

1 Denali Borough Assembly
2 Minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
3 Virtual Meeting
4 May 13, 2020
5

6 **PUBLIC HEARING**

7 Presiding Officer Jared ZIMMERMAN called the public hearing to order at 6:00 PM.
8

9 **ORDINANCE 20-08: Fiscal year 2020 budget amendment**

10 There were no comments.
11

12 **ORDINANCE 20-09: Fiscal year 2021 budget**

13 There were no comments.
14

15 **ORDINANCE 20-10: Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for fiscal year 2021 through
16 2027**

17 There were no comments.
18

19 **REGULAR MEETING**

20 **CALL TO ORDER**

21 Presiding Officer Jared ZIMMERMAN called the regular meeting to order at 6:01 PM.
22

23 **ROLL CALL**

24 Assembly members present: Jake HILL, Jill BOELSMA, Lisa MINER, Jared ZIMMERMAN,
25 Tallon SHREEVE, Joe CHATFIELD, Eileen HOLMES, Jeff STENGER and Krista
26 ZAPPONE. Mayor Clay Walker was also present.
27

28 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

29 Vanessa Juszczak with the Denali Chamber of Commerce submitted and verbally highlighted
30 information included in the attached written report (see Appendix A)
31

32 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

33 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded. The VOTE by
34 show of hands and voice confirmation to approve the agenda was unanimous.
35

36 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

37 **APRIL 29, 2020 MINUTES**

38 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to approve the minutes from the April 29, 2020 Public Hearing and
39 Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded. The VOTE by show of hands and voice
40 confirmation was unanimous.
41

42 **REPORTS**

43 **FINANCIAL REPORT**

1 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to receive the March 2020 financial report. The motion was
2 seconded. The VOTE by show of hands and voice confirmation to receive the March 2020
3 financial report was unanimous.

4
5 **SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT**

6 Superintendent Dan Polta verbally highlighted information provided in the attached written
7 report (Appendix B).

8
9 **MAYOR REPORT**

10 Mayor Clay Walker verbally highlighted information provided in the attached written report
11 (Appendix C).

12
13 **EMERGENCY PLANNER REPORT**

14 Emergency Planner Chris Noel verbally highlighted information provided in the attached
15 written report (Appendix D).

16
17 **ASSEMBLY COMMENTS**

18 Assembly members expressed appreciation for and commented on the following:

- 19 • Expressed appreciation for virtual meetings and the reports provided,
- 20 • expressed appreciation for the Chamber of Commerce and encouraged participation
21 in the community cleanup day,
- 22 • asked about COVID-19 testing and criteria to receive a test.

23
24 **COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE REQUEST**

25 There were no communication and appearance requests.

26
27 **DRAFT ORDINANCES**

28 **ORDINANCE 20-11: Healy Spur Road CTP project allocation**

29 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to introduce Ordinance 20-11. The motion was seconded. The roll
30 call VOTE to introduce Ordinance 20-11 was unanimous.

31
32 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to postpone Ordinance 20-11. The motion was seconded. The
33 VOTE by show of hands and voice confirmation was unanimous.

34
35 **PENDING ORDINANCES**

36 **ORDINANCE 20-08: Fiscal year 2020 budget amendment**

37 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to approve Ordinance 20-08. The motion was seconded.

38
39 Jake HILL MOVED to amend Ordinance 20-08 by transferring the usable annual earnings
40 from the permanent investment fund to the Parks and Recreation fund. The VOTE by show
41 of hands and voice confirmation to amend Ordinance 20-08 was unanimous.

42
43 The roll call VOTE to approve Ordinance 20-08 as amended was unanimous.
44

1 **ORDINANCE 20-09: Fiscal Year 2021 Budget**

2 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to approve Ordinance 20-09. The motion was seconded. Mayor
3 Walker reviewed the budget and recommended that the assembly postpone to the next
4 meeting.

5
6 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to postpone Ordinance 20-09. The motion was seconded. The
7 VOTE by show of hands and voice confirmation was unanimous.

8
9 **ORDINANCE 20-10: Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Fiscal Year 2021 through**
10 **2027**

11 Jake HILL MOVED to approve Ordinance 20-10. The motion was seconded. The roll call
12 VOTE to approve Ordinance 20-10 was unanimous.

13
14 **RESOLUTIONS**

15 **RESOLUTION 20-06: Permanent investment strategy**

16 Jake HILL MOVED to approve Resolution 20-06. The motion was seconded. The roll call
17 VOTE to approve Resolution 20-06 was unanimous.

18
19 **RESOLUTION 20-07: Authorizing the Grant Manager to seek reallocated State**
20 **Homeland Security Grant Funds**

21 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to approve Resolution 20-07. The motion was seconded. The roll
22 call VOTE to approve was unanimous.

23
24 **RESOLUTION 20-08: Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES**
25 **Act) funding management**

26 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to approve Resolution 20-08. The motion was seconded. The roll
27 call VOTE to approve was unanimous.

28
29 **RESOLUTION 20-09: Authorizing a Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic security**
30 **Act (CARES Act) Fund account and assign check signers**

31 Jill BOELSMA MOVED to approve Resolution 20-09. The motion was seconded. The roll
32 call VOTE to approve was unanimous.

33
34 **OTHER BUSINESS**

35 **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

36 There were no public comments.

37
38 **ASSEMBLY COMMENTS**

39 Assembly members commented on the following:

- 40
- 41 • congratulated the graduating class of 2020,
 - 42 • thanked staff and all those that provided a report,
 - 43 • thanked the finance committee.

44 **TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

1 Upcoming assembly meetings will be virtual meeting on the following dates and times:
2 • Grant Review and Special Meeting on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 6:00 PM.
3 • Public Hearing and Regular Meeting on Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at 6:00 PM.
4

5 **ADJOURN:**

6 Jake HILL MOVED to adjourn. The motion was seconded. The meeting was adjourned by
7 unanimous voice vote at 7:50 PM.
8

9

10 APPROVED: _____
11 Jared Zimmerman, Presiding Officer
12

13

14

15 ATTEST: _____
16 Amber Renshaw, Borough Clerk
17

18

19

20 Date Approved: _____

Public Statement Comment

Denali Chamber Director <director@denalichamber.com>

Wed 5/13/2020 4:59 PM

To: Amber Renshaw <arensaw@denaliborough.com>

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] This message was sent from outside the company. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize the source of this email and know the content is safe.

My head and the calendar were not on the same page, so here is my statement for the assembly.

Things have been a little hectic, and this meeting snuck up on me.

Businesses are indeed beginning to open, with a variety of timelines - from now until August. There are many still undecided based on social distancing, transportation challenges, and Alaska quarantine mandates.

I have been in regular contact with Mayor Walker, and would like to extend a thank you from the Denali Chamber for his tireless work during this time. In addition to his regular duties and his new covid duties, he has been participating with the Denali Recovery Alliance, and we have made good progress with our initial assessments. A working document for our "Economic Impact & Recovery Plan" isn't far away. We appreciate the partnership with those who have worked to help in this endeavor.

For most up to date information people should be visiting our website, with nearly daily updates.

--

Vanessa Juszczak
Executive Director

Mission: To Grow & Enhance a Vibrant Business Community

Vision: To Empower Businesses Through Collaboration

Guiding Values: Credibility, Inclusiveness, Connection, Integrity, Responsibility

907-683-4636

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Instagram@denalichamber



**Superintendent's Report
Denali Borough Assembly
Wednesday, May 13th, 2020**

Dear Denali Borough Assembly and Mayor Walker,

Please accept this written report for the month of May.

1. Appreciation/Congratulations

- a. Teacher Appreciation Week - May 4th - May 8th - Thank you to all of our teachers (formal and informal) for all the time and energy you give now and at all times to support our students.
- b. A big congratulations to Tri-Valley senior, and student school board representative, Makenzie Mirasole. Kenzie was selected as the AASG Student Council Leader of the Year!
- c. Congratulations to all our Class of 2020 Graduates from Anderson, Tri-Valley and Denali PEAK.

2. Coronavirus -

- a. Graduation and End of Year Events - DEED, in working with the Governor and Unified Command, issued guidance for school districts for end of year events like graduation. The expectations continue to be very restrictive in terms of group size, physical contact, and physical space between participants. The restrictions on school districts are more restrictive than those for the general public and impact other hoped for events and even our summer facility use.
- b. Health Mandates - This month Governor Dunleavy adjusted the statewide health mandates. Overall, the changes provide more opportunity for social and economic activity in the state. Commissioner Johnson confirmed that while these changes affect the general population, that the mandates and guidance for districts and school are unchanged and continue to be more restrictive than the guidelines for the general population and other sectors of the economy.
- c. Next School Year - The Commissioner with working with DHSS and Dr. Zink to develop a framework to identify the level of health risk in a community (Low, Medium, or High). These distinctions are going to be based on health factors. Schools and districts can then consider the different operational scenarios under these different conditions for next year. The

Mission Statement

Nurturing, empowering and inspiring today's student to positively shape tomorrow's world.

basic idea is that this would allow schools to adjust their operations quickly as local conditions change. It would allow a more flexible response to events next year. This would be different from this year where all districts and schools are under a single blanket order, regardless of the specific amount or absence of COVID-19 in our community, size of school, influx of non-local workers, etc. Using these umbrella criteria will also make it easier for districts to share ideas and plans for the various conditions. The department is further suggesting we consider different aspects under our operations such as our instructional continuity, our building logistics continuity, and our organizational or business level continuity.

3. Finances

- a. FY20 Budget - The Board Finance committee met on May 5th and reviewed our year end projections. We identified additional expenses and areas where we will not be spending money due to the coronavirus. Overall this is increasing our year end surplus to ~\$160,000. This would place us at ~9.5% unrestricted carryover, though the Governor has waived the 10% limit this year. In addition to these adjustments, we anticipate an amount in the current year PEAK student allotment to refund back to our operating funds. We are still determining this final amount. With the adjustments in expenses at this point, we do not see the need for a FY20 budget revision at this time.
- b. CARES Act - Mayor Walker and I met this month. We discussed the District's and Borough's Cares Act funding. The Borough is expecting over \$3 million and the District is receiving about \$150,000. The guidelines for both pools of funding expect the money to be spent on direct coronavirus response efforts and, preferably, not to replace money that would be spent on those actions anyway. The Borough can use their funds to support educational actions. The Borough money needs to be expensed by the end of December 2020, while the District has until September 2022. We are working with the Borough to identify the expenses that we can justifiably use these funds for. Overall, if the District can help the Borough with this information, they should be able to use the money to provide the requested level of support to the District and help position our Borough to have available funds for future years. There are still a lot of regulatory questions that we are working on with DEED, and that the Borough is working on with the state. On the national level, our congressional delegation introduced a bill that would allow municipalities to "expend" their relief money to replace tax revenue lost due to the coronavirus. This would be an immense help to our Borough's finances.
- c. FY21 Budget - The Denali Borough Assembly is considering its local contribution to the FY21 DBSD Budget. The District's total request includes both a required portion and an optional additional portion. The required portion is based on the value of real and personal property in the Borough. The additional amount the Borough is allowed to give is capped

by state statute at 23% of the District's Basic Need. The total request from DBSD is \$2,679,071. This includes both portions and is slightly below the maximum allowable based on our enrollment projections. It is slightly lower than the amount requested and provided in FY20.

4. Facilities

- a. Anderson Roof Project - We received two bids on our RFP. They were reviewed in detail by our engineering firm and Curtis. We are moving forward with the Intent to Award to Interior Alaskan Roofing. This company had a slightly better proposal, was within our construction cost estimates, performed an onsite inspection of the roof and its conditions, and has a positive work history and relationship with the District. Their proposal does place the reconstruction in two phases with some sections of the roof being completed this summer and the remainder completed next summer.
- b. Server Room Fire Suppression - We are scheduled for our contractors to begin this project in early June. This timing will help ensure that our instructional staff is out of the building as much as possible during the time when we have contractors from Fairbanks doing this work.
- c. Generator Update Project - This project is RFP ready.
- d. Automated Door Locks - We continue to develop a final quote for this project.

5. Personnel

- a. Certified Staff
 - i. I authorized one additional, optional work day to our teachers to help provide time for the end of year wrap up and room close out work this year in consideration for the time and facility access challenges we all face during distance learning.
- b. Classified Staff
 - i. No updates
- c. Exempt Staff
 - i. No updates

Sincerely,

Dan Polta
Denali Borough School District

DENALI BOROUGH

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Email: dbgovt@mtaonline.net
Website: www.denaliborough.org



Clay Walker, Mayor

May 2020 Mayor’s Report to the Denali Borough Assembly – Regular Meeting Edition

This report speaks primarily to non-agenda items. Agenda items will be discussed in meeting.

Denali Area Healthcare Update

- As of May 4, PA Churchill is on site and providing services at the Healy Interior Community Health Center. The Center, like the Cantwell Clinic, has an Abbott Labs ID NOW COVID-19 Rapid Testing Unit to test COVID-19 symptomatic patients. Any symptomatic patients, or individuals who have a known exposure, should follow guidance in Health Mandate 16 (<https://gov.alaska.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/0425-COVID-MANDATE-016-Attachment-N-Social-Religious-and-Other-Gatherings.pdf>) and call in advance prior to arrival at a clinic.
- The Canyon Clinic is closed for the 2020 season.
- The weekly virtual meetings of area health care providers, in which capacities and needs are shared, continue.
- As of May 7, 2020, there have been no confirmed cases in the Denali Borough. Let’s recognize our shared sacrifices and keep up our efforts to limit the spread of the virus by adhering to the mandates.

State Health Mandates Update

- Effective April 24, Governor Dunleavy implemented Health Mandate 16, Phase 1 of a “Plan to Reopen Alaska Responsibly”. Allowable in-state travel was defined among the other amendments to existing mandates. On May 8, Phase 2 of the plan went into effect. See the full plan, with any newer updates, here: <https://covid19.alaska.gov/reopen/>.

Denali Recovery Alliance Update

- The Alliance continues to meet and work toward components of a Recovery Plan. The Alliance is following the work of the Fairbanks North Star Borough, as they put together their Recovery Plan.

Alaska Trails Conference

- Admin. Asst. Trena Haugen, who has developed trail funding applications and is working on a borough trails plan, virtually attended this conference and spoke to borough plans. This conference is part of a broader initiative to grow and diversify access to trails for Alaskans and our visitors.

Bison Gulch Parking Area and Trailhead

- The Federal Lands Access Program funded project, executed by State of Alaska’s Department of Transportation, of designing and constructing a new parking area is progressing, with a project site visit planned for June. The associated design of the trail improvement is also underway. When design is completed, the borough will apply for a permanent trail easement across the portion of

land which is managed by the State of Alaska's Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The borough hosted a productive meeting with representatives from Denali National Park Service and DNR on May 5.

CARES Act Funding

- Of the \$1.25 billion directed to the State of Alaska from the CARES Act, Governor Dunleavy is proposing to direct 45%, or \$562.5 million, to Direct Municipal Aid. On May 6th, the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee, which had planned to meet and consider approval of appropriation, postponed the meeting. There exist legal questions regarding authority to appropriate these federal monies. If the legislature does not act within 45 days from the date of request (April 21st), the Governor can disburse as he wishes. See Alaska Municipal League Director's presentation for more info: http://www.akleg.gov/basis/get_documents.asp?session=31&docid=61931
- In preparation, the borough is reviewing available guidance from U.S. Treasury and working toward a plan to put these funds to use to address the COVID related impacts to our communities.

Clear Air Force Station Long Range Discrimination Radar (LRDR) Environmental Assessment

- The Missile Defense Agency (MDA) has prepared a Proposed Final Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed Temporary Flight Restrictions during planned performance testing of the new LRDR system. The public comment period runs from May 2 to June 2. The EA and other information is available at: <https://www.mda.mil/system/lrdr>.

Happy May, happy sunshine, happy planting. As always, feel free to call me or staff if you have any questions.

-Clay



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Request for Public Document Review for the Proposed Final Environmental Assessment for Long Range Discrimination Radar Performance Testing, Clear Air Force Station, Alaska

Public Comment Period May 4, 2020 through June 2, 2020

The Missile Defense Agency (MDA), in cooperation with the United States Air Force (USAF) and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), prepared a Proposed Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and unsigned Proposed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with conducting time-constrained, performance testing and associated activities of the Long Range Discrimination Radar (LRDR) at Clear Air Force Station, Alaska. The LRDR system supports defense of the United States.

The Proposed Action would involve conducting time-constrained, performance testing of the LRDR to verify that it functions according to design requirements and meets operational needs prior to integration into the United States layered Missile Defense System for continuous operation, and to limit use of affected airspace through a Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR), during performance testing. The TFR would affect airspace where the performance testing would result in high-intensity radiated fields levels that exceed FAA certification standards for aircraft electrical and electronic systems needed for safety of flight.

The EA evaluates the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative.

The Proposed Final EA and unsigned Proposed FONSI are available for review in electronic form on the MDA website at <https://www.mda.mil/system/lrdr>.

Printed copies of the Proposed Final EA and unsigned Proposed FONSI will be available at the following locations in Nenana, Alaska: Nenana Post Office, 803 Market Street, Nenana, AK 99760; Chevron Gas Station, 304 Parks Highway, Nenana, AK 99760; and Coghill's Grocery, 807 North A Street, Nenana, AK 99760. Printed copies will be sent to the following local governments and organizations for review by residents and members: City of Anderson, City of Nenana, Denali Borough, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, Alaska Air Carrier Association, Alaska Airmen Association, Fairbanks General Aviation Association, and Alaska Wing Civil Air Patrol. Members of these communities and organizations may contact the applicable Mayor, Director, or President for an opportunity to review a printed copy of the Proposed Final EA and unsigned Proposed FONSI.

MDA will accept written comments on the Proposed Final EA and unsigned Proposed FONSI during the public comment period, which extends from May 4, 2020, through June 2, 2020.

MDA requests and welcomes your comments via e-mail to lrdr.info@mda.mil (preferred) or by regular mail to:

Missile Defense Agency
Attention: Mr. Chris Smith
MDA/MSR Environmental
Building 5222 Martin Road
Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898

Comments must be postmarked or received by June 2, 2020, to ensure they become part of the official record. Further questions should be directed to MDA Public Affairs at (256) 450-1599.

Public comments on this Proposed Final EA and unsigned Proposed FONSI are requested pursuant to the *National Environmental Policy Act*, 42 United States Code 4321, et seq. All written comments received during the comment period will be incorporated and considered in the Final EA. Providing private address information with your comment is voluntary, and such personal information will be kept confidential unless release is required by law.

Approved for Public Release:
20-MDA-10457 (14 Apr 20)

APPENDIX C

MEMO

To: Denali Borough Assembly Members

From: Chris Noel, Emergency Planner

Date: May 13, 2020

Re: COVID-19 emergency planning update

COVID-19 testing is now available at the Cantwell Clinic (907-768-2122), and Interior Community Health Clinic in Healy (907-683-2211). According to the State of Alaska dashboard, 10 tests have been performed in the Borough, and we continue to have no confirmed cases.* As a word of caution, and opportunity, we have also performed the lowest number of tests per capita in the State: .54% of the year round population compared to Mat-su 3.2%, Fairbanks 3.5%, and Delta 1.9%. It is safe to assume the virus lurks- and we must continue to follow the good habits we have adopted on social distancing, increased hand hygiene, and minimizing trips to public spaces. Borough residents have done a great job, and our sacrifices so far are commendable- and have contributed to our position today. Keep up the good work.

Health Mandate 18 was released yesterday, permitting Intrastate travel under the conditions of the Mandate, and this will lead to an increase in travel through the Denali Borough. Some highlights include precautions to minimize the virus spread including diligent hand cleaning before entering, and after leaving an establishment, and minimizing the number of travelers entering the establishments.

Local critical infrastructure and non-essential businesses who have employees traveling between communities must file a protective plan with akcovidplans@ak-prepared.com, addressing how the business will avoid the spread of COVID-19 and not endanger lives in the communities in which the business operates.

Health Mandate 16-Reopen Alaska Responsibly Plan has been recently updated and includes specific guidance for businesses in a wide range of industries. The Mandates are extensive, and if we all do our part we can continue to re-open safely. The full text of the Mandates is available at covid19.alaska.gov.

The Borough Incident Management team will continue meeting twice weekly and discussions are ongoing about when and how to safely re-open the Borough office. Staff continue to work from home, with periodic trips to the office. The past two months have highlighted a number of technology needs, and we will continue to increase our technical capacity to operate in the “new normal” we are working towards.

We expect to receive re-allocated State Homeland Security Grant funds to revise our emergency operations plan. This will be a productive project and eye opening in many ways.

“Spread the word, not the virus!” Stay safe and don’t hesitate to call with questions or concerns.

