



Northwest Arctic Borough

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Budget, Audit & Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 23, 2017 – 1:30 P.M.
Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

CALL TO ORDER

Madam Chair Nelson called the meeting to order at 1:31 P.M

INVOCATION

Elder Representative Ms. Winona Hawley provided the invocation.

SAFETY MOMENT

Mayor Richards encouraged residents to warm up vehicles before driving during this foggy weather.

ROLL CALL

Budget, Audit and Finance Committee Members Present:

Lucy Nelson Carl Weisner Tanya Ballot Dood Carr
Elmer Armstrong Jr. (telephonic)

Other Members Present

Hannah Loon Larry Westlake Sr. Miles Cleveland Sr.
Nathan Hadley Jr. Austin Swan Sr.

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Clement Richards Matt Mead Winona Hawley Helena Hildreth
Brad Reich (telephonic) Patrick Savok Noah Naylor Angie Sturm
Stella Atoruk Millie Stalker Susan Drake Wayne Hall
Janine Bedford Casen Weisner Dicki Moto

A quorum was present to conduct business.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Armstrong requested to add a budget amendment recommendation. Madam Chair Nelson asked if there was any material and Member Armstrong requested to discuss committee and assembly travel for Sundays'. Mayor Richards replied that it can be discussed in the Work Session meeting and Madam Chair Nelson recommended that it can be discussed under Item K. Other Business in the BAF meeting as it mentions budgetary

Ambler Ivisaappaat, Buckland Nunatchiaq, Deering Ipnatchiaq, Kiana Katyaak, Kivalina Kivalieiq, Kobuk Laugviik, Kotzebue Qikiqtabruk, Noatak Nautaaq, Noorvik Nuurvik, Selawik Akulibaq, Shungnak Isifnaq

concerns. Member Loon raised the concern of contracts and that they should be reviewed carefully by the members so as to avoid conflicts of interest.

Member Loon commented about the ice road contract and that other residents in the region should have the opportunity to be employed also. Madam Chair Nelson suggested that Member Loon bring this concern up when the resolution is addressed.

Member Carr motioned, Member Ballot seconded to approve agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Budget, Audit and Finance Minutes of October 24, 2016 presented for approval.

Member Carr motioned, Member Armstrong seconded to approve the October 24, 2016 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 17-01** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly accepting State operating funds to construct Ice Roads and for related purposes.*

Member Carr commented that if members of the assembly or administration that may lease equipment that it should be declared for any possible conflicts of interests.

Member Loon directed our Mayor to have their plan of action when employing those that are leasing equipment and conflicts of interest.

Mayor Richards reported that he is aware of it and that any assembly members need to declare it when they are involved in any contracts and inform the administration.

Mr. Brad Reich, Public Services Director, reported that they give the Memorandum Of Agreement's to every village and Kotzebue and it's up to whoever obtains the contract and who they choose to work on the ice road. Mr. Reich added sometimes it's very difficult to find qualified people to run the equipment. He thanked Mr. Larry Westlake and Mr. Elmer Armstrong for their involvement and hard work in supporting this ice road.

Member Ballot motioned, Member Carr seconded recommended to approve Resolution 17-01 by the full assembly. Mayor Richards recommended due pass.

2. **Resolution 17-02** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly accepting a \$286,896 Department of Justice COPS Grant and for related purposes.*

Mayor Richards recommended due pass.

By unanimous consent of the committee, Resolution 17-02 for recommended due for passage by the full assembly.

3. **Resolution 17-03** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a professional services agreement with Andy Baker DBA Baker Professional Services for lobbying services and for related purposes.*

Mayor Richards reported this is a continuing contract with Mr. Andy Baker and reported that he does critical work lobbying in Juneau and in terms of the Teck litigation, he has been instrumental with the legislature as to stopping them from changing any taxation laws. Mayor Richards recommended due pass.

By unanimous consent of the committee Resolution of 17-03 was not recommended for due passage by the full assembly. Resolution 17-03 was deferred to the Work Session for further discussion.

4. **Resolution 17-04** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a professional services agreement with Wendy Chamberlain DBA Legislative Consultants in Alaska for lobbying and media services and for related purposes*

Member Carr requested to address in Executive Session questions and comments on issues that were already acted on.

Mr. Mead read the categories from the Borough Charter for the reasons the Assembly can enter into Executive Session and then it was decided that the last category sufficed for the committee to enter into Executive Session.

Member Loon commented that she supports Member Carr's concerns. Mayor Richards recommended due pass.

By unanimous consent of the committee Resolution 17-04 was recommended for passage by the full assembly.

OTHER BUSINESS

Member Armstrong commented about possibly moving the travel to Sundays, a day before the meeting so that he would be able to attend the assembly meetings in person especially when he cannot make it to Kotzebue due to weather. Madam Chair Nelson recommended that administration plan for the village members' travel accordingly. Mayor Richards commented that we can plan their travel on a case by case basis and especially around bad weather.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Member Carr motioned, Member Ballot seconded to enter Executive Session. By unanimous consent of the committee, the motion was approved.

The BAF committee entered Executive Session at 2:00 pm.

The BAF Committee meeting reconvened from Executive Session at 3:45 PM.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Member Armstrong wished everyone to stay warm and thanked everyone for a good meeting.

Member Carr thanked everyone for a good meeting and is grateful for all the committee members' attendance today.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 2:49 P.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stella A. H. H.", is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.