

City of Aniak
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Teleconference

Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting Information:

To Participate please call 1-800-315-6338

Conference Code- 54481#

- I. **Call to order:** 7:07
- II. **Roll Call:** a s/m-few minutes late; dc; hm; nk;db; cm staff: lk/dl/gh
- III. **Approval of Agenda:** DC add to Business new or old? Wanted it on agenda, a discussion of tax as new business. LK amended public participation
NK: want to alter and add stuff to agenda DL: Adding to agenda today is a problem if public does not see on agenda. NK: want to add discussion of fuel hike. DC: I think we can add if need to discuss? An emergency meeting if public needs to have notice? NK: a resolution by city not to approve fuel hikes by suppliers. Add to new business.
As public participation: Herman: Dave has tax ord. conflict of interest if request amend. For his benefit.
Motion to approve agenda: nm/cm **all aye Agenda approved.**
- IV. **Public Participation:** DC: my letter re: tax amend. For low income businesses-low profit- net income of \$1,000 or less don't need to pay 2% tax. DL: as public- reason to do it are tax deduction benefits. Small taxes add up to a lot. City already is very liberal in business we excuse from pay tax- if you can take the time to do IRS deductions, why not take the time to do Aniak 2% taxes? \$20 to not worth it to you but every \$20, every small business trans. does matter to city tax income. If too much trouble you don't have to be a small business. City needs every bit of taxes they get. We don't need to be chopping away at an already slim list of taxable \$. DC: There are a lot of people doing things online not filing taxes. DB: Would be nice to encourage young people to do what Dave does. NK: pros and cons of running a business tax cost \$20 quarter or year? DC: I donate to city. DL: tax is on the person you sell to-sales tax. DC: I couldn't up my price-same as 20 years ago. I ask council to consider at next meeting.
DL: Other public-TKC has asked for a letter of support for training center grant applic...they have a deadline didn't meet agenda deadline. Read letter...TKC FishWheel. DC: add to official business.
HM: in city manager report.
- V. **Previous meeting minute: Motion to approve-postpone till next meeting.**

VI.Reports

1. A.Aniak Volunteer Fire Department - D.Lehman: no activity. Remind we don't have any volunteers. What does council want to do-send letter to community. CM-send letter out with next sewer bill. NK- seek funding for a paid position or two. DL: have recruit retention grant but can't keep them. NK: We should have two paid positions. DL: grant we have does not allow to hire fire fighter or chief with funds. NK: I move you start searching for grants to pay people for a full time job. LK: fire chief has never been a paid position. NK: we should be looking for funds for a paid fire chief. Only way to get vol. fire dept. Pay enough to make them want job. LK: regarding fire dept. expense...NK: Finish this discussion first. CE: are you able to look up grants, whatever? DL: Problem is that we are a volunteer fire. Dept. but if you don't have volunteers...we have to change ordinance to start. But generally volunteer FD have their

own charter, their own organization, they can choose their fire chief...but our ord. says manager will appoint but nothing about paying. Asked las council about making fire chief a paid position and they were not in favor of doing it. To give you an idea of pay, similar small community has a \$50,000 annual stipend. We can't make a volunteer fire dept. the volunteers need to make that happen. .NK: We need to change ordinance-lives matter. DL: agree but community needs to know AVFD situation as it is now...no one to call. No one willing to volunteer. Change ord. a good start. DC: Had an opportunity when Dodd was here-but although fold showed up at a fire, but no one for cleanup. A dilemma need volunteers, need interested people. DL: Todd took recruit position, but he quite because no one showed up. Urge you to encourage the tribe to get VPSO cause fire is one of their duties...review ordinance. It is a problem in many small communities but generally property taxes pay for fire department budgets. We don't have that. Start with ordinance and inform community. NK: Start with re-doing ordinance, must be money somewhere we can find to pay. CE: City and TKC (Tribe) work together to find grants? Will do a mailing, post on face book. DC: have a gathering at station in a few months? CE: Ask can TC help-not just city, is whole community issue. LK: ambulance issue-DL: We need to ask YKHC to contribute to fuel cost to keep ambulance warm-cost more to heat fire station than the public works shop. YKHC has budget enough to pay. CE: Clinic and tribe all need to get together and talk about this. DC: Gregg was it kept warm enough for tankers? GH: Did freeze but put blowers in-needs to have duct and fans if you want to keep warm. A real shame but a big issue. DL would like to see FD involve tribe TKC YKHC as an emergency/search and rescue center. CE: Something to add with insulation? DL: 3 overhead doors, things that could make more efficient-but really need people in there to pay attention to what is happening.

2. B.Public Works - C. Lang written report. GH: We had budgeted for equipment, but not expended, think we need a small dozer, maybe can buy SKW's in fall-\$50K. And labor intensive is brush clearing-suggest using ARPA money (\$139k) and buy track loader with HD mower. Lastly, clearing snow berm out of people's driveways...no other cities do that...Aniak started doing it to help out. If city wants to clean driveways increase sale tax to 3% and use 1% increase to hire people and purchase equipment. NK: If city does one person's drive way should you should do all the elder's driveways. MK: please don't mention or say negative things about employees in public meeting. HM: There are ways to get surplus equipment. Agree-can't be defaming folk in meeting. GH: Hard to hire folk for city-one benefit is to be able plow out family drive. Some personality's firecracker...that's what it is. When grader is out requires a second piece equipment required. Have to stop thinking it is the public works job to driveway. Buying junk equipment is not the way. NK:
3. C.Library - D. Lehman: More people using library. Ben has days he can't show, but better attendance as well as can be expected.
4. D.Finance Director/Financial Statement - L. Kameroff: Verbal report-CARES act close-out. Quarterly tax reports and open grant reports next month. Work on bulk fuel quotes. Clerk position open again. Request city manager evaluations. Review report it is updated. DC: about evaluations-took a long time to submit, then new council members. Wait for new members catch up. New members a constant. Not enough time to be able to evaluate. Wait some more? CE: Doesn't need whole council to review evals. DL: can we get back to financial report? DC: I stopped in when Fred was here. Looking fairly good for next year. NK: Want to see DC: any questions. **Motion to approve am/db all ayes.approved.**
5. E.City Manager - D. Lehman: Request a change to sewer ordinance to give city a right to file a lien against property but ordinance only says "court claim" want to add "or a lien against real property owner." NK: can't sell property until city debt is paid. DL: gives us better avenue than just PFD...we almost never get to a PFD with a judgement. Owner of property is responsible for sewer bill. NK: renters not paying? DL: not paying owner. DC: is council ok with this Motion to add to lien language to sewer ord Motion nk/db roll call am-abstain dc-y; nk-y; db-y; cm-y; 4 yes/1 abstain. Will introduce at next meeting. Changes to killing loose dog ordinance-need to know are we removing all or ordinance on capture, or adding a loose dog shoot policy? Our year around policy or occasional policy? Repeat offenders? Suggest we increase rental charge on Napiamut Bldg. to \$2,000 from \$1,400. We pay fuel

and have do maintenance frozen pipes; NK: Did it run out of fuel last time? DL: Price of fuel goes up rent should go up. And Document maintenance issues. DC: decide now? Tell them that in two months going to raise the rent. Concure: to raise rent with 2 months notice. Stop sign at dump road-will ask public works to remove this spring. Also, some driveway stuff in packets. It appears driveway to Kameroff home is called Kameroff Lane and in the city & tribe road inventory. Problem with Maddson fence and grader can't go in & turn around. NK: Maddson should not be encroaching 9'-a domino effect. Now has a 40' TKC easement. CM: is there a map? Where is 1st Street? DOT said we would have to talk to lease department & look airport plan to see if restricted area or not. I suggest we try to use 2nd street that we own instead of paying forever. DC: NK: Lease of a dollar? DC: We have DOT leases? Public works at commercial rates. NK: how much do we have 60' easement. Infrastructure grant symposium important to attend-what we need assistance with-I suggest a fund bulk fuel storage tank for city. We purchase from Crowely when bulk runs out. K: empty tanks by barge landing. DL: find a way for infrastructure grants to pay for bulk tank, levee maint, stormwater drainage...DC: don't think we can fix stormwater drainage...live with it. NK: look for \$, install suitable culverts, etc...proper drainage, fix low spots. Do we want to maintain random drug test policy-any council input. Downside could make finding employees harder. Do we want to change it or continue using company to select random tests. DC: council thoughts NK: we should enforce regardless. DC: People using equipment should be using: Continue with random testing policy. AM: River Road needs raised up-low areas by city office and TKC office-Infrastructure money to raise roads...could add culverts. DL: I would be looking for funding for that.

VII. New Business

1. A. Declaration of Candidacy for Appointment/Election of Officers Council votes: Charlene Eric. **Motion to accept cm/db all ayes. Approved.** Accept Herman Morgan-Herman, do you accept? Yes. Missy swears them in with oath of office. Election of officers: Dave Cannon-no other. Motion .nk/cm **Dave Cannon Mayor.** HM: Mayor should apologize. All calling a POINT OF ORDER. HM you are out of order. Discussion about saying things on face book private account...DL: a good time to create a city policy about rules for using public media-this a good time to make a policy as we don't have one. Give me a chance to write something. CE/NK: at home is a personal account. Back to Vice mayor: Nick Kameroff am/cm-any other nom? **Nick Kameroff Vice Mayor.** We never have had a Treasurer? Missy does this don't see a volunteer should take it on. Continue as part of Missy's job duties. HM: is treasurer city manager's job. DL: I suggest we look at changing ordinance as it does not fit how we operate. CM: secretary treasurer would have to take minutes? NK: if you have a office assistant they could do it? LK: City clerk ultimately would. But treasurer does more. DC: continue as we have been with missy doing all? **NK: Motion to keep to as is: nk/ce -all ayes.**
2. B. Ordinance 22-01 Introduction to FY23 Budget: Introduced. Salary increases in new budget? HM: don't think should give raise w/o evals. Bad to use carryover as they have been. City manager should tell council how much expected to get at this conference? DL: to clarify the symposium is about grant that the Feds will be making available. Not about what we are getting. To get up to speed to apply for grant. Council will decide what we apply for. HN: budget is top heavy with employment, not enough services. LK: Come to budget meetings it helps. Compare them. We are using less carryover than last year. Putting money into general savings for first time. The budget numbers fluctuate. Budget can always be amended-it is an active document. I am always here for questions. DC: **We can approve for public hearing. Motion nk/cm -all aye.** LK: Would like to approve with special meeting so we can budget sharing documents done. Will post. Needs to be posted for 5 days. Schedule a special meeting to approve on March 29th 7pm.
3. C. Subdivision Lehman Lot 1 & 2 HM: Conflict of interest-disqualify for financial interest. NK: I want to know too. DL: I submitted subdivision plat to divide my lot in to. NK: This should be in people to be heard. DC: It should not be presented as agenda. NK: Intent. DL: Future possibility of building another house. NK: There is a conflict of interest with city manager asking for this. DC: should have been a people to be heard issue. LK: Being as it is her own property, who else could bring it before the council?

DL: I am presenting as required to put council notice. You want me to bring it up as public to be heard?
DC: yes. NK: move to table to next meeting.

4. D.FY23 PILT Verification Form DC: We approve signing to get PILT money. Who do we get this from? Any problem to accept this? Accept and move on CM/AM/HM/dc/nk/ce.
5. E.VEEP Funding Opportunity DL: A grant from AK Energy Authority. Can use for energy efficiency measures. I'd like to apply to do something with fires station to bring heat down to floor. NK: public buildings only? LK: Asked Charlie and Stephen about what our public buildings needed. Suggested lift station, fires station, city office windows, city shop doors windows, etc...DL: Don' know how much money we can get...put goal to get as much as we can to do as much as we can. Am: fire hall-a way to put a floor in and offices? DL: Has a mezzanine. LK: Our population is 460.

VIII.Old Business

1. A. Snow Removal and Snow Berms: We discussed earlier in meeting. LK: Policy do we have one? DL: If not we need to make one. DC: Greg suggest upping taxes to pay for budget increase if we were to consider...NK: If employee uses city equip. who pays if it breaks. HM; point of order CM: appreciate what they have done when they can.
2. B. Animal Control Ordinance Discussion: Tookasuk Bay sample. DC: Consider getting a paint gun. HM: we hired someone or vpso tied dog to sewer fence-3 days disposed of with \$40 fine. CM: had a VPSO. Paint gun is good to mark dog. DC: any thoughts? DL: do we want to pay someone to shoot with paint gun? CE: Volunteers to shoot. DL: I suggest public works guys can't also chase dogs. DL: Safety issues with vol. chasing and painting dogs. DL: I will look for paint gun ordinance. Modify, consider vol. for paint guns. But if too may loose, choose a period of time to shoot loose dogs. LK: How do you know whose dog it is? DL: point of paint policy is to let you know that next time dog will be shot. Our everyday policy...or once a month? What's the cut off for shooting bullets instead or bullets. CE: Three shots of paint then bullet? DL: We don't know how long paint stays on dogs, etc...need to find out if it stays on/how long. POLICY: If your dog comes home with paint on it is a candidate to be shot. Ce: A bounty on loose dogs. Collect and put down. They have to make a living. set a bounty. NK: require type of gun to shoot dogs with.

VI. Time and place of next meeting: Special Meeting March 29th Public Hearing

VII. April 21st 7pm

SCERP-Call of the Chair
Regular Scheduled Meeting:

Adjourn Motion: nk/ce all aye Adjourn 9:56

Attested by:

Vice Mayor Dave Cannon date

City Manager Diana Lehman date