MEETING NO. 2012-28: The Special Meeting of the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly, held in the Assembly Chambers of the Municipal Building, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Bruce Botelho.

I. ROLL CALL

Assembly Present: Mary Becker, Bruce Botelho, Karen Crane, Johan Dybdahl, Jesse Kiehl, Carlton Smith, David Stone, and Randy Wanamaker.

Assembly Absent: Ruth Danner

Staff Present: Kim Kiefer, City Manager; John Hartle, City Attorney; Jane Sebens, Deputy City Attorney; Amy Mead, Asst. City Attorney; Deb Senn, Law Office Manager; Laurie Sica, Municipal Clerk; Bob Bartholomew, Finance Director; Mila Cosgrove, HRRM Director; Greg Browning, Police Chief; Rich Etheridge, Fire Chief; Jeannie Johnson, Airport Manager; Hal Hart, Community Development Director; Greg Chaney, Planning Manager.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. October 3, 2012 – Special Assembly Meeting 12-26

Hearing no objection, the minutes of the October 3, 2012 Special Assembly Meeting 2012-26 were approved.

B. October 8, 2012 – Regular Assembly Meeting 12-27

Hearing no objection, the minutes of the October 8, 2012 Regular Assembly Meeting 2012-27 were approved.

III. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Outgoing Assembly Member Remarks

a. David Stone

Mr. Stone said he did not favor term limits, but in his case, it was a blessing. He recognized those he had served with for a significant time, including Mr. Wanamaker, whose wisdom and institutional knowledge was welcome back on the Assembly, and Mr. Dybdahl, who had been a good friend, and whose wit and looks calmed him down, with a reminder that the glass was half-full, not half empty. Mr. Stone said Mayor Botelho ran the best meeting and thanked him for his compassion and caring for Mr. Stone and his family as a good friend. He was thankful for many, and thanked three staff he worked closely with: Bonnie Chaney, Budget Analyst for her assistance with
the Finance Committee, Laurie Sica, for her work as clerk and a volunteer in the community, and Angela Hull, who provided great assistance and could locate him no matter where he went, from Kotzebue to Hawaii. He thanked his wife, Laurel Stone, calling her his “Assembly Widow,” for her nine years of support during his terms, and said he was looking forward to getting to know her again.

b. Mayor Botelho

Mayor Botelho said he first ran for the Assembly 29 years ago and in the intervening years he had served in elective office for 15 years, serving under two mayors, Fran Ulmer and Ernie Polley, and 37 other Assemblymembers. Without exception, the people with whom he served believed in Juneau and were committed to making Juneau the best place to live that they could. The citizens of Juneau were blessed with a hardworking and dedicated staff; they are truly public servants. They are led by a very talented leadership team.

Mayor Botelho said that over the past year, he had done significant research on the Juneau of 100 years ago. In 1912, Juneau had been a city for 12 years. Looking back, there are a number of issues that are recurring themes, including the shortage of affordable housing, the need for more developable land and street maintenance. Between 1910 and 1920 some of the most prominent buildings today in Juneau were constructed and this showed him that there were many individuals that believed in Juneau’s future in a long-term way. He asked the Assembly to remember that even while it manages the day-to-day affairs of the community, it cannot afford to lose sight of the long view, and consider actions taken today and their effect on generations in the future.

Mayor Botelho thanked his fellow Assemblymembers, past and present, and David Stone for his friendship and their pact to run or not to run for office together. He thanked Kim Kiefer and John Hartle for their leadership, and the team of Clerks Laurie Sica and Beth McEwen for their work. He thanked his family for their support. He welcomed the new Assemblymembers and Mayor Sanford.

B. Swearing-in of Mayor and Assembly Members

Mr. Hartle gave the oath of office to Mayor Merrill Sanford and Assemblymember Loren Jones. The Assembly took a few moments for pictures with family and friends.

Mayor Sanford and City Manager Kiefer presented a crystal “goldpan” to Mr. Stone for his years of teamwork and commitment to the success of the City and Borough of Juneau. Laurel Stone was given an orchid for her support of Mr. Stone through his nine years on the Assembly.

Mayor Sanford and Ms. Kiefer presented a crystal “gavel” to Mayor Botelho for his steady leadership, devotion and tireless efforts to make Juneau a great capital city. Ms. Kiefer gave an orchid to Mayor Botelho’s mother, Harriet Botelho, and thanked her for raising such a great son.
IV. ASSEMBLY COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Mr. Wanamaker thanked all for their service.

Mr. Smith thanked Ruth Danner, David Stone and Mayor Botelho for their efforts, saying a year together was not enough. He saw a new energy on the Assembly for four areas of focus, sustaining and growing employment, new relationships with Southeast, creation of a fresh identity for our capital city and preserving the capital city.

Mr. Kiehl congratulated the new members and thanked the outgoing members. He said he had learned much in the past year, and a year was not enough. He said that for the first time Juneau was home to an Honorary Consul of the Republic of the Philippines, Jenny Strickler, and she would serve from Juneau in this capacity.

Mr. Dybdahl welcomed the new members. He shared Mr. Stone’s thoughts about term limits having only one year to go himself. He thanked Mayor Botelho and Mr. Stone saying they had some good times, some trying times and every once in a while some really fun times.

Ms. Crane thanked Mayor Botelho and Mr. Stone, saying she had learned a lot from both. Upon being seated on the Assembly, she realized quickly how much she had to learn and she looked forward to serving with the new members.

Ms. Becker thanked Mayor Botelho and Mr. Stone and said she was glad to have the new members on board. The Docks and Harbors CIP meeting scheduled for October 10 was cancelled. There would be a Public Forum on October 10 at 5 pm at the Yacht Club to review plans for a rebuild of Aurora Harbor.

Mr. Jones said he appreciated watching David work over the years and thanked him for his support of the Hospital Board. It had been a pleasure to Bruce on other projects and he appreciated the opportunity to serve.

Mayor Sanford thanked Mr. Stone and Mayor Botelho and said the Assembly would count on them in the future to share their wisdom to help the city move forward. He said sitting in the Mayor’s seat was exciting, a little scary, but hopefully we will work together to grow our team and to grow the city. We are not sitting here for ourselves but for our community, and for our brothers and sisters in Southeast Alaska. This is an important connection to keep and we need to get out and join with them in their celebrations and in their sad times, and stop this decline in our region – we need to do this actively.

Mayor Sanford reviewed the information regarding Assembly organization. Without objection he set a date of Saturday, October 27 for an Assembly Retreat. He asked the members to tell him their interest in serving as Deputy Mayor and preferences for committee and liaison assignment. He encouraged members to let the Clerk know about attendance at the Alaska Municipal League meetings in Anchorage in November.

V. ADJOURNMENT – 6:33 p.m.
DRAFT

Signed: __________________________
Laurie Sica, Municipal Clerk

Signed: __________________________
Merrill Sanford, Mayor