



**Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 24, 2017 – 9:00 A.M.
Assembly Chambers – Kotzebue, AK**

CALL TO ORDER

President Carl Weisner called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

INVOCATION

Member Cleveland provided the invocation.

SAFETY MOMENT

Member Loon in Inupiaq; translate after. She expressed the importance of medication safety; we have Elders that take pain medication and is being stolen from them.

Member Swan shared a hazardous experience; long ago had played on the ice which had bubbles. He expressed the importance of teaching our children; very dangerous.

President Weisner echoes yesterday's comments by Member Carr to be careful at the stop signs, kids going to school; drive safe.

ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

<i>Elmer Armstrong Jr.</i>	Kirk Oviok Jr.	Dood Carr	Larry Westlake Sr.
Hannah Loon	Sandy Shroyer Beaver	Miles Cleveland	Austin Swan Sr.
Nathan Hadley Jr.	Lucy Nelson	Carl Weisner	

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Patrick Savok	Shield Downey Jr.	Angie Sturm	Matt Mead
Chuck Greene	Nate Kotch	Clara Jones	Helena Hildreth
Silvano Viveiros	Marie Greene	Lee Ballot	Grant Hildreth
Nelson Walker	Henry Horner	Walter Sampson	Morgan Johnson
Kristen Dau	Michael Stallings	Fred Sun	Vincent Onalik
Alvin Iyatunguk	Myra Wesley	Jaime Lambert	<i>Toby Drake</i>
Tanya Ballot	Janine Bedford	Stephanie Levy	Ethel Webber
Hiram Walker	<i>Darlene Snyder</i>	Stella Atoruk	

A quorum was present to conduct business.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda presented for approval for October 24, 2017. President Weisner request to add under I, under committee and liaison. Under J; add ordinance 17-08am01 which shall go under introductions. Acting Mayor Savok request inclusion of Ordinance 17-13, he had Lance Millers comments from NANA, also to add other business Zach Stevenson to provide an update on Northwest Arctic Subsistence.

Member Loon motioned, Member Carr seconded to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

September 26, 2017 regular meeting minutes presented for approval.

Member Swan motioned, Member Cleveland seconded to approve the September 26, 2017 regular as presented; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

REORGANIZATION OF ASSEMBLY

Legal Mead provided a summary of the process. Clerk Atoruk opened nominations for President of the Assembly.

Member Swan nominate Carl Weisner. Member Carr nominate Lucy Nelson.

Member Swan motion to close nominations, seconded by Member Carr. With no objections, nominations were closed.

Member Carr mentioned she would like to hear the candidate's interests in being in the position that they are nominated for.

Member Weisner remain President of the Assembly with seven votes and Lucy with four votes.

President Weisner opened nominations for Vice President.

Member Carr nominate Lucy Nelson. Member Loon nominate Larry Westlake, although he declines. Member Swan nominates Elmer Armstrong for Vice President.

Member Carr nominate to close nominations, seconded by Member Westlake; motion passed unanimously.

Member Carr request the nominees to provide a comment on why they are running.

Member Nelson mentioned that she have been on Assembly for two terms, starting her third. She expressed the importance of uphold a code of ethic, of integrity and show no impropriety and support each other through the process. Thank you.

Brief break due to technical difficulties. Member Armstrong mentioned that he have been on the Assembly this past year, have one more year. Enjoys working with the Assembly on issues regarding the communities we serve.

Member Nelson received seven votes, Member Armstrong received four votes. Member Nelson remain the Vice President for the Assembly.

Acting Mayor Savok provided a brief update of the ICC letter requesting the delegate to attend the conference in Canada. President Weisner suggests the Assembly inform him on which committee's you'd like to sit on.

COMMUNICATIONS AND APPEARANCES

Former Assembly Member Walter Sampson presented letters from Rural CAP and Veterans' Affairs regarding liaison; he has been active with both committees and provided an update. He thank the Assembly for reconsidering him for the two positions.

Member Carr thank Walter for what he is doing and supports him. Member Shroyer Beaver raised concern as to whom will be the contact person for Veterans Affairs; she also supports him and thank him for his service. Member Loon also thank Walter for his work; thank you, God bless you. President Weisner thank Walter for his service and willingness to continue to serve as a Liaison for Veterans' Affairs and Rural CAP.

Marie Greene and Nelson Walker of the VIF Commission thanked the Assembly for their time; she provided a summary of the meeting held previous day and a copy of the terms of the VIF members. They would like quarterly reports of the sustainable reports along with the budget for 2018 and start preparing the 2019 budget. The commission would like to have the three positions under the general fund since the Mayor's office hired the employees. The Commission would like an ex-officio member appointed by Mayor; hopefully join the next meeting. They recommend the proposal of village projects be approved by the commission and ratified by the Assembly; also request a clarification regarding approval process for village projects. At the next meeting they will have all the twenty-two members present; thank you for this opportunity and continue to reconvene the meeting at the hotel.

Vice President Nelson mentioned that the sustainable fund that is requested is part of the Borough; does that reflect the VIF fund? Also, regarding the three positions under the general fund; would it make more sense to have under the VIF and not the Mayor? Anytime we want to change the budget structure then we'd discuss.

Member Dood request more copies of the handout; thank you for the presentation. This is an exciting time; State is watching us and this is in your hands. Thankful for the negotiation team; thank you for coming.

Member Loon thank you for coming; good to see new faces and sure that Marie and Nelson will be guiding you. Really pleased with report.

Member Shroyer Beaver thank you for coming; this is a learning curve for the Assembly. She encourage to keep the budget within your reigns until it goes to the Assembly. Member Westlake thank the commissioners, he encourages a quorum to where the communities makes the decisions. Member Swan mentioned he is glad this has been coming forward; appreciate that something will be done for the communities. Make us work for you, we need to improve the communities.

President Weisner provided a summary of the meetings held in the communities; you should feel empowered and the Assembly supports you. He request for Legal to follow up with the request of standing operating procedures. He also raised concern to the

terms; how was that chosen? Elder Representative thanks the Assembly for establishing the commission; congratulations for those participating and wish you luck.

Break taken 10:08 A.M.
Reconvene at 10:18 A.M.

President Weisner mentioned he talked with NANA Trespass Program which will be presented at the next meeting as to see how the season went.

Acting Mayor Savok mentioned that Borough is a cooperating agency with AIDEA regarding the Ambler Mining District. We have upcoming meetings and would like the Assembly to attend in each community.

Member Westlake request written dates on this issue, which will be submitted.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Madam Chair Nelson summarized the Budget meeting held the previous day.

Chair Hadley provided a summary of the Ethics Committee held the previous day; no action taken or no further proceeding will result.

Member Carr thank the Ethics committee for a well learned lesson as we the Assembly; when this occurs then all the bickering stops. Thank the committee and rest of the Assembly.

PUBLIC HEARINGS, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES & EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 17-13** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending chapter 7.10 of the Borough Code to include gravel extraction under the scope of mining activities subject to the severance tax, and for related purposes.*

President Weisner mentioned they had discussions yesterday; although Mr. Drake isn't available to comment. President Weisner raised concern to regarding the approval of tabling or otherwise to Legal. During this time gives time for the Administration to reach out to the public regarding this tax revision.

Vice President Nelson motion to table until November 28, 2017 regular meeting Ordinance 17-13, seconded by Member Cleveland. Motion passed by majority with ten yes and one no.

1. **Ordinance 17-14** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending the Borough Code for administration of the Ferguson Memorial Scholarship Program, and for related purposes.*

Member Carr raised concern to the changes that were made yesterday; ensure that non-resident has been removed. Mr. Greene summarized Ordinance 17-14 which hasn't been revised since the program started, the amounts will double for students. This past year Borough had awarded about seventy students approximately fifty seven thousand dollars. Also, considering the budget amendment to reflect this ordinance.

Member Cleveland raised concern to those that don't have high school in our Region, although there is Mt. Edgecombe students; are we eliminating those from the scholarship President Weisner mentioned that while attending high school in Sitka he was still a resident of Shungnak. Member Carr thank Mr. Greene, she supports this; she cautious reminders to those in school to keep in mind of the residency. Member Westlake thank Mr. Greene, glad to see the students will get more money.

Member Shroyer Beaver also supports this; also, along with the budget change. For the residents that would like to apply, please do. Some residents may not have a high school diploma, can they get scholarships? Member Carr mentioned when students apply they allow a program to work on their GED. President Weisner acknowledge the work; had an opportunity to make changes to the Zonna Lie Scholarship.

Member Hadley motion to approve Ordinance 17-14, seconded by Member Swan for second reading. Motion passed unanimously.

ASSEMBLY REPORTS

Member Swan mentioned the DOT meeting on October 21, 2017 regarding the basic needs and probable projects that needed to be updated throughout Northwest Arctic Borough and North Slope. Good attendance for this meeting.

Member Westlake mentioned the Joint Construction Maintenance Committee meeting in Kivalina on October 25th. They have discussed the match that is required to move the project forward.

President Weiner mentioned that Member Hadley and Swan also attended the meeting in Kivalina; have discussed the monies to match. He hopes that the Administration use bonding; hopefully State will treat Borough like the other Kasayulie cases and require a smaller match. President also mentioned that April 2018 is the deadline to have a plan.

Member Shroyer Beaver raised concern as to what is the plan? How do we approach? Think had discussed a payment plan of three years?

Member Westlake mentioned that is what they would like to see. President Weisner informed Finance that the School District/Borough staff need to work-out details for a potential letter to DEED that would be approved by the Assembly prior to being sent. Mrs. Sturm request to be invited to these meetings so she can start planning for this; she mentioned she will reach out to Thomas Klinkner regarding the bond capacity. Acting Mayor Savok mentioned that he would like to have a work session along with the School Board so can plan.

Member Loon raised concern to the Kasayulie case, wasn't it fifty-thousand cap to help construct the schools? President Weisner mentioned it was fifty-three million. Vice President Nelson mentioned that School District approved the budget; had to present to

DEED. Borough has to come up with twelve million for the Kivalina School.

President Weisner informed the Assembly that he attended the NWALT meetings in Washington DC along with the group. Had lobbied for many regional issues; he mentioned the Kivalina School, Noatak Haul Road and Cape Blossom. Discussed the forward advance funding for Maniilaq so they can plan out the services provided to the residents. Have discussed the Real ID issue, haven't been in compliance with. NWALT plan to meet in November to plan the lobby trip in Juneau; possibly Vice President will be available to attend in January.

Member Carr request to have the Assembly reports brief, short and in writing which would be helpful to hear before the meetings incase they'd have questions.

MAYORS REPORT

Acting Mayor Savok mentioned that the Public Services Department have worked with Kivalina Water struggle; Borough have purchased pumps and hoses to assist them filling the tanks up. Deputy Director Moto is currently putting equipment away and bringing the pump back to Kotzebue; will leave three hoses on site for readily available. Also, in the Planning Department the Ambler Mining meetings had started; will have Regional meetings soon. Administration met with AIDEA also regarding the Noatak Road regarding partnership; AIDEA may have an opportunity for bonding. Sulianich Board Chairman had stepped down, so Savok reconvening as the Chair. Will have an update next meeting. DOT had been updated; last updated in 2003 on the transportation plan. Had attended AFN, he congratulates Macy for AFN award.

Mrs. Sturm provided the Assembly an update on the accounting software; great accomplishment. Thank you to Jade for working with Caselle; only time training available is end of November. She apologize for not being available for the next regular meeting.

Acting Mayor Savok expressed gratitude to Teck for Janine and Stephanie as volunteers to facilitate the VIF work sessions that is happening at the hotel; showing the cooperation for Teck and Borough.

Vice President Nelson thank Pat for stepping in as the Mayor; she request communications of absence of the Mayor; they receive comments of no one in the office. Would like to know when there is an Acting Mayor or absence at the level.

Member Loon thank Pat for work; thank you to staff. Encourage you to keep working and God bless you all.

Member Shroyer Beaver commend Pat for work; although don't know details about Mayor just general. She raised concern on the staff listing not having phone numbers or email address; are all these positions in Kotzebue?

Member Carr thank Pat for Acting Mayor, echoes Member Shroyer Beaver's comments; she asks for accountability. If these people are getting paid full time when they aren't here?

Member Armstrong thank Pat for work; encourage you to have talks on Noatak Road.

TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

November 27-28, 2017 for the next meeting dates. Acting Mayor Savok mentioned the postponed ordinance; he would like to get a list of the entities to reach out to for Ordinance 17-13 regarding the gravel taxation.

President Weisner mentioned yesterday the Assembly had discussed a talk show, website and public hearing; allow to have the public hearing for a greater amount of time.

Member Carr echoes her comments from yesterday; she don't think the information that is gotten out to the land owners in our Region. They need to be fully aware and able to comment; possibly a talk show and having people call in at the Radio Station so can have information for the residents.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 17-15** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending the Borough Personnel Code and for related purposes.*

Acting Mayor Savok mentioned this is based on our granting requirements. Legal Mead summarized ordinance; there is a cap for twenty-five hundred for relocation expenses.

Member Swan motion to approve Ordinance 17-15, seconded by Member Hadley for first reading. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Ordinance 17-16** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending Title Six of the Borough Code and for related purposes.*

Acting Mayor Savok mentioned this is the second ordinance pertain to the grants. Legal Mead summarize the Ordinance; general provisions and procurement to federal grants to ensure Borough is in compliance.

Member Loon motion approve Ordinance 17-16, seconded by Vice President Nelson; motion passed unanimously.

3. **Ordinance 17-08am01** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving and adopting an amended line-item budget for Fiscal Year 2018.*

Acting Mayor Savok mentioned this is an amendment to the default budget. Mrs. Sturm summarized the ordinance; revenue and expenditure increased, most notably from the geo bond debt didn't make any budget cuts. Therefore the monies went to Economic Development Administration to ensure a larger scholarships.

Member Swan motion to approve Ordinance 17-08am01 for first reading, seconded by Member Carr. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 17-39** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly designating Assembly donations under the FY18 Budget, and for related purposes.*

Acting Mayor Savok mentioned that the Assembly had a blanket donation account. President Weisner mentioned that Borough had provided these in the past; although there was a question for Boys and Girls Club? Is it for all the Villages?

Break observed at 11:22 A.M.
Reconvene at 11:28 A.M.

The donation included those in the Region. Member Shroyer Beaver raised concern to the amount for Boys and Girls Club, hopefully next time it will be higher.

Member Loon motion to approve Resolution 17-39, seconded by Member Cleveland. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Resolution 17-40** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities for the pre-construction activities for the Kivalina Road, and for related purposes.*

Acting Mayor Savok summarize resolution. President Weisner verified the amount which was two point five million.

Member Westlake motion to approve Resolution 17-40, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver. Motion passed unanimously.

Zach Stevenson wasn't able to attend, he has rescheduled to the evening flight.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None held.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Resident Darlene Snyder, thank you; good meeting. Hats off to the young people that stepped up, we should give them plenty praise. Expressed the importance of getting education and come back and work for your people; it's time for the Elderly sit back and let them. We have to have faith; they did it, went and get monies for people not for corporations. Thankful for the negotiation team; there should be more dedication to push them. Taikuu.

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Member Shroyer Beaver mentioned her first meeting and went well; look forward to working with President and Vice President. Thank you. She commend Carl for running the meeting; we as an Assembly are a team and appreciate what you do.

Member Loon thank you for a good meeting, good presentation and thankful for the Kivalina Evacuation Road. Thankful to Mayor and staff. Friendly reminder to update the website with the new Assembly members. Thank you.

President Weisner mentioned that residents have requested for the committee listed on the website also.

Member Carr requests accountability from Acting Mayor Savok to the Administration. She had brief discussion with Fire Chief Viveiros regarding the fishing at the Lagoon. She expressed safety; be careful. Congratulations to Lucy and Carl on reiterating your seats on the Assembly. She also requests the Assembly reports be in the packet. Gladly Walter will be the liaison with Veterans and Rural CAP. She also, mentioned the ICC seat; the members are encourage to let President and Acting Mayor Savok on which committee you'd like to be on. She nominates Member Loon if she were interested who is fluent in village life; as courtesy. Safe travels. For the Village Commissioners; residents work with the commissioners, let them know. Thank you to Paulette for getting them assigned.

Vice President Nelson thank those that voted for her on the Assembly; honored to represent all constituents. Strongly believe constituents and residents need to be engaged in the local government; continue to build capacity to improve services we provide to benefit all residents. Thank you for vote of confidence; also to the Assembly to continue as Vice President. Excited of the VIF committee; look forward working with you. Can't express enough, communication is key to our success. We have to communicate, whether its email or text because they need to know what happing in our governance is. This is a public governance; we should be able to provide information. Thank you; congratulations to President.

Member Swan thankful for going forward on VIF. Thankful for Acting Mayor Savok for stepping up, thank the Assembly for hard work that you do for our communities.

Member Cleveland mentioned good meeting; thankful to staff. Congratulation to Carl and Lucy. Our togetherness is showing more and more; we need to keep it up. As we work together we will accomplish something.

Member Oviok echo's Lucy's comments, thankful to be part of the Assembly. Congratulate President and Vice President, at the Special meeting he missed the opportunity to thank Walter for his service on Rural Cap and Veterans Affairs. Also, congratulates to Lucy and Sandy. Thankful Walter will be our liaison. Appreciate the resolution for the Boys and Girls Club donation; boss will be happy that the amount was too small.

Member Hadley sends condolences to Ballot Family in Buckland. Good to see and meet the VIF Commission, very respectful group; know they will do a good job for the villages. Congratulations to Carl and Lucy; look forward to working with both of you. This Borough is moving forward and we will be helping people.

Member Westlake congratulates Carl and Vice President. We will be working on transportation issues working on; unity to make it work for the people. Good update from the NWALT. Appreciate it. Thank you.

Elder Representative Downey in Inupiaq. He is thankful for the scholarships; he also states that Military is an option. Borough isn't the place for scholarships, there are colleges that provide free tuition and just pay for fare.

President Weisner thank Vice President, and members of the Assembly.

Member Armstrong mentioned good meeting as we work on the resolutions and ordinances. Thank the administration for working hard; continued work on the Noatak and Kivalina Road.

President Weisner mentioned that he will reach out to the Assembly on the NWALT priorities. He encourage the Assembly to let him know which committee they would like to sit on.

MAYORS COMMENTS

Acting Mayor Savok thank Darlene for calling in; encourage all residents to call. Formally welcome Sandy and Kirk; congratulate Carl and Lucy for your continuation of President and Vice President. Sends condolences to those that lost loved ones. Congratulates to Marie and Nelson for Chair persons for the VIF commission; look forward to transitioning the three positions under Borough next fiscal cycle. To Member Carr, accountability is key. To Member Loon, the website will be updated soon. All members can go AML; NWALT is scheduled for five members in December. Thank you, good meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Carr motion to adjourn, seconded by Member Shroyer Beaver to adjourn at 11:53 A.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stella A. North". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Stella" being more prominent than the last name "North".