



Northwest Arctic Borough

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

Ambler Buckland Candle Deering Kivalina Kiana
Kobuk Kotzebue Noatak Noorvik Selawik Shungnak

Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly

Regular Meeting Minutes - *DRAFT*

Tuesday, February 24, 2015 – 9:00 A.M.

Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

CALL TO ORDER

President Carl Weisner called the meeting to order at 9:01 A.M.

INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Miles Cleveland provided the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

| | | | |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Vern Cleveland | Walter Sampson | Frank Greene | Lucy Nelson |
| Larry Westlake | Clyde Ramoth | Hendy Ballot | Miles Cleveland |
| Nathan Hadley | Carl Weisner | Winona Hawley | Chloe Naylor |

Members Not Present:

Pete Schaeffer

Introduction of Staff and Guests

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Reggie Joule | Judy Hassinger | Chloe Naylor | Winona Hawley |
| Matt Mead | Wendie Schaeffer | Kathleen Lansdale | Annabelle Alvite |
| Christine Hess | Adrian Davidson | Fred Smith | Noah Naylor |
| Martha Henry | | | |

A quorum was established to conduct business.

AGENDA ADOPTION

President Weisner requested the date of January 27, 2015 change; also asked for an executive session regarding PILT negotiation.

Mayor Joule Added Resolution 15-13

Agenda of February 24, 2015 was presented for review and consideration.

Member Ramoth moved, seconded by Member Ballot to adopt the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The meeting minutes of January 27, 2015 were presented for review and consideration for approval.

Member Ramoth moved to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Member Ballot. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS & APPEARANCES

None presented.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Member Nelson gave a brief Budget, Audit and Finance report.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, INACTMENT OF ORDINANCES AND EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

1. Ordinance 15-01 *An Ordinance of The Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending sections of the Borough Investment Code and for related purposes.*

Presented by Judy Hassinger

Member Hadley motion to approve Ordinance 15-01, seconded by Member Ramoth; passed unanimously.

2. Ordinance 15-02 *An Ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving continued participation in a planning assistance agreement for the Kivalina Evacuation Road Study and for related purposes.*

Presented by Fred Smith

Member Sampson requested that for discussion purposes adding the dollar figure into the public record.

Matt Mead stated that the ordinance does limit the spending authorization to what is remaining under the 2.5 million grant.

Member Vern Cleveland motion to approve Resolution 15-01, seconded by Member Ballot; passed unanimously.

3. Ordinance 15-03 *An Ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending Title 7 of the Borough Code and for related purposes.*

Presented by Mayor Joule

Member Nelson motion to approve Resolution 15-01, seconded by Member Vern Cleveland; the motion passed by majority vote, 9 yes & 1 no.

Member Sampson justifies why he voted no.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Judith Hassinger presented the monthly financial report ending on January 31, 2015.

ASSEMBLY REPORTS

Member Vern Cleveland gave a report on AML travel.

President Weisner gave a brief report on the Second Annual Arctic Encounter Symposium in Seattle; the NWALT Meeting in Juneau; and Kivalina during Interior Secretary Jewel's visit.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Joule highlighted segments of the Mayor's written report.

Member Ramoth suggest coming up with a public use agreement.

President Weisner clarifies joint meeting with the North Slope Borough and Northwest Arctic Borough is April 8 in Barrow, the code states they occur every two years.

TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Budget, Audit & Finance on March 23, 2015 @ 9:00 A.M.; Work Session @ 1:30 P.M.; Regular Assembly Meeting on March 24, 2015 @ 9:00 A.M.

Member Vern Cleveland motioned, seconded by Member Ramoth; motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Joule announced the request of personal time around the time of the next meeting. He will appoint staff to move the agenda forward, Acting will probably be one of the directors.

Judy Hassinger stated that the Borough will have the second reading of the Budget Ordinance.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 14-01am02** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly providing for the establishment and adoption of the line item budget amendment for the Fiscal Year 2015.*

Presented by Judy Hassinger

Member Vern Cleveland motioned, seconded by Member Miles Cleveland; motion passed unanimously.

2. **Ordinance 15-04** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a contract for Legal Services with Vinson & Elkins and for related purposes.*

Presented by Mayor Joule

Member Ramoth motioned, seconded by Member Nelson; motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 15-10** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve a transfer of responsibilities agreement between the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and the Northwest Arctic Borough.*

Presented by Wendie Schaeffer

Member Westlake we had a discussion at the work session, suggested picking out a safe route and recommended staying away from Pressure Ridges this year.

President Weisner announced that he has received some contacts from Kiana and Noorvik interested in the Ice Road and its construction. They were optimistic that it could occur as early as prior to the regional tournament.

Judy Hassinger added there is about \$7,000 in the fund balance that is remaining in the Ice Road fund that can go towards that as well.

Member Ramoth added the request of more PSA's prior to the project on the Radio and Arctic Sounder.

Member Schaeffer just joined by Telephone.

Member Sampson motioned, seconded by Member Ballot; motion passed unanimously.

2. **Resolution 15-11** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly to approve a professional services agreement with Bering Straits Development Co. for relocation of the Noorvik Met Tower and for related purposes.*

Presented by Fred Smith

Member Ballot motioned, seconded by Member Westlake; motion passed unanimously.

Member Vern Cleveland suggest moving the equipment while they still have snow, if it starts melting it's going to melt right away.

3. **Resolution 15-12** *a resolution to approve a professional services agreement with ANTHC to perform Water and Sewer management capacity evaluations for Borough Villages, and for related purposes.*

Presented by Wendie Schaeffer

Member Vern Cleveland motioned, seconded by Member Hadley; motion passed unanimously.

4. **Resolution 15-13** *a resolution to approve a professional services agreement with Golder Associates Inc. to perform geotechnical services for the Kivalina Evacuation and Access Road Study and for related purposes.*

Presented by Wendie Schaeffer

Member Hadley motioned, seconded by Member Ramoth; motion passed unanimously.

Member Sampson request prospective regards to the Secretary of Interior's visit to Kivalina and what the community of Kivalina is thinking regards to the Evacuation Road.

Christine Hess announced that on the Northwest Arctic Borough website there is a video clip that the Department of Interior did. The last part of the video clip is actually the trip to Kivalina and you can see Millie Hawley and Tim Schuerch and other people and also posted. In addition, there is a video clip from the Institute of the North about the Week of the Arctic that features Assembly Member Walter Sampson and the Mayor.

Wendie Schaeffer gave the Borough website www.nwabor.org.

OTHER BUSINESS

15 minute break; back at 10:20 A.M.

Executive Session

Regarding PILT negotiation

Member Ramoth motioned, seconded by Member Vern Cleveland; motion passed unanimously.

Back to order at 11:27 A.M.

Member Ramoth motioned, seconded by Member Vern Cleveland; motion passed 10 yes 1 no, to come out of Executive Session.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Sophie May Foster is currently appointed to the Secretary/Treasurer role for the Search and Rescue here in Kotzebue and requested assistance in a building, new equipment. She stated that in discussions with Charlotte Brower that the State gave them \$250,000 to renovate their building up in Barrow. Looking for funding so that the Search and Rescue can better serve this Region. She thanked the Assembly for their time on behalf of the Search and Rescue.

Brenda Erlich expressed concern about the Inupiaq Language and wanted to know what the Borough is doing to preserve the language in the schools.

Benjamin P. Arnold from Noatak discussed the Northwest Arctic Borough receiving funds on behalf of Native Village of Noatak and that they do provide funding for trail staking. Mr. Arnold questioned if the Native Village of Noatak could request by a resolution to request more funds for our community from the Borough. Mr. Arnold also mentioned ANTHC. He stated that they were going to do six houses for water and sewer. He wanted to know which communities are involved in that. He also discussed the high cost of fuel in the villages.

Adrian Davidson, a researcher for the University of Toronto, is in the Region to meet with some people and thanked the assembly and to anyone she met in the community while she was there.

Mark Moore the Planning Director for the Native Village of Noatak discussed an urgent issue with the Power Plant that sits on the edge of the river. Because of the recent seismic activity that they have been having in Noatak its becoming urgent that they relocate the present Power Plant to a location that is away from the river, the existing fuel farm for the power plant is also on the edge of the river and given the seismic activity they have been fortunate. He thanked the Assembly for their time.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Member Ramoth good meeting, safe travels to everybody, the weather is definitely changing. He reminded everybody listening out in radio land travel safe.

Member Hadley stated that the regionals are coming up and wished good luck to all the basketball players going. And to parents, make sure that your kids get up for school and get their good grades so they can travel.

Member Vern Cleveland thanked everyone for a good meeting, wished everyone safe travels.

Member Ballot comments in Inupiaq.

Member Miles Cleveland Taikuu, good meeting, comments in Inupiaq.

Member Greene it's good to attend the meeting in person and hope I can continue.

Member Nelson requested that when members speak in Inupiaq they also translate in English. Member Nelson stated that Regionals are next week wished luck to all the teams participating. Member Nelson thanked the US Department of Energy for coming up to speak to the Assembly about their plans for the future. She thanked Kevin Higgins for talking about the Senate Bill 30 with the marijuana initiative and encouraged the constituents to attend the committee meetings that they held on Monday so that they can be aware of the discussions that they have as an Assembly. She attended a UAF Symposium in Barrow last week and thought it was really beneficial to come to the table with North Slope Borough and also the University of Alaska and ANTHC. The topic was planning for 2014 and healthy communities and sustainability. Suggested preparation in ways of succession planning's that reflect energy decisions or Inupiaq decisions or environment education about food security on our traditional foods and Economic Development.

Member Sampson thanked everyone, good meeting.

Member Westlake thanked Mr. President and the Assembly for being open today in our discussions, very good meeting.

Member Schaeffer thanked Mr. President. Member Schaeffer spent about an hour with Reid Magdanze (staffer for one of the representatives) along with his parents Jim M and Susan G. They talked about general education. They were open to ideas. He stated that we are facing some significant budget issues here in the next few years, and the need to look at opportunities rather than restrictions in terms of delivering necessary services. Part of the discussion included some dialogue with the State Department of Education along with the commissioner, in what form that will take, he was not sure yet. But it can be about what we can do differently with education to respond to not only to the subject issue, but the quality of education in general.

Youth Representative Chloe Naylor stated that she was happy to be there, she continues to learn more about the Borough activities and also went to Barrow. She stated that our youth need to continue to participate in future activity planning's too.

Elder Representative Winona Hawley said Taikuu, comments in Inupiaq. She thanked everyone for having her there; also she expressed hope that the Assembly will continue to work on our evacuation road because in the fall time it gets so bad and they don't know where to go sometimes, please remember that and pray for us, our village. Taikuu.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Joule provided the Assembly some updates on what is going on in Juneau and how the dynamics of what's being considered to make up or how to address the low price of fuel is entering every discussion and it gave the Assembly an update on some of the things, the Teck Center, the School District revenue sharing, community jails, all just a FYI from the lobbyist that is in Juneau. He also brought up for the upper Kobuk and Noatak valleys, the lower Kobuk and also Northern and Interior there is a weather advisory where were expected to get anywhere from 8 to 16 inches of snow in the next two or three days from Wednesday to Friday, it includes Ambler, Shungnak, Kobuk, Red Dog Mine, Kiana, Noatak, Buckland, Deering, pretty much the whole region. He encouraged people to be careful when traveling and to let somebody know where you're going but also be prepared that we may be getting some snow and I just wanted to pass this on as people make travel plans and just to be really safe.

ADJOURNMENT

President Weisner moved to adjourn; with no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 11:55 A.M.