds to the Office of Emergency Management to Cover Costs Associated with the Covid-19 Disaster Declaration and Replenish the Office of Emergency Management Reserve Fund of \$125,000 (Mayor) (Hearing on 04/03/20)

**Hibbert moved to enact Ordinance 2019-19-31.**

President Cooper called for public comment with none being offered.

**The motion to enact Emergency Budget Ordinance 2019-19-31 carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 9 - Bjorkman, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cox, Dunne, Hibbert, Johnson, Smalley, and Cooper

2020-14

LAYDOWN An Emergency Ordinance in Support of South Peninsula Hospital, Inc. Application to Participate in the Paycheck Protection Program Loan Offered through the Cononavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Mayor) (Hearing on 04/03/20)

**Dunne moved to enact Emergency Ordinance 2020-14.**

President Cooper called for public comment.

**Judith Lund**, South Kenai Peninsula Hospital Service Area Board Chair spoke in support of Emergency Ordinance 2020-14.

**Tom Clark**, South Peninsula Hospital, Inc. Board Chair spoke in support of Emergency Ordinance 2020-14.

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

Assembly Member Dunne declared a possible conflict as his wife was an employee of South Peninsula Hospital. After consultation with legal counsel, President Cooper ruled a conflict did exist as Mr. Dunne had a financial interest. Mr. Dunne abstained from the discussion and vote regarding Emergency Ordinance 2020-14.

**The motion to enact Emergency Ordinance 2020-14 carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 8 - Bjorkman, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cox, Hibbert, Johnson, Smalley, and Cooper

**Abstain:** 1 - Dunne

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

President Cooper called for public comment.

**Carrie Henson**, Kalifornsky stated she liked the Zoom format and suggested the use of the "chat" box.

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

## **ASSEMBLY COMMENTS**

Assembly Member Smalley thanked the borough administration, employees, first responders and those in the community for all their additional work and services that were provided.

Assembly Member Bjorkman encouraged everyone to stay healthy and remain active while in "hunker down" mode. Mr. Bjorkman reminded everyone to wash their hands and not to touch your face, as well as to abide by the Governor's mandates. He stated he was looking forward to the economic recovery efforts to come.

Assembly Member Blakeley appreciated the efforts of everyone and reminded everyone to stay safe.

Assembly Member Carpenter hoped everyone stayed safe and reminded everyone to respect the mandates.

Assembly Member Cox stated he was happy to see everyone. Mr. Cox stated there were great departments doing great things with the circumstances at hand. He reminded everyone to stay safe.

Assembly Member Dunne thanked the borough staff, especially Brenda Ahlberg and Dan Nelson for their excellent job and communication. He stated he was taking part in the daily briefings and they were very informative. He thanked the borough staff as well for their efforts to answer questions and provide information. He stated staff at South Peninsula Hospital were also doing amazing work and coordinating alternate care sites.

Assembly Member Johnson stated he appreciated the administration and staff for providing the platform to meet. He stated he appreciated all the medical staff and thanked them for being in that profession.

Assembly Member Hibbert thanked Dan Nelson, Brenda Ahlberg and staff for their Facebook broadcasts. He also thanked the administration for the daily working group briefings, stating that had been very informative. Mr. Hibbert thanked the clerks and Ben Hanson for making the meeting platform possible. He reminded everyone to participate in Census 2020 as it was important for future funding. He reminded everyone to stay safe.

President Cooper commended Dan Nelson and Brenda Ahlberg, as well as the Incident Management Team that was made up of borough employees. She stated she was grateful that they had a plan in place to stand up the team quickly. Ms. Cooper reminded everyone that our government may look different in the next couple years as to how services are provided and thanked the borough employees who were working hard to provide those essential services. She reminded everyone to check on your neighbors and those that may have needs, stating we were in this together.

## ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the assembly, President Cooper adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

I certify the above represents accurate minutes of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly special meeting of April 3, 2020.

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Johni Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk

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

