

# CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL

## BOROUGH CLERK'S REPORT

June 11, 2024



TO: BOROUGH ASSEMBLY MEMBERS AND MAYOR GILBERT  
 FROM: KIM LANE, BOROUGH CLERK  
 SUBJECT: JUNE 11<sup>TH</sup> CLERK'S REPORT

### Upcoming Meetings & Other Informational dates:

#### Other City Boards/Commissions:

**June 13** - Planning & Zoning Commission mtg at 5:30pm in the Assembly Chambers

**June 18** - Wrangell Convention & Visitors Bureau mtg at 5:30pm in the Assembly Chambers

#### Community Events:



**June - 4<sup>th</sup> of July** Chamber of Commerce Royalty Contest. Visit the downtown pavilion during the designated times to support the candidates!

[Wrangell Chamber of Commerce](#)

**June 12** - Thriving Communities - Deep-Water Port Community Stakeholders Meeting at 5:30pm in the Assembly Chambers

### Upcoming 2024 Work Sessions (scheduled), Public Hearings (scheduled), Regular Assembly Meetings, and Other Meetings (scheduled)

DATE	TIME	PURPOSE
<b>June 11</b> (WS - Thriving Communities – Mill Site)	6pm	<b>Regular Assembly Meeting</b>
<b>June 25</b> (no work session scheduled) - (FY2025 Budget PH & Adoption)	6pm	<b>Regular Assembly Meeting</b>
<b>July 23</b> (no work session scheduled)	6pm	<b>Regular Assembly Meeting</b>
<b>August 27</b> (no work session scheduled)	6pm	<b>Regular Assembly Meeting</b>
<b>September 10</b> (no work session scheduled)	6pm	<b>Regular Assembly Meeting</b>
<b>September 24</b> (no work session scheduled)	6pm	<b>Regular Assembly Meeting</b>
<b>October 3</b> (Thursday)	5:30pm	<b>SPECIAL Assembly Meeting to certify election</b>
<b>October 8</b> (no work session scheduled)	6pm	<b>Regular Assembly Meeting</b>
<b>October 8</b> (no work session scheduled)	6pm	<b>Regular Assembly Meeting</b>
<b>October 22</b> (no work session scheduled)	6pm	<b>Regular Assembly Meeting</b>
<b>November 12</b> (no work session scheduled)	6pm	<b>Regular Assembly Meeting</b>
<b>November 26</b> (will most likely cancel this meeting since it's two days before Thanksgiving (no work session scheduled)	6pm	<b>Regular Assembly Meeting</b>

## How to .....

Find information on our Entitlement Lands.

Visit our website for information: <https://www.wrangell.com/planning/borough-entitlement-lands> Also, contact our Economic Development Director, Kathleen Thomas at 907-874-2381 for specific information or questions.

## Out of the Office

I will be attending the Professional Development (Master Academy) Institute from June 9<sup>th</sup> through June 14<sup>th</sup>. Robbie Marshall will be assisting with the clerk duties for the June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## Dominion Voting Systems visit

On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, Dominion Voting Systems who is the distributor of our election tabulator equipment visited Wrangell to update our equipment. They informed me that coming to the communities to perform the updates to the voting equipment is a necessary function.

## Police Chief Candidate visit

On Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, the selected Police Chief candidate, Gene Meek came down from Anchorage with his spouse, Mechel to visit Wrangell. We hosted a "Meet & Greet" at City Hall at 5:00pm.

## Community Stakeholder meeting

On Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM in the Assembly Chambers, there will be a community stakeholder meeting to discuss the development of the Development of the Deep-Water port (Mill Site) property. The borough received a Thriving Communities grant (<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/thriving-communities>) to support the advancement of transformative infrastructure projects. This stakeholder meeting is part of the process for the grant.

## Upcoming Primary and General Election information

Attached is the Election information for the upcoming Primary and General elections. The information explains that if the voter will be out of town on election day or during absentee voting, they can visit the Division of Elections website (or they can come to City Hall) to complete an absentee by mail application.

The information also speaks to the key dates and resources for both elections. I have posted this information on the City Hall lobby board as well.

### Ordinance update....

I will be bringing an Ordinance to the assembly for the June 25<sup>th</sup> meeting to modify the elections section of the Code, essentially to allow for “Early Voting”. What that means is that for the 15 days prior to the election, voters who choose to vote in person (in my office) will vote their ballot and place it in the tabulator. What does that mean? Well, it means that the Clerk’s office would run the early voting just like election day. Currently, when someone wants to vote early in-person, they will fill out an Absentee Ballot Oath & Affidavit, vote their ballot, insert their ballot into a grey sleeve, place that ballot into the Absentee Ballot Oath & Affidavit, seal it, and then give it to me to keep secure. The new steps for the voter would be to provide identification for me to verify that they are on the official voter register, sign the official voter register, vote their ballot and then insert it into the tabulator (just like election day). I will highlight the early voting voter in a different color that the election day workers will be using so that they will know that the voter voted early. This ensures an additional layer of security so that if a voter “accidentally” comes in and wants to vote on election day and they already voted early, the election worker will see that they already voted!

On the first day of early voting, I will “open the polls”, using the same process as on election day. When someone comes into vote, they will have the security of knowing that their vote has gone through the tabulator and not just into an envelope for Canvass processing. The counter will keep track of how many people have voted and I will be able to verify that number by the number of voters that have signed the official voter register AND by the number of ballots used. On election day, the same tabulator will be used, and the start number will of course be those who voted early.

I will maintain registers for Questioned Ballots (for those who do not appear on the official voter roll), Special Needs (for those who are not able to come in to vote and require a representative to transport their ballot), By-mail, and By-fax. Those ballots will need to be processed by the Canvass Board as normally done.

I have communicated with several other municipalities on this process, and it has been tried and well received. I am very excited to be able to modify this process and offer it to the voters! Some of the communities that are doing this are Fairbanks, Sitka, Kodiak Island Borough, City of Kodiak, and Bethel. Those are just the ones I know about.

Election time is SO exciting. I am so very happy to be able to evolve and change with the times and with voter’s needs.