



Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, May 21, 2019 – 9:00 A.M.  
Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Nathan Hadley Jr. called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M.

**INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Member Loon provided invocation. President Hadley sends thoughts and prayers to Noorvik for the ongoing search.

**SAFETY MOMENT**

Mrs. Sturm mentioned there is an ongoing search for an individual that recently graduated; hope they are found. Always let the family know where you are going and when you'll be back. Prayers for family.

Member Sampson mentioned decoys have been found behind Noorvik; continue to coordinate with those involved.

Member Westlake stated Noorvik needs all the help they can get with critical information. Also, watch for oil along the river.

Member Oviok sends prayers to Noorvik, yesterday a charter was sent from Selawik and doing fundraising to help-out.

President Hadley is accepting donations; contact Search & Rescue or Borough for search.

**ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL**

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

Elmer Armstrong Jr.	Kirk Oviok Jr.	Dood Carr	Austin Swan Sr.
<i>Miles Cleveland Sr.</i>	Sandy Shroyer Beaver	Hannah Loon	Reggie Joule III
Walter Sampson	Larry Westlake Sr.	Nathan Hadley Jr.	

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Lucy S. Nelson	Nelda Swan	Matt Mead	Laura Orenga de Gaffory
Ariana Nelson	Ingemar Mathiasson	Fred Smith	Clara Jones
Charlie Gregg	Carl Washington	Willie Towksjhea	<i>Wendy Chamberlain</i>
Angie Sturm	<i>Marlene Moto-Karl</i>	Chuck Greene	Helena Hildreth

**A quorum was present to conduct business.**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Agenda presented for May 21, 2019. Mayor Nelson request to add Resolution 19-23 and 19-24 for approval.

**Member Sampson motioned, Member Carr seconded to approve the agenda as amended; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

#### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

April 23, 2019 regular meeting minutes presented for approval.

**Member Armstrong motioned, Member Carr seconded to approve the minutes as presented; motion passed unanimously by roll call.**

#### **COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES**

Mayor Nelson request for Mrs. Sturm to provide a summary of financials ending April 30, 2019. Mrs. Sturm mentioned this have been discussed during the Budget meeting previous day.

#### **BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES**

Member Westlake mentioned the Joint Maintenance Construction meeting to be held afternoon.

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES & EMERGENCY ORDINANCES**

1. **Ordinance 19-03** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly establishing the FY20 Village Improvement Fund Budget.*

Mayor summarized Ordinance 19-03, which is second reading. Vice President Westlake raised concern of meeting fee, is that amount right. He heard the alternate were going to start attending also. Member Sampson asked if the budget reflects the requests made from the villages.

**Member Carr motion to approve Ordinance 19-03, seconded by Member Loon; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

#### **ASSEMBLY REPORTS**

Member Carr provided a summary of the Budget, Audit and Finance meeting held the previous day.

#### **MAYORS REPORT**

Mayor Nelson summarized written report for May.

#### **TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting date scheduled for June 24-25, 2019.

**Member Sampson motion to approve next meeting date, seconded by Member Loon; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

## INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None presented.

### RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 19-20** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a professional services agreement with Wendy Chamberlain dba Legislative Consultants in Alaska for lobbying, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 19-20. *Mrs. Chamberlain expressed her gratitude working with the Assembly and thank you for the resolution.* Member Carr thank Mrs. Chamberlain for her excellent work.

**Member Carr motion to approve Resolution 19-20, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver; motion passed by majority by roll call vote with Member Cleveland stepped away.**

2. **Resolution 19-21** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving and adopting a donation policy for resident and organization requests for Borough donations, and for related purposes.*

Member Sampson thank Mayor Nelson for the donations for the residents; in regards for donations to emergencies like Search & Rescue we may need to consider a ceiling amount. Member Carr thank Member Sampson for his question although no category for Search & Rescue; we may need an emergency section.

Vice President Westlake asked if State out searching in this area. Member Sampson mentioned they have searched approximately four days and pulled out. Vice President mentioned Federal Fish & Game have a plane and willing to search.

Mayor Nelson recommend do pass to set a consistent and fare approach for donations.

**Member Shroyer Beaver motion to approve Resolution 19-21, seconded by Member Carr; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

3. **Resolution 19-22** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly accepting an FY20 Village Public Safety Officer Grant and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarize Resolution 19-22, awaiting amount for grant proposal. Legal Mead stated the amount will be available after State budget is approved.

**Member Sampson motion to approve Resolution 19-22, seconded by Member Carr; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

4. **Resolution 19-23** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to pursue a U.S. Department of Agriculture 2019 High Energy Cost Grant for Solar Power and Batteries for the communities of Shungnak and Kobuk, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 19-23; Borough continues to support energy efficient programs.

**Member Carr motion to approve Resolution 19-23, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

5. **Resolution 19-24** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly authorizing transfer of funds with the Economic Development Department for scholarship awards, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 19-24. Member Loon asked if the items were put in the budget; added to FY20? She verified when residents can request for subsistence nets and what income level? President Hadley asked if Borough residents?

Member Carr stated yesterday the BAF committee have requested reports on scholarships.

**Member Sampson motion to approve Resolution 19-24, seconded by Member Carr; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

Break observed 9:54 A.M.  
Reconvene at 10:01 A.M.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**President Hadley motion to go into executive session at 11:06 to discuss pending legal matters and knowledge of which have adverse effect on the Borough, seconded by Member Carr; motion passed unanimously. Reconvene at 11:30 AM with no decisions made.**

#### **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Resident Willie Towksjhea mentioned we are losing our Elders on front street, used to have communication; nothing but cement on the ground. Sure change, people don't care for each other. Another resident asked him to mentioned alcohol, who got cigarettes and marijuana? Our children/grandchildren don't know God, ten commandments; we need to open our eyes and ears. He expressed the importance of cooking for your children, too much order; kids talking of fridges filled with alcohol instead of food. Pray for each village, pray for us. We need all the help we can get; the treatment center opens again. Houses needs renovations. Residents needs deeds to fix the houses. Would like the leaders to talk to Juneau, we need help. We are Inupiaq people. Thank you.

*Resident Marlene Moto-Karl called regarding a NANA Land meeting there recently; discussed passengers are dropped off in Deering and walking towards Nome. Also concerned about the airplanes beachcombing, are there any open airstrips near Deering. Another concern, for medivacs in regards of alcohol related or dangerous drugs she believes*

*it shall be reported because it's costly. She is concerned about Northwest Inupiaq Housing Authority housing is allowing felony people get housing. Have a safe and healthy summer.*

### **ASSEMBLY COMMENTS**

Member Shroyer Beaver mentioned good meeting; look forward to hearing from the awarded projects. Wish you all a nice summer.

Member Armstrong mentioned good meeting, thank Administration for helping with search in Noorvik. They will need help with food, funds for gas and volunteers to help with search. Thank you to Assembly. He suggests through to Mayor to set aside monies in a fund that will grow to help each community when they need help. Member Armstrong raised concern of VPSO storage building in Noorvik, can it be local hire? Also, when you ship the ipads; can you purchase cases to protect them. Would like Administration to investigate stopping the incoming meth and drugs. During graduation a graduate talked of young people using which is hurting our families.

Member Swan thank Borough staff, Assembly, Maniilaq and NANA for assistance during our time of loss. Hard time to go through, family remembers their brother. Thank you all.

Member Oviok thank President, staff and Assembly. Sending condolences to those that lost loved ones; thank you to Elder Towkjhea for coming. Congratulations to Wendy for another year of lobbying. Also, concerned of the Noorvik Search & Rescue; it's good to have a food drive in the villages. Would like to recognize those that are willing to help all day. Good meeting.

Youth Representative had no comment.

Elder Representative Swan mentioned hard week for the family. Thank you, Borough and other entities, for donation; taikuu for prayers while we lose our son. Be safe, good luck in your harvest.

Member Sampson in Inupiaq. He thanks Towkjhea for his comments, with technology you can talk to anyone all over. Our children learn new technology. He was able to attend the Land Committee to provide a historical perspective. Have been working on Veterans listing; time to talk to the Village Cooperation to relinquish any lands the Veterans select. Have been involved in the Search in Noorvik, thank Aucha for your work; came in while Troopers were here. One of the draw backs we don't know which way the two individuals went. Sunday evening State of Alaska suspended their search although Noorvik is on their own; we need to continue to look for resources. He provided an update of the search. We as an Assembly need to be aware; remember Borough has responsibility to a certain point. As far as Rural Cap is concerned there has been designs selected although back to drawing board. Thank you.

Member Loon sends condolences to Member Swan and Elder Representative; to village Ambler and Selawik, to Noorvik in efforts of the search. Thank Mayor and staff for budgets. Thank you, Assembly good meeting. Have a safe boating season, to the coastal area.

Member Carr thank Mr. Hatch for your hard work for the Region trying to improve the VPSO Program. Welcome Aucha for the big search, thank those that donated for the search. In the meeting in Kotzebue, Loon submitted a letter regarding a concern of what Borough have done with suicide. If there is important meeting, she is willing to attend. With the scholarships that have been granted she would like to see a list along with donations, would like monthly reports to ensure fare and equal. Thank you for those that comment. As stated, there is meth in the villages, if you see it you can report it. Condolences to those that lost loved ones; remember to pay respects. Thank you for good meeting, President and Mayor.

*Member Cleveland thank President Hadley. Thank you, NANA and Borough, for contributions. Soon will be outpatient. He is walking with assistance. Taikuu for your prayers, thank you Ambler and Principal. Thank you all, have a good evening.*

Vice President Westlake mentioned good meeting, be safe out there. Still ice running; Kobuk is flooded. Guide your children and be safe out there. Thank you.

Member Carr added regulation and taxation of marijuana; she recommends meeting since there is the business in the Region. Also, thank Teck and Laura for the plaque in appreciation.

President Hadley would like to continue working with the villages; Noorvik needs all the help they can get. Condolences to those that lost loved ones; we do feel your pain. Thank Mayor and staff for work. Congratulations to Wendy Chamberlain for another year with Borough.

Member Armstrong thank Teck for contributing while searching, also to Noorvik Native Store.

#### **MAYORS COMMENTS**

Mayor Nelson thank Wendy Chamberlain, congratulations to the resolution. Thank you for passing the donation request and grant resolution for the VPSO Program. We continue to work on the Cape Blossom issue. Thank you for your support and condolences to those that lost loved ones. If anyone would like to donate, then Borough can funnel to Noorvik. Mrs. Sturm mentioned one of the people search, his Aana will greatly miss him; please contribute.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Member Shroyer motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice President Westlake to adjourn at 12:37 P.M.

