

City of Aniak
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Teleconference
Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 7:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Virtual Meeting Information:

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

- I. Call to Order**-Meeting called to order by Mayor N. Kameroff Jr @ 7:18pm
- II. Roll Call**-CM, DB, AM(phone),AL(ExAb),CE(ExAb) Staff Present: LKiana, LKameroff(phone), MSimeon, GHager(Ab), RHill(Ab)
- III. Approval of Agenda**-Motion made by CM to approve agenda, motion 2nd by DB. All approved agenda as presented.
- V. Public Participation**-None
- VI. Previous Meeting Minutes**
- A. January 19, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes
- Motion to approve meeting minutes for January 19, 2023, made by CM 2nd by DB, Motion Carried.
- VII. Reports**
- A. Aniak Volunteer Fire Department – L.Kiana-None, no fire call
- B. Public Works - G. Hager- (Report Read by L. Kiana) Everything is going just fine in the public works Department. We have been staying busy with vehicle maintenance and shop work. We changed out 16 old light fixtures with new LED units. We now have better lighting, and it should save some money on electric usage. We have contacted SKW Construction about purchasing some of their heavy equipment that is located here in Aniak. This is something that wouldn't happen until late summer. Wish I had more to report but no news is usually a good thing. We will continue to do what it takes to keep things running. Mayor N Kameroff Jr had a couple questions, Light & Power connections he wasn't aware of connection of light & power to buildings. When switching generators it flips the switch, L Kiana checks lift stations daily, only freeze-up is the library, Light and power connections issue to building, post office lift station, shuts down w/ fluctuation public works department keeping watch on shutdowns.
- C. Library – R.Hill-(Report Read by M. Simeon)-Aniak Public Library still doesn't have running water, also our internet has been running slow for a while which I have to come in early at least 15 minutes to restart the internet. For the past 2 ½ weeks I've been on zoom meetings with IMLS projects, including gatherings to help with issues on patrons or computers. There have been some patrons that are late with returning their items to the library. I'm grateful that they have been taking the time to call in and have me re-issue the return date of that item. My co-worker has been on travel for a while for school and appointments. I'm glad to say that it hasn't been so hectic here at work. Mayor N Kameroff Jr asked about librarian and hours if it has been opened.
- D. City Clerk-M. Simeon- So far everything has been going well. I assigned four elders to our participants that signed up, one of the participants followed up by email and let me know that they checked on her, dumped her trash and her husband was going to get her four-wheeler working. I've been getting more familiar with work and tasks and staying busy at the office. I'm slowly learning the process of our council meetings and getting the agenda and meeting minutes completed in a timely manner.
- E. Finance Director- L. Kameroff-Aside from financial report, when Leon was at training he had me call a water assistance program with the state of Alaska and for us to become vendor's with them so we can help our customers with their past sewer bills and be paid ahead of time, once we get approval to be a

vendor for the program I can start sending applications to the customers, working on budget amendments, all departments will have an amended budget to go over at the next meeting. Mayor NKameroff asked who's the vendor, we the city will be the Vendor, we have a form here we can provide to customers, Missy and I will work on the cover letter, in the process of doing that and it's a move forward on our collections. The past due will be paid also, customers will have to apply, and be approved and submitted to the state. I'll also be working on next year's budget format, so we'll be able to have enlarge numbers available to read, won't come in effect until next year's budget so we must deal with what we have now. Also be working on projected expenses for wages, insurance, for each department. Next month we'll review FY22 financial report and get that approved along with the CAP application, I will contact our local government specialist to see if he'll be able to help with next year's budget. Sometime in next March or April, so we can have our budget approved before June when the application is due. Other things that are coming up the council should think of the winter carnival, RUBA training the library will be open for that, M Simeon had everyone registered. There's also class of 2023 coming up, will be looking at budget, donations is one of the over expenditures, good time to think about upcoming events. C Morgan says TC Winter Carnival beginning of March, 2nd weekend. City usually donates for the Turkey Shoot. Just the library department those CDBG grants I'm going to move those at the top of the report with the ARPA funds, wasn't budgeted. Next financial report it will be moved to the top, we will in the next week or two will have to transfer funds from sewer acct to general fund, part of carry over in the budget, we budgeted 147,000 in this year's budget and that's part of the used funds used in our carry over, so in the next week I'll transfer 50,000. Re allocating from one account to another, as an adjustment, some of departments such as donations, office supplies, they are over expended, planning on having those expenses budgeted that high.

Motion to approve February 16,2023 Financial Report by C Morgan, 2nd by D Bonanno, Motion passes approved by all.

F. City Manager – L Kiana-I did attend another grant writing seminar that dealt with “key phrase” wording on our actual grant proposals. I did get some good insight and help in wording for our next CDBG grant proposal for the Library/Elder Center during the next funding cycle. As a reminder TKC's 2023 Middle Kuskokwim Gathering for February 28 through March 2. This gathering will be a good forum to bring up the needs of all of us working together to bring about needed changes or implementation of programs regarding our livelihood. New demographics for our area that all stakeholders can utilize for grants or programs funded by the State. Joint ventures in acquiring new heavy equipment to use in our community in building structures, road maintenance, snow removal to mitigate Spring flooding potential, landfill management, sewer lagoon management, riverbank erosion abatement, City dock and boat launch ramp, etc. MOU or MOA for joint projects to share costs for dry wood clearing. Need chain saws to cutting down dead trees or cut fallen trees for local firewood. This would eliminate potential fire hazards including safety and health hazards. I have started my research for Federal grants for funds to revitalize our Fire Department in hopes to hire a paid Fire Chief. Other programs would include getting certified Volunteer Fire Fighters, EMT's and First Responders. This may also serve to start a Search & Rescue Team. So far, all I have gotten is just gathering information and just asking other communities as o their process in submitting their proposals. My upcoming training will be with FEMA Insurance Feb 27th through March 2nd in Anchorage. This training will position City of Aniak to be able to apply for disaster funds immediately and not be put on the list at the bottom of the list. Travel and Hotel costs are reimbursable directly from FEMA (up to \$1000).

TKC Gathering is at the end of the month, we will have a report for council to present at the TKC Gathering. Missy and I signed off on the E-Rate with GCI for another year, resistance going with Star link, extension with GCI, keep things as they are, was done this morning. Disaster relief programs, not going to give us high priority, important for the city of Aniak to be on that high priority list. Public assistance, free service for us to be able to be vendors, never know what will pick up at these meetings, to qualify for the assistance, probably no income vs. income, open to everyone, and everyone should apply and will help out a lot of people. C Morgan mentioned

about wood cutting, were allowed to knock down so many trees, doing it for elders, need more chainsaws, City and TKC can help and work together. N Kameroff are we going to be cutting around people houses to prevent fires; we're going to be doing elder library center and there's a lot that need to be cut down. Have you had a chance to get a hold of YKHC, L&P, ATC, please make it a directive to try to get that done, hope we can get some forward moving 3rd or 4th meeting about the fire station and cost. Mayor NK would like to see movement forward with Fire Station and the heated cost for building if City Manager got a hold of TKC, YKHC, AVCP, and ATC for help.

VIII. Old Business

- A. CDBG Grant Project Update on Library & Elder Center-Email from architects AK , right now the way it sits were going to have to look for other grants to make it work from CDBG we can get up to 850,000, the high estimate is 2.2 million for the facility to build it. Looking into other grants, because of the facility being a Elder/Library center I'm going to look into Rasmussen, Denali Commission and also UAF to get a community garden, we should be looking at nutrition for elders, make it a program to grow our own vegetable and can, use for our elder meals. Right now state doesn't have any funds for April or May, right after easter will be a good time, get our request known, we are late with capital improvement projects, but we can still go down and let them know who we are, Lyman Hoffman doesn't come here often, he can make an appearance we do exist, we have lots of erosion and flood potential. If we don't show up, they won't know us, its always good to make an appearance and that we do exist and have projects we need to get done here. 200,000 Sewer Lagoon Project drainage, 1st phase close out March 31, 2023, on track. This fall we will apply for FY24 2nd phase building.

IX. New Business

- A. Elected Officials Management Training-RUBA training, everyone is Registered. MSimeon Registered ALL Council Members.

X. Time and Place of Next Meeting-

March 16, 2023, Regular Meeting 7p.m./ Library Training March 2-10th 12:30pm-3:30pm

XI. Adjourn-DB made a motion to adjourn the meeting, motion 2nd by AM @ 8:17pm

Attested:

Mayor Nicholas H. Kameroff Jr. *Signed: Date*

City Manager Leon Kiana *Signed: Date*