



Northwest Arctic Borough

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:

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

Northwest Arctic Borough Special Meeting Minutes Monday, May 4, 2015 – 9:00 A.M. Northwest Arctic Borough – Kotzebue, AK

CALL TO ORDER

Interim President Larry Westlake Sr. called the meeting to order. Interim asked Member Nelson to conduct the meeting due to teleconference issues.

Madam President Nelson called meeting to order at 9:03 A.M.

INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Miles Cleveland provided the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Vern Cleveland Sr.
Lucy Nelson
(*telephonic*)

Carl Weisner
Hendy Ballot Sr.

Miles Cleveland Sr.
Larry Westlake Sr.

Nathan Hadley Jr.

Excused:

Walter Sampson
Winona Hawley

Frank Greene
Chloe Naylor

Clyde Ramoth

Pete Schaeffer

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Reggie Joule
Christine Hess

Matt Mead
Karl Kaufman

Fred Smith
Martha Henry

Wayne Hall

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda presented for May 4, 2015 meeting. Member Weisner mentioned that he will leave approximately 10 A.M. for an OTZ Telephone meeting although will return after.

Member Vern Cleveland motioned to approve as presented, seconded by Member Ballot. Passed unanimously by roll call vote.

NEXT MEETING

During last regular meeting it has been scheduled for May 18-19, 2015.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 15-07** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending Title Seven of the Borough Code and for related purposes.*

Member Weisner motion to approve Ordinance 15-07, seconded by Member Vern Cleveland.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Member Vern Cleveland motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Ordinance 15-07 at 9:10 A.M., passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Madam President Nelson called meeting back to order, out of executive session at 9:50 A.M.

Ordinance 15-07 passed unanimously by roll call vote for first reading, during next regular meeting audience can make a public comment.

OTHER BUSINESS

Tobacco Tax Options – Member Weisner provided a comment before leaving for next meeting. He informed that the committee recommends this as an option to move to the next step. We are not taxing food, this is for tobacco. Idea is to prevent, detour from buying cigarettes and chewing tobacco. Hope to proceed to the next step.

Member Weisner left to attend the OTZ meeting at 9:55 A.M.

Karl Kaufman provided a brief summary of the tax, sales and excise tax. Member Ballot mentioned that is we proceed with this, then there should be support centers for residents. Madam President Nelson mentioned that Maniilaq has a grant that is related to tobacco prevention; there are products and services at Maniilaq. Legal mentioned that if the Assembly moves forward then it would go by ordinance; if it were sales tax then the voters would need to vote on it. Matt provided brief summary of excise tax and sales tax throughout the State of Alaska.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

None presented.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Interim President Westlake had no comment.

Member Vern Cleveland thank you for a special meeting.

Member Ballot raised his concern regarding legalization of marijuana; seeing more use in the villages. Really causing hardship of parents that have young people that use. Notice that if you walk down the street you can smell marijuana; if it's for recreation use and stuff. Really causing hardship on parents, and young kids taking money from their parents to buy this.

Member Miles Cleveland mentioned good meeting; have a good spring.

Member Hadley had no comment.

Madam President Nelson mentioned that federal law is in place of the use and distribution of marijuana.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Joule mentioned that there was a change to Ordinance 15-07; to change increase percentage from 3% to 4.5%. It may have been mentioned, just to clarify. On the issue on marijuana; State is developing some regulations at this time based on the initiative that have passed until the Legislature come up with an agreement on some statutes.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Ballot move to adjourn at 10:13 A.M.