

**City of Aniak**  
**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**Aniak City Office**  
**Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 6:00 PM**

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**Meeting Minutes**

**I. Call to Order-** Meeting called to order by Mayor D.Bonanno at 6.14pm

**II. Roll Call**

DBonanno-P on teleconference, SCharles-AE, AFolz-P, AMorgan-P, CMorgan-P, LSeavey-AE, BWilson-P

Staff Present: LKameroff -P, MSimeon-P on teleconference, MJohn-AE, FVaska-P

Members of the Public: Ronald Underwood and Nicholas Martinez, LGS for Aniak

**III. Public Participation-None**

**IV. Approval of Agenda-** Motion made by CM, 2<sup>nd</sup> by AM. All approved. Agenda accepted.

**V. Previous Meeting Minutes-** No Minutes ready for March 26, 2025 BW made a motion to defer March 26, 2025 meeting minutes until our next regular meeting. Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM. All approved.

**VI. Reports**

- A. Mayor Report-D. Bonanno- Comments on excessive billing or invoicing for city services. Public and Council comments of expenses being excessive. This is NOT true. We go over our budget every month. Our sewer rates have not been raised in 10 years. Our Public Works Fees have never been changed. Construction debris to landfill hasn't been charged. Comments on people leaving Aniak are not due to our sewer billing, it is the rise in fuel costs, store prices and fewer selections to shop. Our Infrastructure on a 30-year-old sewer system to maintain costs a lot of money and maintenance. We are charging a reasonable rate for sewer and landfill fees compared to other communities. There is not much of an income base in Aniak. We have been trying to save money. We purchased bulk fuel tanks and bulk fuel, cutting costs where we can. We need more creative ideas. Our utility and services charges are fair. The current system will eventually need upgrades. This is not cheap. We have \$109,000 in past due balances. AF- What other alternatives do we have? Is it possible to have isolation valves to each household with past due balances? All staff members are doing the best they can. We have lost some very key employees. GH, CL, SS. CMorgan- All you said is good. I wish the public were present. At a public meeting it would be the best place to talk about this. We need to bring this up in a public meeting. DB- Thank you to the Council members for your time and effort on the work you've done, even with 4 council members. Because a lot of these things involve more than what you see on paper.
- B. Aniak Volunteer Fire Department - SCERP Meeting Update-Animal Control Discussion- LKameroff- I do not have the Animal Control information currently. My week was cut short. DB-We can also use this time for Fire Wise updates and reminders. We will figure out how to incorporate this in our SCERP meetings. We will schedule the next SCERP meeting for Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:30. We have received the Red SCERP Books and will be notifying entities to pick up.
- C. Public Works - F. Vaska- March has seen all different weather, and we have tried our best to deal with the roads without putting unnecessary strain on our grader. We have been staying on top of the sewer systems and have been meeting with Missy and Bruce Werba. We have been keeping up with the Fire Station, with the water freezing a couple of times throughout the month and hauled another 250 gallons into the main heat tank. AC Co. donated a pallet of water that we brought to the High School in the event of an emergency. We have started our full-time position employee, Joe Pete, teaching him the basics of the job. We plan on dealing with the Landfill again soon, as well as the Lagoon. CM-requested Public Works to grade down 3<sup>rd</sup> Road. LK- Stated roadway issues of not being able to grade down certain roads is due to vehicles, boats, and 4-wheelers on the easements. What can the

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council suggest other than the notices and signs posted in the community? DB-had questions regarding grading the post office road as an example. LK-reminded the council that it is on privately owned land. It is up to the owners to maintain their road. DB-offered other suggestions to help to maintain the roads.

- D. City Clerk- M. Simeon-Verbal report. Out on leave right now. I've been keeping up with my daily tasks. On leave of absence but called into the meeting.
- E. Finance Director/City Clerk Assistant - M. John- MJ was absent from the meeting. LKameroff answered any questions in the Financial Report. A copy of the Spring 2025 Operations and Maintenance Best Practices score was included in the meeting packet. LKameroff gave a brief overview of the report and scoring. Motion made by WW to approve financial report as presented. Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by AM. All present council approved. March 2025 Financial Statement approved.
- F. City Manager - L. Kameroff-Sad to report that our Finance Director/Assist. Clerk has turned in her 2 week notice. Maciel's last day will be April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Our IMLS grants- all staff are on administrative leave as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025. They recommended for us to prepare to close out any open grants. There is a CPR/First Aid Training at the Arviq Office on May 6<sup>th</sup> from 9-5pm. Please get ahold of them if any staff or council would like to attend. I received a phone call from J.Kameroff Jr. from Napaimute about Brownfields-Contaminated Land located around the City Office? Has anyone heard of this? Or remember it being brought up in past meetings? No one can think of any at this time. I attended the YK Frontier Road Project meeting this past week. Very informative. They presented 5 options of possible locations and are holding community meetings to gather input on which "Road" would work best or least favorable. I will be working on our Insurance Renewal application the remainder of this week and submit it on Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. Went over a draft agenda for our SCERP meeting this Friday. Also, the FEMA BRIC program has been closed down. Questions regarding who would determine a Flood Evacuation? The Incident Commander. DB gave an overview of what would be done if we needed to evacuate the community. What are we planning to do with our buildings? The old library and the new. If planning to rent out, we would need to contact the Church for their approval. Or another option could be to move it down to the landfill. I requested N.Martinez to assist with writing a letter or Lease Agreement for the storage of the ambulance. Several times the doors have been left open, lights left on. And it is the most difficult building to keep warm. I would also like to hold more Work Sessions with the Council. For the Sewer Utility, the Roads, and the Landfill. There are many more discussions we need to have about our city services and how they should work.

**VII. Old Business**

- A. Ordinance 25-02 Introduction to Establishing a \$10 Per Person Bed Tax Ordinance- DB opened the floor for discussion. AF-Missing the Code Ordinance and Classification section on heading. LK- We will look more into this and get it corrected. LK-I also had another question; would this Bed Tax include the 2% Sales Tax as well? Council discussed Section 4 and added in the beginning of description "In addition to the 2% Sales Tax, a fee of \$10....." BW made a motion to approve Ordinance 25-02 for Public Hearing as amended for our next regular meeting. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by AF. All present council approved. Ordinance 25-02 approved for Public Hearing.  
  
The council has agreed to take a 10-minute break. In 7:28-Back in regular session at 7:36pm
- B. Ordinance 25-03 Introduction to Amending Ordinance 18-02 Landfill & Trash Haul to include Section 05.25.090 Exempted Business Requirement- DB opened the floor for discussion. Discussion ensued about a graduating scale for commercial businesses and how other commercial businesses generate waste to the landfill. Discussion also went towards small businesses that accumulate large amounts of solid waste and no way to charge them. Discussion also went over moving a building down to the landfill to have the landfill supervised A Motion was made by CM to table this discussion until we have a Work Session before our next regular meeting, to further discuss this. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by BW. All present council approved.

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**VIII. New Business**

- A. Resolution 25-03 Closure of ARPA and Grant Bank Accounts-LK went over Resolution to council. Motion made by AM to approve Resolution 25-03; motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM. All approved. Resolution passed.
- B. Ordinance 25-04 Introduction to FY26 Budget Appropriations-We had a few good days with our LGS Nicholas Martinez planning our budget for FY26. LK went over budget creation with council members. Employee wages and how they are entered. Planning for the work this summer on the Levee, the Landfill and the Sewer and Road projects. Went over the Insurance costs increase of 5% from last year. Equipment fuel and heating fuel costs for purchasing in bulk. We also had to look at all our revenue sources, Sales Tax, Sewer Utility payments, Tobacco Tax payments using the previous year's numbers. We came up with a balance budget for FY26 as presented. Motion made by BW to approve FY26 Budget Appropriations for Public Hearing at our next regular council meeting. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by AF. All present council approved. Ordinance 25-04 is approved for Public Hearing.
- C. Residential Utility Rate Break-Discussion- DB opened the floor for discussion. BW requested to Table this discussion until we can have a work session before our next regular meeting. AF had some questions about legal ramifications from larger businesses that would be paying higher sewer rates. Motion made by AF to table discussion until we hold a Work Session. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by AM. All present council approved.
- D. Executive Session-Employee/Staff Evaluations-Motion made by AM to go into Executive Session. Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by CM. All approved. We went into the Executive Session at 8:19pm. Motion made by CM to come out of Executive Session. Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by AM. All Approved. Came out of Executive Session at 9:08pm.

**IX. Council Comments- None**

- X. Time and Place of Next Meeting- ~~May 21, 2025, Regular Council Meeting 6pm~~** Next regular meeting is scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6pm. Work Session date TBD. Motion made by CM to adjourn the meeting at 9:14pm, motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by AM. Meeting adjourned at 9:14pm.

**XI. Adjourn**

Attested:

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Vice Mayor William Wilson      *Signed: Date*

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City Clerk Morgan Simeon      *Signed: Date*