

MAYOR
Sarah Palin

COUNCIL
Howard O'Neil, Seat A
Dianne M. Keller, Seat B
Noel H. Lowe, Seat C
Judy Patrick, Seat D
Colleen G. Cottle, Seat E
Don Bennett, Seat F

**WASILLA CITY COUNCIL
MEETING AGENDA**
WASILLA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Wasilla City Hall, 290 East Herning Avenue, Wasilla, AK 99654 (907) 373-9090

SPECIAL MEETING

7 P.M.

JULY 16, 2001

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
5. **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**
6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - A. **Resolution Serial No. 01-27:** Authorizing The City To File A Challenge To The Redistricting Plan For The State Of Alaska. (IM No. 01-57)
7. **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE**
(Public Hearing To Be Scheduled For: August 13, 2001)
 - A. **Ordinance Serial No. 01-45:** Amending The FY-02 Budget By Appropriating \$30,000 From The General Fund, Fund Balance To The Legal Services Fund For Litigation Expenses Incurred From Challenging The Redistricting Plan For The State Of Alaska.
8. **MAYOR, CLERK, AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**
9. **ADJOURNMENT**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The special meeting of the Wasilla City Council was held on Monday, July 16, 2001, at the Wasilla City Council Chambers, Wasilla, Alaska. Mayor Sarah Palin called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the state redistricting plan.

2. ROLL CALL

Council Members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mr. Howard O'Neil, Council Seat A
Ms. Dianne Keller, Council Seat B
Mr. Noel Lowe, Council Seat C (Arrived at 7:10 p.m.)
Ms. Judy Patrick, Council Seat D
Ms. Colleen Cottle, Council Seat E
Mr. Don Bennett, Council Seat F

Staff in attendance were:

Ms. Kristie VanGorder, City Clerk
Ms. Jamie Newman, Deputy Clerk
Mr. Tom Klinkner, City Attorney

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Palin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Council Member Patrick moved to approve the agenda as presented.

GENERAL CONSENT: There was no objection.

5. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Mayor Palin gave an overview of the Redistricting Plan submitted to the State of Alaska by the Redistricting Board. The city's principal objection raised to the redistricting plan concerns the inclusion of the outlying Mat-Su area in House District 12-F and that the house districts in the Mat-Su Valley contain near to the maximum population permitted by law. Because the valley is expected to continue to be the most rapidly growing area in the state, it is likely that the area will be underrepresented significantly for the most of the next 10 years.

Dan Kelly, Mat-Su Borough Assembly Member spoke about the borough's decision to refrain from entering into litigation over the redistricting plan. His hesitation was based on advice from several attorneys who discussed the issue with the borough assembly. Mr. Kelly also stated that the borough assembly was extremely concerned about the financial impact of litigation.

Ken Jacobus spoke about present and pending litigation over the redistricting plan by various communities around the state.

Discussion continued.

The following spoke in opposition to the redistricting plan and encouraged the city to take legal action against the plan: June Burkhart of Willow, Charlie Fannon of Wasilla, Bill Moll of Meadow Lakes, Peter Probasco of Palmer, Dave Stancliff (Aide to Representative Ogan) of Eagle River, Eddie Grasser of Palmer, Mary Psenak of Palmer, and Mat-Su Assembly Member Kelly Lankford-Ladere of Trapper Creek.

The following spoke in opposition to the city entering into litigation over the redistricting plan: Steve Stoll of Wasilla.

June Burkhart read a letter from Representative Vic Kohring opposing the redistricting plan.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. **Resolution Serial No. 01-27:** Authorizing The City To File A Challenge To The Redistricting Plan For The State Of Alaska. (IM No. 01-57)

MOTION: Council Member Lowe moved to adopt Resolution Serial No. 01-27.

The city attorney spoke about public interest litigation and answered questions from the council.

MOTION: Council Member Keller moved a primary amendment to include in the resolution the names of citizens who are named in the complaint: Tawnnie Boothby, Dianne Keller, Noel Lowe, Howard O'Neil, and Judy Patrick, and also to insert language that would clarify that the city would cover all legal fees for the individuals named in the complaint. (Mr. Klinkner will work with the clerk to prepare the proper wording.)

Discussion followed.

GENERAL CONSENT: There was no objection to the primary amendment.

VOTE: The main motion as amended passed with Council Member Cottle opposed.

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE

(Public Hearing To Be Scheduled For: August 13, 2001)

- A. **Ordinance Serial No. 01-45:** Amending The FY-02 Budget By Appropriating \$30,000 From The General Fund, Fund Balance To The Legal Services Fund For Litigation Expenses Incurred From Challenging The Redistricting Plan For The State Of Alaska.

MOTION: Council Member Keller moved to introduce Ordinance Serial No. 01-45 and schedule it for public hearing on August 13, 2001.

VOTE: The motion passed with Council Member Cottle opposed.

8. MAYOR, CLERK, AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Palin:

- Reported that the steering committee for the proposed sports complex is continuing to gather information and that a ballot question will not be available for the October 2, 2001 Regular City Election.

Mayor Palin requested to cancel the August 1 and August 6 special meetings, which were scheduled to address the proposed sports complex. No objection was raised.

Council Member Patrick:

- Questioned why the borough assembly entered executive session to discuss the redistricting plan.

Council Member Lowe:

- Spoke about the potential loss of revenue to the valley should the redistricting plan be approved as currently presented.

Council Member Keller:

- Strongly encouraged the borough assembly to consider the wishes of their constituents.

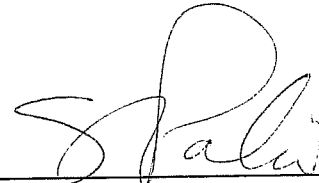
Council Member Cottle:

- Announced that architects for the proposed sports complex will be speaking at the Chamber of Commerce luncheon on July 17, 2001.

No other comments were made.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.



SARAH PALIN, Mayor

ATTEST:



KRISTIE L. VANGORDER, CMC
City Clerk

Adopted this 13th day of August, 2001