



## SPECIAL ASSEMBLY MEETING 2026-01 MINUTES

January 7, 2026 at 5:15 PM

Assembly Chambers/Zoom Webinar

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### A. CALL TO ORDER

The Special Assembly Meeting of the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly was called to order at 5:17 p.m. by Deputy Mayor Smith. The meeting was conducted as a hybrid format, allowing for both in-person attendance and virtual participation.

### B. ROLL CALL

**Assemblymembers Present:** Deputy Mayor Smith; Mayor Beth Weldon (via Zoom); Assemblymembers Alicia Hughes-Skandijis, Christine Woll, Paul R. Kelly, Neil Steininger, Maureen Hall, and Nathaniel (Nano) Brooks.

**Assemblymembers Absent:** Ella Adkison.

**Staff Present:** Deputy City Manager Robert Barr; City Manager Katie Koester (via Zoom); City Attorney Emily Wright; Finance Director Angie Flick; Municipal Clerk Breckan Hendricks; and Meeting Tech Kevin Allen.

### C. AGENDA TOPICS

- 1. Resolution 4038 A Resolution of the City and Borough of Juneau Declaring a Local Emergency in Response to the December 2025 to January 2026 Winter Storm and a Request for State and Federal Assistance.**

**The City Manager recommends the Assembly adopt this Resolution.**

Deputy City Manager Barr reported that the manager and mayor, in coordination with President Peterson of Tlingit and Haida, issued a local disaster declaration due to severe snow and ice conditions and the exhaustion of public resources. He explained the declaration enables access to additional state resources to address critical public infrastructure needs, including snow load clearing, drainage, fire hydrant access, stormwater systems, and potential avalanche monitoring and mitigation, and recommended adoption of the resolution.

**Public Comment:** None

#### **Assembly Action:**

Mr. Steininger asked whether the declaration would allow direct assistance to homeowners. Mr. Barr responded that state assistance does not extend to private residences or commercial properties, and while an individual assistance program may be requested, it requires significant damage and may be limited by the state's constrained disaster relief funding.

Mayor Weldon asked whether DEC authorization allowing CBJ to dump snow in the channel also applies to individuals. Mr. Barr responded that he believes it does not and will follow up if

that changes.

Ms. Woll asked about formal efforts to assist residents. Mr. Barr stated that informal neighbor-to-neighbor assistance is occurring and that staff have discussed with partner agencies, including the United Way, the possibility of formalizing support, though no formal program is currently in place.

Ms. Hall asked whether a coordinated system could be established for residents to request and receive help. Mr. Barr stated staff would explore the idea but noted such efforts require significant staff and partner capacity and would need to be evaluated for effectiveness.

Mr. Brooks asked whether the National Guard could assist vulnerable residents with access on private property. Mr. Barr responded that the National Guard is generally not available for work on private or commercial property, but that staff would confirm. He added that staff are working through the Emergency Operations Center to identify needed resources and may return with a future appropriation ordinance related to the storm response.

Deputy Mayor Smith asked for clarification on the governor's response. Mr. Barr confirmed that the governor verbally declared a state disaster in response to the local declaration, which carries the force of law, with written confirmation expected later.

**MOTION** by Ms. Hughes-Skandijs to adopt Resolution 4038 A Resolution of the City and Borough of Juneau Declaring a Local Emergency in Response to the December 2025 to January 2026 Winter Storm and a Request for State and Federal Assistance. ***Hearing no objection, the motion was adopted by unanimous consent.***

**D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - None

**E. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS** - None

**F. INSTRUCTION FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

*With no further business to come before the Assembly, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Breckan L. Hendricks,  
Municipal Clerk

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory Smith  
Deputy Mayor