



Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly
Regular Telephonic Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 28, 2020 – 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 Sampson provided invocation.

SAFETY MOMENT

Member Loon mentioned she seen a flyer regarding Covid19; translated to Inupiaq for listening audience on how to self-monitor.

ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

Elmer Armstrong Jr.	Kirk Oviok Jr.	Delores Barr	Austin Swan Sr.
Miles Cleveland Sr.	Sandy Shroyer Beaver	Hannah Loon	Walter Sampson
Reggie Joule III	Dood Lincoln Carr	Nathan Hadley Jr.	

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Lucy S. Nelson	<i>Matt Mead</i>	Hans Nelson	<i>Hiram Walker</i>
<i>Angie Sturm</i>	<i>Siikauraq Whiting</i>	<i>Tony Giardini</i>	<i>Elaine Sanders</i>
Helena Hildreth	Fritz Westlake	<i>Carl Weisner</i>	Nate Kotch
<i>Morgan Johnson</i>	<i>Terri Walker</i>	<i>Kristy Walton</i>	<i>Tanya Ballot</i>
<i>Marie Greene</i>	Stella Atoruk		

A quorum was present to conduct business.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda presented for July 28, 2020. Mayor Nelson mentioned the changes to two resolutions, #20-43 title of dump truck and #20-53 will state funding of \$100K. Member Joule requested to add Subsistence Fall Hunting under communication.

Member Sampson motioned to approve as revised; *Member Armstrong* seconded; passed unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Regular meeting minutes of June 23, 2020 and Special meeting minutes of July 10, 2020 presented for approval.

Member Sampson motion to approve minutes as a block, *Member Cleveland* seconded; passed unanimously by roll call.

COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES

1. Trilogy, Tony Giardini, CEO and Elaine Sanders, CFO

Mr. Giardini and Ms. Sanders gave a presentation of activities; acknowledge support of NANA and other aboriginal communities. Record of decision announced last week that authorized a right of way across federally managed land to construct unlimited access for the Ambler Mining District.

Ambler Metals had been created, now had the Ambler Mining District assets in that company. With Covid19 awareness, Ambler Metals have decided not to have a session this year. Member Cleveland thank Mr. Giardini for presentation; he believes South 32 will run project in future although with the three communities will be affected. Is there discussion of providing funding? Can they request help for projects like build tank farms which is costly?

Member Sampson thanked Mr. Giardini and Mrs. Sanders for their presentation. He raised concern of working relationship between the company and residents. Also, requested clarification of two management team concept. Member Sampson asked what is the timeframe of the Arctic Mine? Lastly, he suggests having a Northwest Arctic Borough governance sitting in on a committee structure to ensure open communication between entities. Also, reminded him that permitting process goes through this governance. Mr. Giardini gave a brief review of plans and process for the mine.

Member Cleveland suggests the three villages be represented from their tribes and when Trilogy meet they need to be present; they need to be informed daily. If can get help with fuel to begin with would be the start. Vice President Lincoln Carr echo Member Cleveland's comment; suggests the company advertise ahead of time so residents can get training.

Member Loon raised concern of trust fund of repatriate plans in place to remove bridges and structure to be put back to original state before mining. Ms. Sikauraq Whiting, Planning Director, commented about rezoning efforts within the Northwest Arctic Borough boundaries.

Morgan Johnson, VIC Commissioner, called for the City of Ambler regarding Ambler within the project name; have you considered what it is worth? Possibly brainstorm and communicate to the village, how can this village seek funds to connect to the road to get supplies and fuel delivered to Ambler. Mr. Giardini commented that Mr. Johnson's concerns will be addressed.

Mayor Nelson thanked Mr. Giardini and Ms. Sanders for their presentation and she will continue to keep in contact with them for future meetings.

2. Hans Nelson, Rural Housing Coordinator AAHA

Mr. Hans Nelson, Association of Alaska Housing Authority (AAHA) Rural Housing Coordinator, gave a brief background and provided a presentation about the Rural Housing Coordinator program to address homelessness.

Member Shroyer Beaver commented about seeking funds for this program from the CARES Act. Member Loon thanked Mr. Nelson for his presentation and commented about a coffee house next to the Cudd Hall. President Hadley thanked Mr. Nelson for his presentation on

food security especially this time of the year. He also commented on the need for housing development for young adults with families. Member Carr thanked Mr. Nelson for his presentation and it's time for the leadership to focus on housing needs and is grateful that this coalition has been developed.

3. Ms. Terri Walker, NWABSD Superintendent

Ms. Walker provided an update on the draft Northwest Arctic Borough School District Smart Start 2020 Plan, that is in progress.

A ten minute break was taken at 11:55 AM.

The meeting reconvened from break at 12:11 PM.

4. Subsistence protection

Member Joule requested about what we can do as a governing body to support the Kotzebue local federal subsistence Board for this fall's hunting regarding the Unit 23 Big Game hunters. Mr. Matt Mead, Legal Counsel, reported that in the past the Borough has supported an issue such as this through a resolution. Member Sampson alluded to an access issue that can be pointed out at this time and during this time of our pandemic crisis. Member Carr commented that we should do our best to support this from our region and the tribes. Ms. Tanya Ballot, Native Village of Selawik, commented that she is in support of protecting subsistence for our people.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Budget, Audit and Finance Member Shroyer Beaver summarized the resolutions that were discussed and recommended for approval by the full assembly.

Financial Report Mrs. Sturm, Borough Treasurer, provided a summary of financials ending June 30, 2020 although since year end. Mayor Nelson briefly reviewed the COVID Cares Act funding the borough received.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES & EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

None presented.

ASSEMBLY REPORTS

Member Carr gave a brief update on the weekly taskforce she and President Hadley attended and she thanked Mayor Nelson's staff for their involvement in the taskforce also. Member Loon commented about the Community and Economic Development Program Commercial and Subsistence fishing funds and what are the plans if these funds are exhausted. Mayor Nelson reported that she is in the process of conducting a budget transfer to accommodate additional grant applications that were not approved. She added they are looking into the COVID 19 CARES Act funds also to make sure that appropriation is covered under it. Member Sampson provided a brief report on the RuralCap Weatherization program.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Nelson summarized her written report for July 2020. Mr. Nate Kotch, Public Services Director, gave a brief review on the Village Improvement Fund project expenditures and appropriations through June 3, 2020.

TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Mayor Nelson recommended August 24-25, 2020 as the 4th Tuesday of the month for the next meeting dates of the Assembly.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None presented.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 20-40** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Professional Services Agreement with Agnew Beck Consulting, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 20-40, recommending approval.

Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 20-40, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

2. **Resolution 20-41** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund application from the Native Village of Selawik to fund Phase 2 of a community multipurpose building renovation project, and for related purposes.*
3. **Resolution 20-42** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund application from the City of Ambler for gravel extraction and stockpiling to facilitate community projects, and for related purposes.*
4. **Resolution 20-43** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund application from the City of Kiana to purchase Heavy Equipment, and for related purposes.*
5. **Resolution 20-44** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund application from the Native Village of Selawik for a Community Cleanup project, and for related purposes.*
6. **Resolution 20-45** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund application from the City of Ambler to purchase Heavy Equipment, and for related purposes.*
7. **Resolution 20-46** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund application from the City of Deering to purchase Heavy Equipment, and for related purposes.*

8. **Resolution 20-47** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund application from the City of Ambler for 95% design for a new City Tank Farm and Fuel Depot, and for related purposes.*

Member Shroyer Beaver motioned to approve Resolution 20-41 through Resolution 20-47 as a block, seconded by Member Sampson; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

9. **Resolution 20-48** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly establishing the FY21 Borough Investment allocation, setting appropriate performance benchmarks, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 20-48, recommending approval.

Member Shroyer Beaver motioned to approve Resolution 20-48, seconded by Member Sampson; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

10. **Resolution 20-49** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving an FY Ground Lease for storage of equipment and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 20-49, recommend do pass.

Member Shroyer motioned to approve Resolution 20-49, seconded by Member Sampson; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

11. **Resolution 20-50** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly in support of the Northwest Alaska Homeless Coalition.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 20-50, recommend do pass.

Member Loon motioned to approve Resolution 20-50, seconded by Member Carr; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

12. **Resolution 20-51** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve a Memorandum of Agreement with NANA Regional Corporation to address regional energy issues, and for related purposes.*

Mayor Nelson summarized Resolution 20-51, recommend do pass.

Member Loon motioned to approve Resolution 20-51, seconded by Member Cleveland; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

13. **Resolution 20-52** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly confirming authorized signatories for Borough Checks.*

Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 20-52, seconded by Member

Carr; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

14. **Resolution 20-53** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly ratifying the Mayor's Emergency donation to Maniilaq Association to mobilize an environmental clean-up and response professional for the Shungnak spill.*

Member Shroyer Beaver motioned to approve Resolution 20-53, seconded by Member Sampson; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

15. **Resolution 20-54** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly ratifying the Mayor's emergency equipment and personnel to conduct COVID-19 testing and implement quarantine measures, and for related purposes.*

Member Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 20-54, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

16. **Resolution 20-55** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly accepting an FY21 Village Public Safety Officer Grant and for related purposes.*

Member Loon motioned to approve Resolution 20-55, seconded by Member Sampson; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None held.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Ms. Marie Greene, VIC Madam Chair, expressed her appreciation on behalf of VIC for the continuous support they have received from the Assembly, Mayor Nelson and the Borough staff. She also thanked the Borough for addressing the homelessness needs by the presentation that was given and the regional energy issues.

Ms. Whiting, Planning Director, thanked Mr. Charlie Gregg, Lands Specialist who has recently retired from the Northwest Arctic Borough. We will miss his valuable experience and his positive force. She also thanked Ms. Kyleigha Wilson Nay and Mr. Coaltrain Chase for their one year service as Youth Assembly Representatives for the Assembly.

Member Shroyer Beaver for his many years of service for the Borough and all the work he has done.

Member Carr thanked Mr. Charlie Gregg for his service to the Planning Department and wished him a happy retirement.

Member Sampson congratulated Inuuraaq Charlie Gregg on his retirement.

Member Loon thanked Mr. Charlie Gregg for his commitment to the Northwest Arctic Borough.

Member Swan commented that he appreciated all his work Mr. Gregg has done for the Northwest Arctic Borough.

VIC Commissioner Morgan Johnson, Ambler, thanked the Assembly members for their continuous support for all the communities in the Borough.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Member Cleveland thanked everyone for a good meeting and we still have a lot of work ahead of us.

Member Barr appreciated all the presentations and commended the staff for pushing all the VIC resolutions forward.

Member Oviok expressed his condolences for those that have lost their loved ones and thanked the staff for the preparation for this meeting.

Member Armstrong gave his condolences to familys' who have lost loved ones during the COVID crisis. It's good to have improvements for all the villages and appreciates all the resolutions that were approved.

Member Swan thanked the staff for their good work and is thankful for the good work everyone does for the borough.

Member Loon gave her condolences to familys' who have lost loved ones. She encouraged safety during this pandemic crisis. She also thanked Mr. Dempsey Woods for inviting residents to assist in checking his net so they can also put away salmon for the winter. She thanked Ms. Walker for her good work in preparation and plans for school during this pandemic crisis. Lastly, she thanked Ms. Kameroff for her good work in assisting with the VPSO Program.

Member Sampson commented about the Ambler Mining District, Trilogy, and future meetings that still needs to occur. He encouraged residents to get involved with the plan as it is in our backyard. He thanked Ms. Walker, NWABSD, for addressing their plan for our educational needs.

Member Carr thanked the COVID 19 taskforce in every village for their support during this time. She thanked Mayor Nelson and Ms. Kameroff for their work in acquiring funds for the VPSO Program. She thanked the Youth Representatives for their time serving with the Assembly and hopefully they have learned a lot. She commented about the media and technology enabling us to meet via audioconference and that there is room for improvement for the online borough meeting packets. Lastly, she thanked Mayor Nelson for working in the COVID 19 taskforce and the good work she is doing. She addressed the homelessness and

the way we can assist with some of the priorities in our region.

Member Joule thanked the Assembly members and staff for their input. He expressed his condolences to those who have lost their loved ones. He congratulated Mr. Gregg on his retirement and good luck.

Member Shroyer Beaver encouraged everyone to keep supporting each other during this pandemic. She enjoyed the Homeless coalition presentation by Mr. Hans Nelson as it is an issue that needs to be addressed. She congratulated Mr. Gregg on his retirement and it is good to hear the members on the phone.

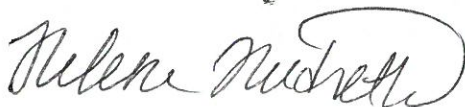
President Hadley thanked Mayor Nelson and her staff for their good work. He thanked Mr. Gregg for his retirement and also thanked Ms. Sturm, Borough Treasurer, for her good work also for the Borough.

MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Nelson thanked the Youth Representatives Ms. Kyleigha Wilson Nay and Mr. Coltrane Chase for representing the youth in our region serving on the Assembly. The Mayor's office is seeking two new Youth representatives to serve on the Assembly for one year. She thanked Mr. Gregg for his 17 years of service with the Borough and enjoy it. She gave a brief update on the COVID19 taskforce on publications sent, mandates and it is a huge task to oversee. She encouraged residents to protect themselves during this crisis by wearing masks, keeping social distance and utilize sanitation measures. Mayor Nelson briefly reviewed the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly and School Board member seats that will be up for the municipal election in October. Lastly, she thanked Ms. Aucha Kameroff, Public Safety Director, for her diligent work on rebuilding the VPSO program and acquiring funds for the VPSO positions.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Carr motioned to adjourn, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver at 2:39 P.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Helen M. Hadley", with a large, stylized loop at the end.