

South Knik River Community Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes – Thursday Mar. 19<sup>th</sup> 2026

Location: SKRCC Building  
17958 E Knik River Rd.  
Palmer, AK 99645

1. SKRCC President, Vlastic Marek, called meeting to order at 7:08pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance
2. Quorum was reached with 5 council members and 22 residents.
3. Agenda was approved.
4. Feb. 19th 2025 Meeting Minutes. - November Meeting Minutes were provided in print and were approved
5. Reports:
  - a. President Report –
    - i. Cell tower going up at Mile 9.5 was brought to attention. Can view Permit application to get all info. Public Comment due 3/20 and info is listed on the Borough website. Anyone can submit public comment.
    - ii. Public Information asking for 50’ easement removal was mentioned.
    - iii. Provided Facility Use Agreement for Review
  - b. Legislative Report – Forrest – from DeLena Johnson’s office –
    - i. Advised that it is budget time and the Gov. Supplemental budget passed in the Senate. House did not agree. Its in discussion.
    - ii. Capital Budget Request – about 10 requests regarding Palmer Court House expansion. Operating budget in House and being discussed.
    - iii. Bill of Focus currently:
      1. SB239 – Motor Vehicle registration, essentially to make sure DOT is not requiring what older cars don’t have.
      2. SB249 –
      3. SB243 – decriminalization of certain firearm accessories
    - iv. SB277 was asked about, changes are specific to how correspondent schools receive money. They only get a portion of what public student would. – MATSU School Dist/ IDEA, currently in Senate.
  - c. Treasure Report –
    - i. CAP Grant Funds: \$21,874
    - ii. Savings: \$2,645.41
  - d. Building Progress Report –
    - i. Nothing happening until Summer. Still accepting bids for electrician. Want to get generator transfer switch in first. Then will talk next steps on addition. Possibly get a quote from Sun Stone Electric. Wayne will write up written proposal
  - e. Old Cabin Sale status – No new offers have been received. Will keep it listed on Facebook and add info to listing to market also as a State Fair Booth.

6. Guest Speakers –

a. Assemblyman Michael Bowles – District 1

- i. Working on ordinance to repeal area wide property tax and replace with sales tax, set for May 19<sup>th</sup>. There are 5 different tax statutes, have to do one at a time. Will go to ballot. Advised they have done as much research as possible. They have a report online with further information. In the ordinance, if it passes, sales tax can never be raised without being voted on by the people of the Borough. Is going to propose that Seniors and VA Disabled have card that gives them exemption from sales tax. Proposal is for 6.5% Borough wide.
- ii. Informed on the mil rate and how it works.
- iii. It was asked what the logic is for exemption for overweight trucks on Borough roads – An attempt to capture revenue source. \$100 fee, then if caught without exemption would be a \$1,000 fine. It's to help track routing and maybe redirect. It's for loads that are non-divisible, can't be broken down & emergency.
- iv. Asked - why are we doing an agreement with a private corp. and utilizing Borough employees that has no financial interest = Terra Energy. Mike Spoke on Data Center Resolution and how/why he voted No at first had little info, then did research and had meetings and Voted Yes. The resolution creates public private partnership, doesn't give permission.
- v. Informed that small areas are able to do SPUD

b. Mike Shipman – Fire Department

- i. Have had 12 new hires in last few months. Been extremely busy getting ready for spring. Currently at about 40 employees. Reminder burn permits are still required. They are moving forward with New Station by Maud Road.
- ii. Engine & Brush Unit, average response time in our area is 5-7 min. ISO rating of 5

7. Unfinished Business –

8. New Business –

9. Announcements and Correspondence

- a. Elaine is selling eggs

10. Meeting ended, was approved to be adjourned.

Vlastic Marek  
SKRCC President

Date:

Attest:

Sable Anderson  
Secretary

Date: