



Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 27, 2024 – 10:00 A.M.
NANA Office – Kivalina, AK

CALL TO ORDER

President Hadley called the meeting to order at 10:19 A.M.

INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Elder Joe Swan provided an invocation.

SAFETY MOMENT

Member Armstrong mentioned high water, be safe; be sure have PFD when boating.
Elder Becky Norton mentioned beware of the bears near the beach.
Member Swan mentioned a lot of rain this summer, be prepared.

ROLL CALL/MEMBER EXCUSAL

Assembly Members present at the time of roll call:

Austin Swan Sr.	<i>Dood Lincoln Carr</i>	Craig McConnell	Delores Barr
<i>Miles Cleveland Sr.</i>	<i>Derek Haviland Lie</i>	Elmer Armstrong Jr.	Reid Magdanz
Walter Sampson	Nathan Hadley Jr.		

Absent

Raven Sheldon

Introduction of Staff and Guests

Dickie Moto	Clara Jones	Jade Hill	Matt Mead
Melissa Ivanoff	James Kvamme	Sylvester Swan	Becky Norton
Emma Swan	Lena Armstrong	Joe Swan	Eleanore Swan
Shirley Adams	Marilyn Swan	Nelda Swan	Myra Wesley
Ella Leavitt	Anna Ivanoff	Kimberly Swan	Chris Hatch
Stella Atoruk			

A quorum is present to conduct business.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda presented for approval for August 27, 2024. *Member Lincoln Carr raised concerns of phone issues not being able to hear the people and having feedback.*
Member Swan requested to add old McQueen School under communication. Legal Mead mentioned we've discussed using consent agenda for the ordinances and resolutions.

Member McConnell request to pull resolutions 24-28, 24-31 and 24-37 for discussion.

Vice President Sampson to approve as amended, Member Swan seconded; passed unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

June 25, 2024 regular and July 25, 2024 special minutes presented for approval.

Member Swan motion to approve as a block, seconded by Vice President Sampson; passed unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATION AND APPEARANCE

Mayor Austin Swan Sr. is submitting a formal request to Northwest Arctic Borough from City of Kivalina Council, have interest in taking ownership of the old school, essential need. Member Sampson stated this is Kivalina School, supports turning it over; properly release to City or whom?

Community Member Becky Norton raised concern of legally transferred and what all will be transferred; what all will be involved. Vice President stated need to meet with School District about disposal of old buildings. *Member Lincoln Carr raised concern of monthly operating costs, suggests further discussion.* Member Magdanz raised concern of what portion they are requesting.

Vice President Sampson motion to turn over the school as is to City of Kivalina, per request, seconded by Member Barr; motion passed unanimously by roll call.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Budget, Audit & Finance BAF Chair Magdanz provided a summary of the previous day. **Financial Report** Interim Director Hill provided a summary of report ending July 31, 2024.

PUBLIC HEARING, ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES & EMERGENCY ORDINANCES

None presented.

ASSEMBLY REPORTS

President Hadley mentioned some attended the Public Safety Summit.

Member McConnell attended the Summit in Shungnak, focus was fire safety and VPSO.

President Hadley stated that this Borough is the only program that VPSO's are armed.

Member Swan stated the local playground is open now, working on court; thank Teck.

Member McConnell point out the \$55M grant, funding for heat pumps in all the homes;

informed the community of the IPP program. Asked for feedback from the boiler program.

Member Lincoln Carr asked if it includes Kotzebue?

MAYOR'S REPORT

Public Safety Director Hatch summarized written report; Summit and smoke alarm installs.

Community & Economic Development Director Westlake summarized department report.

Planning Director Naylor submitted a brief report on recent activities. Member Magdanz

asked what the next steps were on Airport relocation and landfill; what the community

thinks? Public Services Director Jones provided a summary of recent activities. Member

McConnell asked if it's too late to sign up?

Mayor Moto provided a summary of department activities also. Community Member Becky mentioned they need help with energy, high electricity bill.

Break at 11:45 A.M., reconvened at 12:01 P.M.

TIME & PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

September 23-24, 2024, for next meeting date.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance 24-09** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly amending the Borough Code for employee relocation expenses, and for related purposes.*
2. **Ordinance 24-10** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a memorandum of agreement with the Alaska Municipal League to perform grant management services, and for related purposes.*
3. **Ordinance 24-11** *an ordinance of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a contract for copier/printing services with Konica Minolta, and for related purposes.*

Vice President Sampson motion to approve as a block, seconded by Member Armstrong; motion passed by majority by roll call, no answer from Cleveland.

RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution 24-28** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly ratifying appointments to the Community and Economic Development Commission.*
2. **Resolution 24-29** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly accepting an FY25 Village Public Safety Officer Grant and for related purposes.*
3. **Resolution 24-30** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving an Assembly donation under the FY25 budget for the Chukchi Consortium Library.*
4. **Resolution 24-31** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a lease with Nasruk Nay Consulting for VPSO Housing in Kotzebue, and related purposes.*
5. **Resolution 24-32** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving an expenditure of up to \$860,000 utilizing local assistance and tribal consistency funds to replace the Fire Protection Systems for the Selawik and Noorvik Schools, and for related purposes.*
6. **Resolution 24-33** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving and adopting updated policies and procedures for the Village Improvement Commission.*
7. **Resolution 24-34** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from Ipnatchiaq Electric Company for a Power Plant Upgrade Project, and for related purposes.*
8. **Resolution 24-35** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from Opt-In Kiana for Community building repair, equipment, and supplies, and for related purposes.*
9. **Resolution 24-36** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the City of Selawik Water and Sewer Systems for homes, and for related purposes.*
10. **Resolution 24-37** *a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the Native Village of*

Kivalina to fund an ongoing Environmental Program, and for related purposes.

11. **Resolution 24-38** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the City of Kotzebue for the purchase of heavy equipment, and for related purposes.

12. **Resolution 24-39** a resolution of the Northwest Arctic Borough Assembly approving a Village Improvement Fund Application from the Native Village of Shungnak for the purchase of heavy equipment, and for related purposes.

Vice President Sampson motioned to approve Resolution 24-29, 24-30, 24-32, 24-33, 24-34, 24-35, 24-36, 24-38 and 34-39 as a block, seconded by Member Armstrong; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Public Services Director Jones summarized Resolution 24-28, recommend do pass. Vice President Sampson motion to amend the original motion to the second resolution been submitted, seconded by Member McConnell. Motion rescinded, and second rescinded. **Member Magdanz motion to approve Resolution 24-28, seconded by Member Barr; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

Public Services Director Jones summarized Resolution 24-31, recommend do pass. Member McConnell raised concerns of this not going out to bid, fair chance to all; for the record he wouldn't bid. *Member Lincoln Carr stated time of essence; peace making too.* Member Magdanz mentioned the seriousness of housing shortages here in Kotzebue. **Member Magdanz motion to approve Resolution 24-31, seconded by Member Lincoln Carr; motion passed by majority by roll call vote, no answer from Cleveland and no vote from McConnell.**

VIF Commissioner Shirley Adams summarized application. Public Services Director Jones summarized Resolution 24-37; recommend do pass. **Member Swan motion approve Resolution 24-37, seconded by Vice President Sampson; motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.**

OTHER BUSINESS

None presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session was held.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Sylvester Swan thank you for the environmental program, improved health conditions. Becky Norton thank you for coming, encourage with VPSO program they hope to get housing. Raised concern of Troopers not coming. Thank you for environmental program. Nelda Swan thank Borough for the turnover of the school, gathering for feast. The community looks forward to activities.

Myra Wesley thank you for coming to Kivalina, appreciate all the work getting done.

Ella Leavitt thank you for coming also. Applaud Shirely for being vocal. Grateful for the school turnover for events. For the VPSO house, there is by small building by the airport. She asked if Borough affiliates with School District for jobs in the villages.

Eleanore Swan raised concern of small space for boys and girls club. Currently they have

fire hazard; doors and windows are bad.

Colleen Swan brought up transportation, the road; the children going school and when kids are sick and don't have ride. Raised concern of building houses with Styrofoam, fire safety and keeping our volunteers safe. Brought up funding issues since created in 1986. Elder Joe Swan raised concern of the evacuation road which wasn't built right; last week the bus went off the road. Thank you for the school building, chance for gatherings.

Ella Leavitt mentioned the road; temporary at the time. Did Borough get dirt and rock for the road, where did ASRC get it from? Was Borough paid for padding the road? Where and how can City get a grant to clean up the fire hazard? Is it true City and IRA need to merge to receive assistance from Borough? Why is Kivalina having hard time?

Shirley Adams asked if any entities have start up monies to do renovations to open up the gym. Start up tomorrow, is there that type of monies? Who is responsible?

Sylvester Swan brought up how the kids need to go back and forth to the school.

Ella Leavitt asked where do they apply for grants for new school buses?

ASSEMBLY COMMENTS

Member Cleveland in Inupiaq, thank you Kivalina for hosting the meeting. We need to go to all the communities to see with our own eyes. Thank you, have a good day.

Member Haviland Lie said afternoon and couldn't be in person; thankful to Mayor to hold the meeting in Kivalina. Hope everyone has a good day.

Member Lincoln Carr thankful to hold there also, hope to see in other villages too.

Listening to the comments, need to plan out with those that can help. Hi to all.

Member Barr thank Kivalina for warm hospitality. There are ways to get your voice heard, support letters. Also, resources and learning how other communities challenged them.

Member Armstrong thank Kivalina for hospitality. Good discussions these past couple days. Great to see the kids at school. Look forward to working with everyone.

Member McConnell thank Shirley, she worked hard to get this grant. Hope the Elders took advantage of the boiler program, still can sign up. Hear your needs of the gym.

Member Swan thank everyone for coming, thank you for all the work being done for Kivalina. We will remember the other ten communities that need our help too.

Member Magdanz mentioned great to be here. Appreciate all comments, great to hear concerns and comments. Tough choices ahead of us with the decline of Red Dog.

Vice President Sampson in Inupiaq, thank Kivalina for invitation to hold our meeting. He provided history of how governance ran in our area. Thankful for Austin speaking his mind. Expressed the importance of preservation of Inupiaq language. Future of this region?

President Hadley mentioned we were supposed to meet at the school, thankful met here at the NANA office so the public can attend easily. Thankful for Mayor and staff, look forward to next month meeting.

Becky Norton mentioned she will be sending a letter regarding patients traveling because no room at hotel and have to sleep at hospital lobby. Need help for patient housing.

President Hadley stated Buckland started a petition regarding this issue.

MAYORS COMMENTS

Mayor Moto invites you to see the new school. Express gratitude to Director Hatch, Jones and Hill. Thankful for hosting us today.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Swan motion to adjourn, seconded by Vice President Sampson at 2:09 P.M.

