

# City of Aniak

P.O. Box 189  
Aniak, Alaska 99557  
Ph: (907)675-4481 Fax: (907)675-4486  
email: [cityofaniak@gmail.com](mailto:cityofaniak@gmail.com)

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## City Manager Report November 2023

Good evening!~ This past month has been busy as ever! Teleconferences, phone calls, ZOOM meetings and trainings, reports, reports, reports! Here they are so far:

**LIBRARY-** I would like the council to think about moving the library into our current City Office until we are able to get funding for our new Library/Elder Center figured out. Since we are already planning on using this building in the design phase of the new library building, it would seem appropriate. I have not been able to contact Architects Alaska about this but will be contacting them soon. The square footage of the current library is 672sq.ft. and it was built in 1982. The City Office has 784sq.ft of space and it was also built in 1982. Our Rental Building (brown building) is 832sq.ft. and it was built in 1999. So, both offices, the library and City Office would have more space.

For the Librarian position, I would like to have the Librarian work at least 2 hours in the office to work on current grant objectives and learn what needs to be done for the library at all times. In our Public Library Assistance Grant, our library is required to be open at least 10 hours a week, 48 weeks a year. I would suggest the operation hours for the Library for Thursday/Friday 4pm-7pm and Saturdays 3-7pm which would suffice for the grant. The 2 hours before opening the library would be spent in the office doing reports and whatever needs to be done.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT-** No fires reported this past month. **ANIMAL CONTROL:** We've had a few more calls than usual regarding loose dogs. Residents are still bringing up "Dispatching Dogs" after being held a few days. This will always be an issue in every village. We can try to post more notices on our Facebook page and consider fining owners again, but it is very time consuming, and we do not have the staff at this time.

**AMBULANCE STORAGE:** I have also contacted the ASRC Clinic regarding the ambulance storage. I spoke with E. Simeon, the Operations Manager for the clinic. She stated there is no change right now, they still don't have storage for the ambulance. I was also able to ask about the lease agreement for the clinic. She will forward my questions to the higher ups, but I haven't heard anything back. I will keep trying.

**COMMUNITY LOCKDOWN/ADVISMENT PROCEDURES:** I had a resident approach me about this. I contacted the State Trooper office about their procedures for informing the public and have had no response. But we do need to update our Small Community Emergency Response Plan as well! I will be looking more into this as time allows, but some of my thoughts are: holding a community meeting and requesting at least 2 volunteers from each business to help in the event of any emergency, for the time being. We really lucked out with the housefire we had a few months ago and there were a couple of key people still in town.

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**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT- Streetlights-**The Aniak Tribe agreed to look into grants available for new streetlights to add to the 6 we currently have. The ones we currently have were purchased with Trail Grant funds through the tribe. We need to have another agreement written up to get this accomplished.

**LANDFILL/SOLID WASTE-** I have attended by ZOOM or teleconference trainings this past month to get up to speed on these issues and will be participating in monthly teleconferences as well. I am planning to meet with the Aniak Tribe's EPA department and our Public Works to go over our Landfill Inspection Summary report and see how we can work together to get our scores back up to compliance. **SEWER LAGOON EXPANSION/RELOCATION PROJECT-** We are still waiting for funding to come through, but in the meantime, we need to identify 1-2 locations we would consider moving the Lagoon to if needed. This is a planning project, once it is finished, we would need to apply for funding to expand or relocate.

I have also met with a division of Alaska Municipal League's AK. Water Infrastructure Financial Navigation Center Program, and after a short questionnaire, they summarized that they could help us identifying water/wastewater challenges and solutions, building capacity and develop applications for funding, updating our Rates for the Sewer Utility and Asset Management. They may be able to help with our Landfill Ordinance, but I will find out more as we go.

**Public Works Director Position-**I have been trying to update this job description, but I don't have one yet. But like I said in the last few meetings, I would like to have the director to be working here in the office for the most part and at the City Shop as needed. They would direct all public works activities, help with the Sewer Lagoon, our Roads/Landfill mapping, updating our Sewer Line maps, ordering/purchasing as needed for public works, pretty much all things with the public works department. This area is where I will also be in a learning phase.

I tried making this as short as possible, but I have been very busy this month and I didn't want to leave anything out. I'm sure the next few months will be the same, but I am ever hopeful that we can all move forward with the best interest for our community.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to give me a call at the office or send an email. Enjoy the holidays as they are coming up quickly!~

Respectfully submitted,  
Lenore Kameroff