Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 10, 2022 – 9:00 A.M.

Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Hadley called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M.

**INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Member Swan provided the invocation.

**SAFETY MOMENT**

Member Sampson encouraged the hunters and fisherman to be careful around the thinning ice this time of the year and to be sure and advise the children about ice safety measures. Member Armstrong encouraged hunters to practice firearm safety and to always carry a PFD and be careful around sloughs and lakes during this time of the year. Member Loon to be sure and advise the little children not to play on the ice during this time of the year, especially around boats and docks.

**ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL**

Assembly Members pre*sent* at the time of roll call:

Elmer Armstrong Jr.  *Tanya Ballot* Delores Barr *Miles Cleveland*

Sandy Shroyer Beaver Hannah Loon Walter Sampson *Dood Lincoln Carr*

Nathan Hadley Jr. *Austin Swan Sr.* Reid Magdanz

**A quorum was present.**

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Dickie Moto Sr. *Matt Mead Angie Sturm* Clay Nordlum

Helena Hildreth *Ingemar Mathiasson* *Fritz Westlake* Megan Williams

Terri Walker Carl Weisner Saima Chase *Erin Stephens*

*Hans Nelson* Hiram Walker

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Fritz Westlake, CED Director, recommended to add VIF Report - Ms. Eva Harvey, Consultant to Item G(3).

**Member Sampson motioned to approve the agenda as amended; Member Armstrong *se*conded. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

1. Regular meeting minutes of March 22, 2022
2. Special meeting minutes of March 16, 2022
3. Special meeting minutes of October 16, 2021

Member Loon commented that two months of no meetings in January and February was too lengthy and to be sure the mayor Moto and administration follow the borough code and to meet as required.

**Member Shroyer Beaver motioned to approve the March 22, 2022, Regular minutes, March 16, 2022, Special minutes and October 16, 2021 Special Minutes as presented*,* Member Loonseconded. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES**

1. Tanya Ballot – Native Village of Selawik Tribal Administrator

Ms. Tanya Ballot gave a brief review of the Community Centered Infrastructure Planning Project (CCIP).

1. Eva Harvey, Consultant – VIF Report

Ms. Eva Harvey gave a brief update on the Village Improvement Fund (VIF) Annual Report.

**BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES**

1. Budget, Audit and Finance Committee

Madam BAF Chair Shroyer Beaver reported the committee met and reviewed the resolutions, ordinances and recommended for approval by the full assembly.

1. Financial Report, Angie Sturm, Borough Treasurer

Ms. Angie Sturm, Borough Treasurer, provided a summary of Expenditure and Revenue Financials for the month ending March 31, 2022.

Member Armstrong requested an update on the Red Dog Mine at our next Regular meeting. President Hadley thanked Ms. Angie Sturm for a good job she is doing with the administration and their departmental budgets.

**A Ten-minute break was taken at 10:06 am.**

**The meeting reconvened from break at 10:18 am.**

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

1. ***Ordinance 21-04am01*** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly*

*providing for establishing and adoption of the line-item budget amendment for FY22 Village Improvement Fund.*

Mayor Moto summarized Ordinance 21-04am01 and recommended approval. Ms. Angie Sturm, Borough Treasurer, highlighted the changes ending June 30, 2022.

**Member Armstrong motioned to approve Ordinance 21-04am01 for enactment, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver. A call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

1. ***Ordinance 21-05m01*** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly*

*providing for establishing and adoption of the line-item budget amendment for FY22.*

Mayor Moto and Ms. Angie Sturm summarized Ordinance 21-05am01 and recommended approval. Ms. Angie Sturm, Borough Treasurer, highlighted the changes ending June 30, 2022.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve Ordinance 21-05am01 for enactment. Member Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**

1. ***Ordinance 22-02*** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly*

*Approving and adopting an amended Line-Item Budget for Sulianich Association for Fiscal Year 2022.*

Mayor Moto summarized Ordinance 22-02 and recommended approval. Ms. Angie Sturm, Borough Treasurer, highlighted the changes ending June 30, 2022.

**Member Armstrong motioned to approve Ordinance 22-02 for enactment. Member Magdanz seconded the motion. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**

**ASSEMBLY REPORTS**

Member Shroyer Beaver commented that the Assembly met in the BAF Worksession on May 9, 2022 and considered all the resolutions and ordinances. President Hadley reported that he attended the recent Arctic Encounter Meeting that was held in Anchorage, Ak and he thought it was very informational. He also attended a meeting with the Mayor’s department regarding budget preparation.

Member Magdanz commented that he attended the Shungnak Traditional Council’s meeting and he was able to share a borough update.

Member Barr reported that she attended the Arctic Encounter Symposium also and it was a great opportunity to bring all stakeholders together from the Arctic and how we can address issues such as climate change.

Member Sampson also attended the Arctic Encounter Symposium and he noted that during the breakout sessions such as partnerships, he noticed a lack of participation from the Arctic organizations.

Member Carr commented that she also attended the Arctic Encounter Symposium and she gave a brief description of the type of conference it was for the listening audience. She added a lot of issues were discussed and she thanked the Assembly for giving her the opportunity to attend.

Member Shroyer Beaver commented that she also attended and as part of the panel for the Arctic Encounter Symposium. She also reported that they heard issues as COVID cases update from other countries. She thanked the Cities, IRA’s and Bering Air for their input and participation in dealing with the pandemic.

**MAYORS REPORT**

Mayor Dickie Moto Sr. allowed each Department Director to provide updates from their respective departments. Mr. Clay Nordlum, Planning Department Director, Mr. Carl Weisner, Public Services Director, Mr. Fritz Westlake, Community and Economic Development Director, and Ms. Saima Chase, Public Safety Administrator briefly highlighted their reports as presented in the meeting packet.

Member Magdanz welcomed Mr. Rick Warner as the new VPSO Coordinator and he commended the Public Safety Department as it is nice to see people with VPSO badges on. He also commented and requested to hear about fire investment equipment for our villages after the recent tragic fire that occurred.

**A fifteen minute break was taken.**

**The meeting reconvened from break at 12:21 PM.**

**TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

Mayor Moto recommended a Regular meeting on May 23-24, 2022, with the BAF Work session Meeting on Monday, May 23, 2022, at 1:00 pm and the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 24, 2022, at 9:00 am.

**By unanimous consent of the Assembly the next meeting dates of May 23-24, 2022, were recommended, as set in code.**

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

* + - 1. ***Ordinance 22-03*** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly*

*Amending the Borough Code to increase the compensation rate for Assembly Members attending meetings, conventions, conferences, or similar gatherings.*

Borough Treasurer Ms. Angie Sturm highlighted the major changes in Ordinance 22-03 and Mayor Moto recommended approval.

**Member Armstrong motioned to approve Ordinance 22-03 for first reading, seconded by Member Swan. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed by a majority 6-5.**

* + - 1. ***Ordinance 22-04*** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly*

*providing for the establishment and adoption of the Line-item Budget for Fiscal Year 2023.*

Mayor Moto summarized Ordinance 22-04 and recommended approval.

**Member Armstrong motioned to approve Ordinance 22-04 for first reading, seconded by Member Sampson. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

* + - 1. ***Ordinance 22-05*** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly*

*providing for the establishing and adoption of the Line-item Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 Village Improvement Fund.*

Mayor Moto summarized Ordinance 22-05 and recommended approval.

**Member Shroyer Beaver motioned to approve Ordinance 22-05 for first reading, seconded by Member Sampson. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

**RESOLUTIONS**

1. ***Resolution 22-12*** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly ratifying the*

*Mayor’s appointment of Members to the Village Improvement Commission.*

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-12 and recommended approval.

**Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 22-12, seconded by Member Armstrong. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

1. ***Resolution 22-13*** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly

confirming appointments to the Northwest Arctic Borough Public Safety Commission.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-13 and recommended approval.

**Member Shroyer Beaver motioned to approve Resolution 22-13, seconded by Member Loon. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

1. ***Resolution 22-14*** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly

honoring and celebrating the life and legacy of Representative Don Young.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-14 and recommended approval.

**Member Armstrong motioned to approve Resolution 22-14, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

1. ***Resolution 22-15***a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly ratifying

Rebecca Norton’s appointment as the Tribal Nominee to the Community and Economic Development Commission.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-15 and recommended approval.

**Member Loon motioned to approve Resolution 22-15, seconded by Member Armstrong. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**

1. ***Resolution 22-16***a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly

approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from Noorvik Native Community to fund the additional shipping charges for purchase of a Volvo A25G-Articulating Hauler, and for related purposes.

Mayor Moto summarized Resolution 22-16 and recommended approval.

**Member Shroyer Beaver motioned to approve Resolution 22-16, seconded by Member Sampson. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**

1. ***Resolution 22-17***a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly

contingent approval of a contract for construction of a Solar Array and Battery in Noatak.

Mr. Carl Weisner summarized Resolution 22-17 and recommended approval.

**Member Armstrong motioned to approve Resolution 22-17, seconded by Member Cleveland. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**

1. ***Resolution 22-18***  resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving

the Expenditure Plan for the State of Alaska’s American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Covid State And Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

Mr. Carl Weisner summarized Resolution 22-18 and recommended approval.

**Member Armstrong motioned to approve Resolution 22-18, seconded by Member Carr. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**President Hadley motioned to enter into Executive Session to discuss a matter that may have an adverse effect upon the finances of the Borough. Member Armstrong seconded the motion. A roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.**

The Assembly entered into Executive Session at 12:51 PM.

The meeting reconvened from Executive Session at 2:23 PM.

No decision was made by the Assembly.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Ms. Marlene Moto Karl, Deering resident, expressed her concern regarding climate change and the erosion that is happening in their area. She commented about her concern about the caribou in memory of a former elder.

**ASSEMBLY COMMENTS**

Member Swan thanked everyone for the good discussions and mentioned that the meeting was quite lengthy.

Member Ballot sent her condolences to President Hadley’s family and others who have recently lost their loved ones. She thanked the assembly for allowing her to speak regarding her work and she is excited for the upcoming wellness event in Selawik, Ak.

Member Armstrong thanked everyone for a good meeting and moving forward. He gave his condolences to those who has had recent loss.

Member Sampson also thanked everyone for a good informational meeting. He commented regarding a request from someone who has volunteered in Search and Rescue and his name is Warren Thompson. He requested that the borough prepare a jade plaque in appreciation for recognizing Mr. Thompson’s work.

Member Magdanz thanked everyone for accomplishing a lot of work at this meeting. He congratulated the high school graduates and that it was good to attend one after a few years not attending any due to COVID. He thanked the borough for the energy presentation that was given at the BAF Work Session meeting and is happy when we are involved when home utility system’s work well. He requested ANTHC provide a presentation in the future meeting possibly this summer. Lastly, he commented about the correspondence regarding the Selawik water and sewer issue and that if these requests can be forwarded to the assembly members, it can be included in the meeting packet also.

Member Barr commented that we’ve had good discussions and she appreciates that we provide good public service for the region and going forward. She sends her condolences to those who have lost loved ones. Lastly, she encouraged the high school graduates to continue their education whether it be through college or vocational training as we have a lot of opportunities.

Member Loon gave her condolences to President Hadley for the loss of his father as he was a knowledgeable reindeer herder and to those in Selawik and in Kotzebue she gave her condolences also. She thanked Mayor and his administration for their good reports and to the presenters also for the information given. She gave a friendly reminder that we work on starting the BAF Work Session earlier like at 10:00 am as we didn’t finish till late into the early evening.

Member Shroyer Beaver commented that she agrees with Member Loon about the start up time for the BAF Work Session meeting should be earlier but she would recommend to start at 9:00 am. She sends her condolences to families who lost their loved ones and also commented that she enjoyed attending the Kindergarten graduation ceremony. She was happy to see that the borough lobbied for public safety and to also focus on the lobbying committee to update our priorities. She requested that we add the Cape Blossom Port to the priority list. She thanked the Mayor for the toyostove servicing and assisting with heating issues for our elders and that we begin preventative maintenance during the warmer summer months. She thanked Ms. Tanya Ballot for her presentation and she looks forward to attending the Wellness Gathering in Selawik, Ak.

President Hadley thanked the assembly for attending the meetings and he agrees that we can start meeting earlier at the BAF Work Session. He congratulated all the graduates this year as we’ve had a tough couple of years due to the pandemic and he thanked the principals and teachers for their efforts in assisting our children at school. He thanked Mayor Moto and his staff for their reports and if its possible to have them shorter when presented although they are informational.

Member Carr thanked the assembly for their participation in this meeting. She recommends that all the vehicles and equipment be labeled with the NAB logo so that we can see who is driving, in terms of liability purposes. She also thanked former SAR volunteer Warren Thompson for this years of services. She also agrees with preventative maintenance during the summer months for our furnaces and heating equipment for all residents. She sends her condolences to everyone who lost their loved ones and to President Hadley for the loss of his father and she appreciates his leadership with the Assembly. Lastly, she requests that accountability and liability be put in place wherever we are involved.

Member Cleveland commented about chiming into the meeting via Zoom which was challenging at times. He mentioned Congressman Young and the last time he saw him when he attended the lobbying efforts in D.C. He wished everyone a good and safe spring.

**MAYORS COMMENTS**

Mayor Moto thanked everyone for a good meeting and he sends his condolences to those who have recently lost their loved ones. He thanked the Assembly for a strong meeting as we are moving forward and providing services and he thanked the staff for working hard.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Member Shroyer Beaver motioned; Member Magdanz secondedto adjourn. With no other business to discuss the meeting adjourned *a*t 2:52 PM.