1. **Call to Order:**
Mayor Cremata called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Cremata formally acknowledged that the Assembly is gathered on the traditional land of the Tlingit people.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

2. **Roll Call:**
Present: Mayor: Andrew Cremata Assembly Members: Sam Bass, Jay Burnham (via telephone), Reba Hylton, Deb Potter, Dustin Stone, Orion Hanson
Absent:

3. **Approval of Minutes:**
   A. February 16, 2022: Special Meeting
   B. February 17, 2022

Main Motion/Second: Potter/Stone
To approve the February 16, 2022 Special Meeting minutes and the February 17, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes.

The main motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

4. **Approval of Agenda:**

Main Motion/Second: Potter/Stone
To approve the March 3, 2022 Regular Assembly meeting agenda.

Secondary Motion/Second: Bass/Hylton
To amend the March 3, 2022 Regular Assembly meeting agenda by removing item 9E: Consideration of Golden Circle Open House Proposal.

The secondary motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.
The main motion passed as amended by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

5. **Reports of Officials and Committees:**

   A. **Mayor’s Report:**
   Mayor Cremata indicated that there is a mayor’s report included in the meeting packet and added that:
   - The Canadian Government is currently going to require 100% vaccination from cruise ships, which means cruise ships will not be visiting Canada as Cruise Lines are not requiring 100% vaccination.
• He will work on a letter to supporting an extension on the moratorium of the Passenger Vessel Services Act, in relation to Alaska cruises.

• If the Municipality is going to remain competitive as an organization, a serious look at wages needs to occur. The lowest starting wage is $10.89 per hour, which is not good considering that a starting wage for retail in the lower-48 is $25. A wage increase is necessary so that the Municipality retains its workforce.

B. Assembly Committee Reports:
1. Assemblymember Jay Burnham:

   Motion/Second: Burnham/Hanson
   To approve the check runoff dated March 2, 2022 totaling: $910,475.49.

   Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Assemblymember Burnham indicated that the Finance Committee met on Wednesday, March 2, 2022.

The Finance committee recommends:
• Approval of the agreement with AP&T for the school remodel project transformer.
• Approval of the Shoreline Park restroom art panel manufacturing cost estimate.

2. Assemblymember Deb Potter indicated that the Parks and Recreation Committee met on Tuesday, March 1, 2022.

   The Parks and Recreation committee recommends approval of the job description for a new public works trail crew laborer; and discussed:
   • An ADA accessible path at seven pastures, which already has $50,000 allocated in the budget.
   • Installing a dog park at seven pastures. Potter indicated that she would bring forward a resolution regarding support for the pursuit of a dog park.

3. Assemblymember Dustin Stone indicated that Civic Affairs has a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

C. Reports from Boards, Commissions, and Solid Waste Advisory Committee:
A. Solid Waste Advisory Committee report dated February 26, 2022
B. Dahl Memorial Clinic Board of Directors reported dated March 2, 2022

Lisa Mandeville spoke as a representative of the Dahl Memorial Clinic Board and indicated that she would be available for tonight’s executive session as well as jeremy simmons by phone.

D. Manager’s Report
Manager Ryan indicated that:
• There is dredging occurring in the ore basin area.
6. **Communications to the Assembly:**

   **A. Correspondence:**
   Correspondence was received from:
   - Cremata to Ruaro re Electric Shuttle Ferry Concept and Ferry Independence
   - City of Fairbanks re Fairbanks’ Resolution No. 5005 Opposing HB 55 Reestablishing a Defined Benefit Program.
   - Rupprect re Supporting Rauscher as Fire Chief
   - Alaska Fjordlines re Garden City RV
   - Taylor re Supporting Rauscher as Fire Chief
   - Lynch re Supporting Rauscher as Fire Chief
   - Overmyer re Supporting Rauscher as Fire Chief
   - Odsather re Supporting Rauscher as Fire Chief

   **B. Hear Citizens Present:**
   - **Shane Rupprect** indicated his presence on behalf of the Skagway School Board and expressed support for the memorandum of understanding with the Municipality in regard to a school nurse position.

   - **Austin Taylor** indicated that:
     - He is the Quartermaster at the Skagway Fire Department.
     - Under Rauscher, the Fire Department has been able to recruit highly qualified, experienced responders from Juneau and Chugiak, and can now maintain 24-hour coverage.
     - Rauscher is the most invested and qualified person to run the Fire Department.

   - **Ryan Odsather** indicated that:
     - He oversees the fireside of operation at the Skagway Fire Department.
     - He supports Emily Rauscher as Fire Chief in Skagway.

   - **Jesse Lynch** indicated that:
     - He has six years in fire service, with three of those being a company-level officer at a high-volume fire department outside of Anchorage.
     - He spent 10 years in the military and can recognize leadership.
     - Emily Rauscher is a phenomenal leader; every thought she has is about making the community better.

   - **Luke Rauscher** indicated that:
     - What Emily Rauscher has accomplished in a short period of time speaks volumes as to what she is capable of.

   - **Wayne Greenstreet** indicated that:
     - Emily Rauscher recruited a great group of fire fighters and he would not have agreed to be Deputy Fire Chief if not for that.

   - **Tyler Rose** indicated that:
• The Municipality is in receipt of a letter from White Pass & Yukon Route Railroad from February 2, 2022 and White Pass looks forward to seeing what comes out of tonight’s executive session regarding port strategy.

**Melinda Munson** indicated:
• That the Skagway News printed the entire letter from the Catholic Diocese regarding the “abusive priests list” in its February 11, 2022 issue.
• That five of the men listed were posted in Skagway.
• Some of the demographic differences between other mission schools and the Pius X mission.
• That a couple of things that are not different is the documented abuse that occurred at the Pius X, and the deemphasizing of the Native Alaskan culture.

7. **Ordinances, Resolutions, & Proclamations:** None.

8. **Unfinished Business:**
   A. **Direction for Committees, Staff, and Assembly Regarding Garden City RV Park**

   B. **New Business:**
      A. Appointment of Boards and Commissions

   **Motion/Second: Hanson/Hylton** To confirm Tim Bourcy as a member of the Ports and Harbors Advisory Board.
   **Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.**

   B. Consideration of Liquor License Renewal Applications
      1. Red Onion Saloon, Inc, DBA Red Onion Saloon, Liquor License #1521 Renewal Application

   **Motion/Second: Hanson/Stone** To protest the Red Onion Saloon, liquor license renewal application #1521.

   **Assemblymember Potter** indicated that she is an employee of the Red Onion Saloon and inquired whether she should recuse herself.

   **Mayor Cremata** indicated that he did not believe that Assemblymember Potter had a conflict of interest.

   **Motion failed by roll call vote, 0 yes, 6 no, 0 absent.**

   2. Burro Creek Holdings, LLC, DBA Burro Creek Lodge, Liquor License #5432 Renewal Application

   **Motion/Second: Hanson/Hylton** To protest the Burro Creek Lodge, liquor license renewal application #5432.
Motion failed by roll call vote, 0 yes, 6 no, 0 absent.

C. Approval of Agreement with AP&T for School Remodel Project Transformer

Motion/Second: Hanson/Stone To approve the agreement between the Municipality of Skagway and Alaska Power & Telephone for the School Remodel Project Transformer for $33,743.52.

Assemblymember Hanson indicated that the school kitchen requires 3-phase power. The Municipality will own the transformer and AP&T will perform all the maintenance.

Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

D. Approval of Shoreline Park Restroom Art Panel Manufacturing Cost Estimate

Motion/Second: Potter/Hanson To approve the manufacturing cost estimate for the Shoreline Park Restroom Art Panel in the amount of $32,223.74

Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

E. Consideration of Golden Circle Open House Proposal Removed from agenda by vote.

F. Confirmation of Fire Chief Appointment

Motion/Second: Hanson/Stone To confirm the hire of Emily Rauscher as Skagway Fire Department Chief, pending the completion of Fire Fighter 1 certification.

Assemblymember Potter indicated that she can only base her vote on what is officially on the record.

Assemblymember Burnham indicated that:

• He has been approached by community members with concerns about the fire chief.
• He reviewed the correspondence that is in the packet.
• He requested the Ketchikan Fire Chief job description be added to the packet.
• The Assembly mistakenly approved the current job description for Fire Chief.
• In comparing other examples of Fire Chief job descriptions, he noticed that they all required 7 to 10 years of experience as a firefighter and 3 years as chief or assistant chief.
• He believes the Fire Chief should be a contract position.

Assemblymember Bass indicated that:

• Emily Rauscher is an outstanding candidate for Skagway Fire Chief.
• The current fire department is different from the historical volunteer department.

Assemblymember Bass reads excerpts from correspondence from citizens supporting Rauscher as a candidate for the Fire Chief position.

Mayor Cremata indicated that:
• He was a member of the hiring committee, along with Manager Ryan, the Chair of the Public Safety Committee, and longtime fire department volunteer, Wayne Greenstreet.

• After reviewing resumes and participating in the hiring process, he found it a bit insulting to have the Ketchikan job description tossed into the packet at the 11th hour.

• In the future, should anyone take issue with the process, they should address the process.

Motion passed by roll call vote, 4 yes, 2 no, 0 absent; with Assemblymembers Burnham and Hylton dissenting.

10. Executive Session:
   A. Pursuant to AS 44.62.310(c)(1), Matters, the Immediate Knowledge of Which Would Clearly Have an Adverse Effect Upon the Finances of the Public Entity: Discussion with the Borough Attorney Regarding Port Development Strategy, Leasing, and Berthing

   Motion/Second: Potter/Hanson In accordance with AS 44.62.310(c)(1), I move to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing port development strategy, leasing, and berthing, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect on the finances of the Borough with regard to our planning and negotiations for port development.

   Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

Executive Session: 7:50 p.m. – 9:34 p.m.

Motion/Second: Potter/Hylton I move to adjourn executive session and reconvene the Assembly meeting.

Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

B. Pursuant to AS 44.62.310(c)(1), Matters, the Immediate Knowledge of Which Would Clearly Have an Adverse Effect Upon the Finances of the Public Entity: Discussion with Borough Attorney Regarding Disposition of the Dahl Memorial Clinic Property and Operations

   Motion/Second: Potter/Stone In accordance with AS 44.62.310(c)(1), I move to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the disposition of the Dahl Memorial Clinic property and operations, the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect on the finances of the Borough.

   Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

Executive Session: 9:45 p.m. – 11:27 p.m.

Motion/Second: Potter/Hylton I move to adjourn executive session and reconvene the Assembly meeting.
Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

**Motion/Second: Potter/Stone** To direct staff to develop an uplands lease RFP process.

Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

**Motion/Second: Potter/Stone** To direct staff to bring back draft berthing agreements to the table.

Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

**Motion/Second: Potter/Stone** To authorize staff to explore the risk at the railroad dock rockslide area.

Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

**Motion/Second: Potter/Stone** To authorize staff to explore the risk at the railroad dock rockslide area.

Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

**Motion/Second: Hanson/Stone** To direct staff to prepare a draft of an ordinance to allow consideration of a public ballot vote for the sale of the clinic, the clinic assets, the clinic building, the clinic land to SEARHC.

Motion passed by roll call vote, 4 yes, 2 no, 0 absent; with Assemblymembers Burnham and Bass dissenting.

**Motion/Second: Hanson/Stone** To recommend the Mayor place two Assemblymembers on the voting nine person clinic board.

Motion passed by roll call vote, 6 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

11. **Mayor and Assembly Discussion Items:**

Assemblymember Hylton indicated that:
- At times, serving on the Assembly can be difficult and she is trying to do the best she can for the people, for the right reasons.

Assemblymember Potter indicated that:
- She agrees with Assemblymember Hylton and indicated that no decision is taken lightly.

Assemblymember Hanson indicated:
- His thanks to Tim Bourcy for volunteering for the Ports and Harbors Advisory Board.
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- That families are leaving town due to economics, pandemic burn-out, isolation, hard winters, inadequate childcare, inadequate healthcare.
- The failings of Skagway’s healthcare system fall on the Assembly.
- Congratulations to Emily Rauscher.

Assemblymember Burnham indicated that:
- The Borough Clerk has completed the probationary period and requires evaluation.
- There was correspondence from the Dyea Community Advisory Board regarding the campground host. He hopes the manager can look into their recommendations to see if they can be incorporated.
- He would like to see that volunteer fire fighters be compensated and indicated that the stipends should be investigated.
- That he added the Ketchikan Fire Chief job description late in the process because that was when he discovered it.
- That all Assemblymembers have the community’s best interest at heart.

Assemblymember Stone indicated that:
- He intends to speak with staff regarding the Dyea Community Advisory Board recommendations.

Mayor Cremata indicated that:
- He is very encouraged tonight, that the Assembly is engaged and is making hard decisions.

12. Adjournment:

With no more business on the agenda, Mayor Cremata adjourned the regular Assembly meeting of March 3, 2022 at 11:41 p.m.

________________________________________
Andrew Cremata, Mayor

ATTEST:

________________________________________
Steve Burnham Jr., Borough Clerk

(SEAL)

Approved: DRAFT