



# Northwest Arctic Borough

163 Lagoon Street  
P.O Box 1110 Kotzebue, Alaska 99752  
(907) 442-2500 Fax (907) 442-2930  
www.nwabor.org

Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly  
Special Telephonic Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, March 16, 2022 – 1:00 P.M.  
Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK

## CALL TO ORDER

Madam Chair Shroyer Beaver called the meeting to order at 1:01 P.M.

## INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Member Loon provided the invocation.

## SAFETY MOMENT

Member Shroyer Beaver encouraged everyone to be cautious and to watch out for the children who are playing out by the snow burms during their spring break vacation.

## ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

Elmer Armstrong Jr.	Tanya Ballot	Delores Barr	<i>Miles Cleveland</i>
Sandy Shroyer Beaver	Hannah Loon	Walter Sampson	<i>Dood Lincoln Carr</i>
Nathan Hadley Jr.	<i>Austin Swan Sr.</i>	Reid Magdanz	

## Introduction of Staff and Guests

Dickie Moto Sr.	<i>Matt Mead</i>	<i>Angie Sturm</i>	Helena Hildreth
<i>Ingemar Mathiasson</i>	Fritz Westlake	Tessa Baldwin	Megan Williams
Marie Greene	Terri Walker	Margaret Hansen	Jaylynn Rogers

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

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Member Sampson motioned to approve the agenda as presented; Member Loon seconded. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed unanimously.**

## INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 21-04am01** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly providing for establishing the amended line-item budget for the FY22 Village Improvement Fund.*

Member Sampson commented about the committee structure and would we have a BAF Committee Work Session meeting before the Special Meeting. Legal Counsel Matt Mead commented that it can be viewed as a committee to discuss all the items on the agenda, with the ordinances having a second reading.



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Member Carr commented that she prefers that we review action items going through the BAF Worksession process first versus what we are doing now.

Member Loon commented that she also feels that we should have reviewed the items in the BAF Worksession.

Legal Counsel Mr. Matt Mead commented that there is no requirement to review ordinances or resolutions at a BAF Worksession. Member Sampson asked if these ordinances would be acted upon for second reading at the March Regular meeting and Mr. Mead replied that in the Borough Charter it states that there is a ten-day period between readings; so, these ordinances would not be enacted at the Regular Meeting in March but in April.

Ms. Angie Sturm briefly highlighted the major changes in Ordinance 21-04am01 and Mayor Moto recommended approval.

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

2. **Ordinance 21-05am01** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly Approving and adopting an amended line-item budget for Fiscal Year 2022.*

**Due to a lack of action for Ordinance 21-05am01, Member Carr motioned to add Ordinance 21-05am01 to the next Regular Meeting agenda, seconded by Member Cleveland. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed by a majority 10-1.**

3. **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.*

**Due to a lack of action for Ordinance 22-02, Member Carr motioned to add Ordinance 22-02 to the next Regular Meeting agenda, seconded by Member Cleveland. A roll call was conducted, and the motion passed by a majority 10-1.**

## AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Ms. Marie Greene, VIF Madam Chair, thanked the Assembly for approving the Ordinance 21-04am01 for first reading. She also mentioned that as a school board member she appreciates the partnership with the Assembly when considering the school board budget.



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Ms. Terri Walker, NWABSD Superintendent, gave a brief update on the school district, house/senate bills, and personnel, in terms of teacher hire.

Ms. Margaret Hansen, NWABSD Madam Chair, expressed her appreciation for administration for a good partnership.

## **ASSEMBLY COMMENTS**

Madam Chair Shroyer Beaver commented about a prior meeting regarding funds that were going to be spent on Kivalina and it's important to let our constituents know that we will support them.

Member Magdanz commented that he looks forward to the discussion on the budget and the medium-term fiscal picture for the Borough and the School District.

Member Armstrong commented that he looks forward to the next meeting and the continued discussion on the budget. He requested that the Borough check if the fire distinguishers would be replaced in Noorvik for those that turned theirs over due to a recent fire.

Member Sampson thanked Mr. Fritz Westlake's explanation on the VIC budget process and the application awardee process. He also commented on looking at possible ice roads to our villages in the future to lower the cost of energy. He also thanked Madam Chair Shroyer Beaver for running the meeting and that we will continue to work on the two ordinances and to debate on changes.

Member Shroyer commented about the importance of planning especially for our outdated schools that are aging such as the Kotzebue Elementary School. She congratulated the Kivalina basketball team and other villages that made it to the State 1A Tournament.

Member Swan thanked the administration and assembly for doing a good job.

Member Cleveland commented that with the increase in fuel, the airfare prices will also increase and to possibly think of chartering, which may be cheaper.

Member Barr commented that it would have been better to have more time to approve the budget ordinances and to make sure we do our due diligence by thoroughly reviewing them.

Member Ballot commented about the importance of transparency and being accountable



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and to be prepared what will be coming our way, in terms of asks. She encouraged planning for emergency preparedness due to current world events happening.

Member Hadley thanked the Assembly for moving forward on all the concerns till next week at the Regular Meeting. He hopes that the Subsistence Committee will be able to meet at the end of the month regarding the caribou herd.

### **MAYORS COMMENTS**

Mayor Moto thanked the administration for their good work, and he fully supports them moving forward. He also thanked the Assembly for their good questions and concerns and the importance of working together. He sees the struggle that our villages go through as some only have a fire department.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Member Loon motioned; Member Magdanz seconded to adjourn. With no other business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 2:54 PM.

*Helene Midrott*