

City of Aniak
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Teleconference
Thursday, December 16 , 2021 at 7 PM

Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting Information:

*To Participate please call 1-800-315-6338
Conference Code- 54481#*

I. Call to order 7:08

II. Roll Call:

Dave Bonanno P; Clare Morgan P; Dave Cannon P; A Morgan A; Nick Kameroff P Staff: L. Kameroff; D. Lehman. Public :Racheal Donkenslodeban; Leslie Bolens

III. Approval of Agenda: DC:Add Elder Pavilion to agenda. Motion NK; CM all Aye. Election of officers-postpone until full council member attendance. DC: Council Vacancies? LK: Notices posted. DC: Encourage recruitment.

IV. Public Participation:

Racheal D. Looking into what would it take to have an ice rink in Aniak. Have looked grants for liner that other communities have used... Asking for council support. would be city public works-a community project.. DL: Could you mail city info on the liner/equipment or a link/website? We are working on park now and could add to park plans. RD: yes will do.

Leslie Boelens: The elder pavilion important that our priority is what we are hearing community wise. I don't think the community wants it there-small isolated a bad location-a draw for unsupervised youth-vandalism. Don't think elders will use it. Will encourage reckless driving, etc...large youth population, parks, skate rink is good. Maybe seasonal benches in other areas of town where youth and elders will mix & congregate.

Previous meeting minute: November 18 motion to approve Nick/DB. All ayes. Approved.

Reports: Diana-Vol. Fire Dept. I have nothing. DC: have something to report. I asked about fire dept. issues with Lisa Shields-What if difficult to get people involved. Common for out here and there may be a time to acknowledge that there is not a dept.

Missy: **animal control** report/under FD report: DL: We have had a number of loose dog complaints and a dog bit person. Sent letter to dog's owner that if it happens again we will send a notice to the troopers to dispose of dog. Sent same letter to troopers. Dog is considered a hazard and there will be no second chance. Had a call suggesting we use dog fines to hire dog catcher-fines to date including sales of collars and cables is \$376 dollars. It would take \$3,800 a month to have part-time dog catcher. The question is "How much money do people want to add to their public work fee to have a dog catcher?" Catching the dogs does not solve the problem-that is just the most expensive solution, as we would have to feed and house them after they are caught.... I don't want to frighten people but if I were doing this by myself-without other opinions being involved-I would put out a lot of information about children being harmed by dogs-the damage, the harm, the costs, the liability...when all is said and done, I don't want someone to get hurt by a dog-I don't want a child savaged by a dog. I also don't want accidents to happen on the road because of loose dogs. We are not training the dogs; we are training the people...responsibility also lies with the people who think it is important enough to call us BUT not important enough to say, "I know who's dog it is." It is the

responsibility of the people to change-catching the dogs will not change it. DC: We have been dealing with this for long time. CM: Our dog was hurt bad enough to be put down from injuries inflicted by another dog. DC: A fox maybe? CM: I think not. I figure I know who's dog it is-7 pets they have. DC: As bus driver I see a lot. DL: There are ways to use Covid dollars for animal control...purchase more cables and provide someone to install tie-down cables for people. Hopefully to get more people using tie-outs. DC: ordinance says first is a warning notice, then fine. DL: I consider posting a picture of a loose dog at the post office the first notice. I don't need to know owner to post notice the dog being loose. DC: Not easy to tackle. I hope something improves the situation. Everyone post your concerns on Facebook. **Library:** Have hired Ben Morgan part time to work on moving books, etc... Hopefully we will have some regular library hours in January. One more thing-TKC has a virtual mapping project and will be working with us to scan some of Arlene Clay's archive material into their project, which will also be used in our library project. DC: that is #6 in grant list. LK: If you want more info on grants call us and we will get you a copy of any grant.

Finance Report: LK: Pg. 5- Meeting order of business. Does council want to use the order as it is in the ordinance book? DC: Think we have public participation up front for reason...but not reg. agenda. Want reg. ord. order or, should keep it as is now So people don't have to wait to comment. Stick with what we have. LK: Be adaptable? Cares Act funding : Obligate by end of Dec.. 31st Expend by Sept. 30, 2022. DC; How much? LK: About \$41,000. DC: We said we would use withing guidelines. Any suggestions? DL: We said we would spend on electric credits, there is resolution in packet. Simple and needed after cold spell. DC: Can we replace electric with sewer expenses instead? Good ideas as we have over \$100k in unpaid sewer bills> DL: There was a reason didn't do sewer before-because we didn't charge for 3 months. and can't use to cover city utility loss. DC: can we use it that way now? DL: A problem because...payments go to overdue amounts first, not current. Some people have judgement account and reg. account...might run into problem if payment goes to old or judgement account. Elec. was easiest because those problems aren't there...everyone gets same amount applied to same current (economic need)...DC: I know extra work but can you give sewer payment to current accounts and elec. credit to overdue sewer accounts? DL: Who is going to do the extra work? Missy and I are overwhelmed as it is...also, giving (sewer) money to people who owe us money and are not paying their bill...does that seem fair to the people who are paying their bill? Elec. credit is easiest, sewer is complicated. We tried fuel using both fuel providers but got complicated because one did not give us a timely accounting...we can't be chasing around trying to find out if people got their benefit. We know elec. meets criteria simply, and most even-handed. CM: Want to say that I live on my social security. I feel I am doing better now with non-working benefits-I can handle \$70 for sewer but paying for lights is a lot harder. Sewer is a known amount to pay (doesn't fluctuate like elec.) easier to pay each month. DC: I just thought it would help with city burden of trying to collect owed sewer monies...DL: people with unpaid sewer simply chose not to pay because we don't shut off sewer...so "what are you going to do to me?" is the attitude. For those with judgements we have garnished PFG but others have garnished ahead of us, so same thing, "what are you going to do to me?" Next we are going to go to garnishing wages because there are employed people who are still choosing not to pay sewer bills. We should also consider taking action to put on lien on property...that is standard practice...for companies you don't pay. A lien means you can't sell your property until the bill is paid. If we put this in our ordinance then people who chose not to pay us won't be able to sell their property until they do pay us. Also, effects credit score, etc...DC: But standard business practices don't always apply to us...DL: But they do apply-the recent YKHC federal grant for clinic states that the city (we own clinic land and lease to YKHC) has a lien liability if YKHC misspend grant. In recent private property sale to Kuspuk, city did not get paid back sewer debt from previous owner because no lien when property was sold-twice. The practice of property liens for debts does apply out here...we just were not aware of it. It doesn't mean

we are taking the property-we are not. It just means no sale of property until debt is paid. It is a smart thing to do. It keeps people from being able to say, "I will never pay sewer bill and when I die, too bad." We have to let people know we really are serious about collecting on past due accounts. LK: I do have 3 statements all customers that have over \$500 unpaid. You have accounts in hand...it's a lot of money where they manage to pay other things. DL: The people who pay their sewer bills monthly are carrying those who do not. Missy do you want to talk about this-it is part of your report...

LK: Small claims report, will send out more this coming year. Notices of: move to wage garnishments.

Looking at using troopers as process servers-\$65 each time they serve. 22 new cases to file, 18 that will be wage garnishment. Crystal will be starting work at office soon. Parts on order for plumbing in city office. Next year's budget we need to look at March/April/May to work with Fred on budget. Budget must be approved by June when we have to submit to state for PILT applications. Please check your schedules and let me know which month is best...by Feb. DC: Questions for Missy. CM: Any news on FEMA reimbursement? DL: No, but I believe gov. just submitted his budget and I believe state is holding on to FEMA funds as long as it can. DC: We borrowed that money...? DL: From the sewer account-it will go back to as soon as we are reimbursed. DC: Look over budget...DL: can I talk about stipends for council members-Fred sent me some samples-I don't think we will be able to get it into ordinance until we do our new budget. We need to get ordinance ready and in place... It is budget item.

DC: Any questions on budget-pg. 20-30...DB: On stipend, I don't know if it is worth it. Will it make a difference to attract people to council...DL: You don't have to accept it...sewer stipends are enough to sweeten the pot...DB: Never had stipends before...maybe taxable income is an issue for some...to put stipends we need to calculate it in the budget. CM: I think they used in 70's. Motion to approve the budget for November. CM: moves/DB 2nd. All AYE.

City Manager report DL: Issue regarding power poles on road easements ROW, Aniak Light and Letter-basic letter with historical information...pg. 49...a response to facebook post...but have been asking AL&P for any copy of easements. There is no recorded easement doc. For AL&P...maybe assumed permission...BushTell has easement agreement...but not AL&P record. We have to clear these records in order to get State road improvement funds. DC: I spoke with Darlene she mentioned a blanket easement they gave to city...have you got? At some point AL&P gave a doc to city. DL: Then before my time, I will ask her again for a copy of documents. DC: How hard to make new doc- If we are OK with poles where they are how hard to come up with an easement agreement. I don't know where they would move them. I personally don't see a problem. DL: They would move them where they are supposed to be, at the edge of the road, instead of being 20' into our 60' road easement. Usual utility easement is 10ft. There are some places where two cars can't pass each other...DC: That's most of that road anyway (river ave.) DL It is difficult, there will be compromises , but we deserve more than 20' road, people deserve same attention to their safety (on river ave.) as people get on other roads that have the correct utility easement...I would be happy to work with AL&P on grants to move poles...we need the info from AL&P...all the residents in Aniak deserve the same degree of (road) maintenance and safety. You cannot NOT HAVE easement agreements-they are the first thing DOT or BIA will ask for on a road project...the city will be asked to provide clear easements. It is complicated, it will take a long time, it won't be perfect, but we can't say it is too hard. CK: Harry Clark owned AL&P before Demantle. DL: Definitions of easement and ROW. A blanket easement should say where the easement is...they are usually perpetual. DC: Maybe we can find it...CM: How far did you go back? DL: 1951.

DL: I will contact Darlene again the purpose of the letter. They want to sell...prospective purchasers needs to know about these problems...what needs to be different. BushTell is willing to discuss changes. .DC: I have green pole in yard. DL:A problem with power poles being 20' into road is that property

owners assume pole is the edge of their property right, and they can do everything they want on what is 20' of the city road easement. That's why we end up with so much stuff on road ROW. We need to get it right-get it better than it is. NK: the process is in place...DL: Yes we know better than we were...it will take years but city needs to know it is there. DC: We have covered stipends. No more questions move to new business.

Public Works- Greg's report: DL: a question-Greg is on leave, are we covered? DL: yes. Don't see any problems. DC: About Joe Parent tear-down and putting in landfill. Same entity as school construction...do we have capability to handle & be compensated? DL: We will follow same fee schedule and requirements regarding what waste we take. The second landfill cell has lots of room. All the rules remain the same but additional consideration for hazardous waste from Joe Parent Center. We won't be taking anything that could be contaminated by PCBs. DC: Do you know who will be involved to verify non-hazard or hazard status of material? DL: I assume the State will be involved as this was a .hazmat cleanup site that they spent a lot of money on. Process will be the same as last year but with hazmat concerns. DC: Discussed fire trucks freezing up, Greg made some efforts. DL: I think we can use Covid dollars because fire station is a Covid non-congregate shelter site. Will get a proposal worked up with some numbers.

- V. Next business: Resolution ____ Adopting HazardMit update...comfortable with something new members haven't read? DL: Change that FEMEA added is explanation why other communities were not asked to participate in our HazMat plan. You have to have FEMA Haz MIT plan approved to apply for grants. DC: resolution could be passed tonight? DL: YES. DC: What do council member think? NK: beneficial to move forward? DL: I don't think we will be doing FEMA grant this year. NK: Move to postpone.CM 2nd. ALL AYE.
Res 21-20-signitures on small claims documents. LK: Wait till we have election of council officers if council so wishes. NK: Move to postpone.CM 2nd. ALL AYE.
Resolution or a letter for a Bank Account request change: pg. 43. Request for account name change. Motion CM 2nd. ALL AYE, Letter approved.
Memo of agreement for road dust project with Tribe DL: I need the council to read it and add suggestions-DC: Who is going to purchase needs to be added. DC: Don't want approval tonight-a first draft-need council input. DL: I need to mention using the state dust control application handbook ...final MOA is a couple versions away. Not to pass till Tribe also has a chance to see it.
- VI. **Old Business: Resolution ____** for Hazard Pay for sewer utility workers: Motion: NK 2nd CM. Discussion: NK: I think we need to wait because we are short 2 council members. DC: Four is a quorum? DB: Are we happy with the amounts? CM: If the money is there...DB: is covid grant money, yes? DM: I think the sooner the better-they kept sewer going. DC: question- what if someone leaves...add a pro-rate pay out. DL: it only the hours they handle sewage it is appropriate. YKHC gave employees who worked thru pandemic...the city would stand out for NOT giving a bonus to our employees. DC: Only concern if someone left and deserved some payment...DL: will add pro-rated on monthly basis. NK: motion to approve as amended 2nf DB. Question called: ALL AYE. Passes.
Resolution 21-19 obligating Cares Act funds for electrical payment. DC: we have discussed it. Will read resolution, Motion CK 2nd NK: Discussed NK. Call question: ALL AYES approved.
Resolution 21-21 Bonus to admin. employees. NK: Amount isn't there. DL: thought I had included it-let me print a copy off computer. LK: It is on this copy. DL: The amount is \$3,000. DC: Lots of extra hours? DL: More than that-this is retroactive for when we were working during emergency orders. PW employees went home early with pay because of covid concerns about working with co-

workers. That is our covid policy-nobody loses pay if they lost hours because of covid. But admin. staff didn't have that option. Covid meant more and more hours, more and more work because of covid. We had to join our bubbles rather than stay away from each other. We had to deal with customers, Missy especially. We didn't get half days, we go 10-hour days. DC: are you salaried? DL: now, hourly, but the cost to our private lives to do all the extra work was immense. For example, we required every business coming into Aniak to have their covid mitigation plan on file with us, and we shared it with YKHC clinic for their review, before their people could come into Aniak. I would say every contractor did it-KNIK set the example. I don't think there were that many communities that were that through. If I saw a contractor employee walk into the store without a mask, I called them on it and notified their boss. We did this extra work and lost so much of our private time...we were so understaffed. This is a fair acknowledgement. DC: we appreciate all that was done. Motion CM 2nd DB. ALL AYES. Approved.

DC: Elders pavilion last old business. Landlord letter of consent for YKHC. YKHC called yesterday saying they needed this for them to get federal grant for clinic's sterile improvement room improvements. DC: Do we make money off of lease? DL: No. DC: reads letter of agreement. \$60,000 for total of 5 clinics. We have done this before. Motion to approve letter of consent NK 2nd ALL AYES.

Discuss Elder's Pavilion. DL: Not an actual proposal but an easement offer to the city. . DC: Discussing it because it should have been brought up by you as a public participation first. Had suggestion it could be an ethics violation if you were working on grants or something and included that in there. There are people that do have concerns. Concerns on how it handled...DL: Ethically if I were an elected official and money were being exchanged I could see that...but that's not the case. NK: you did mention survey costs. DL: not money to me but to surveyors. NK: it is too small a piece of property for what is proposed. DL: That is fine. It was just a possibility on a list of possibilities. DC: So, you would be pursuing..? DL: There is nothing for me to pursue...if the city wanted it I would have created an easement agreement. DC: But you did mention approaching TKC? DL: That was a possibility if they were interested. DC: We need to give a thumbs up or thumbs down? DB: I'd like to say a few things, as I asked for this to be added to the agenda. Nothing about the process. But encourage us to be discerning beyond Carrie L. and Leslie B. comments. Is it a good use of our time and effort and finances? Also, I wonder...I like the idea of a walking trail but don't know if we need a structure there (corner of First St. and River Ave.)? I look at that small piece of land-is it large enough for parking, etc...think of maint, area impact, liability...DL: Could I suggest we really need to be thinking about someplace for elders to sit and watch the river...if not this we should have something in our consciousness...NK: a what? CM: an elder pavilion to watch river from. DL: esp. for elders a safe and comfortable place. .DC: I brought up TKC land or other flat land. End of runway is best place but state will balk...that's the best place. DL: Perhaps what has come from this proposal discussion is that we should put a proposal to the DOT for end of runway viewing pavilion and see what they say. CM: Right where airplanes fly over...DL: which is DOT would say no. I think we need to see and pursue and give other options to the community. I think we should pursue. Esp. since ARPA covid fund use encourages creating safe healthy outdoor spaces for the community. NK: does city have other land further down the way to consider? DL: don't think so. Most is levee easements. DC: can we get maps? DL: watching river break up is so significant. NK: invite other organizations? CM: who owns AC dike? DL: it belongs to someone but don't know who. How about the city land there? DL: I can check records. DC: About the metal steps-there are elderly people walking up and down where old steps were...dangerous for all. KN: We need access places. DL: we took down old stairs because of liability, and Corp of engineers didn't like them. NK: City should pursue can covid funds pay? I will look into it. CM: Maybe wooden steps. DC: All done. End. Motion to adjourn. CM: Motion:

LK: Don't forget to sign x-mas cards and checks and ID copies. Also think about those who are missing meetings.

VII. **Time and place of next meeting:** Dec. 20th, 2022. 7 pm.

SCERP-Call of the Chair

Regular Scheduled Meeting:

Adjourn Motion:

Attested by:

Vice-Mayor Dave Cannon 12/16/2021

City Manager Diana Lehman 12/16/21