



**City of Saxman
Totem and Tourism Committee
Meeting
July 11, 2023
5:30 PM**

MINUTES

Call to Order

Mayor Seludo called the meeting to order at 6:56 PM.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Frank Seludo
Committee Member Rick Makua
Committee Member Denny Blair
Committee Member Norman Natkong Sr.
Committee Member Woody Watson
Committee Member Gabriella Blair

ABSENT

Vice Mayor Billy Joe Thomas

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Consideration of the Agenda

A motion was made to use the agenda as guide. Councilor G. Blair requests that we add Independents/Cape Fox Status - Tourism Update as Item #2.

Motion made by Committee Member Watson, Seconded by Committee Member Blair.
Voting Yea: Mayor Seludo, Committee Member Makua, Committee Member Blair, Committee Member Natkong Sr., Committee Member Watson, Committee Member Blair

Motion Passes.

Old Business

There was no Old Business.

New Business

#2 Independent Tours Update:

The City Clerk mentioned that she conducts all the tour billings. And there is one concern with an Independent Company that wishes to meet with the Council in regards of drive throughs.

Mayor Seludo mentioned that we need to go through the contract and see if we can add a drive through charge for bigger buses next tour season.

There was a concern of obtaining more restroom facilities such as more outhouses for this tour season. It is not in our budget. We could possibly put one in the upper parking lot or build another bathroom facility for next year.

Councilor G. Blair: Requested that administrative staff look into how much it would be to rent party potties. Mayor Seludo mentioned he would call Tyler Rental and Alaska Waste to see if they rent outhouse and get prices. He will see how much it is for three of them. And see if Cape Fox Tours will help for the rest of the season July, August, September. Good trail run to see what we want to do next summer.

Mayor Seludo will obtain prices and bring this back to Committee.

1. Discussion on Eagle/Beaver Pole

Background: Discussion to see if we want Nathan Jackson to work on this pole for us.

Mayor Seludo mentioned that the City of Saxman paid for the log in the Carving Center parking lot. He spoke with Nathan Jackson and they seem interested in the Eagle/Beaver pole. Mayor Seludo mentioned we have not released an RFP.

Mayor Seludo mentioned he was considering having a syramic/fiberglass top. It would cost more. Mayor Seludo will talk to the Clan Leaders to do the pole this way.

He asked the Council if they want to release RFP's for this now or to wait on funding? Mayor Seludo mentioned he would like to wait until January-March of 2024 to see how much funding we can use. He will also go to the Ketchikan Gateway Borough to inform how much the Council has set aside when it comes to that time.

Mayor Seludo discussed the Chief Ebbits pole and mentioned he thought there was funding set aside although what he thought was for Clean Up in Saxman. He said it would be around 25000 to get it carved and moved. He needs to look into further funding. He will go to the Ketchikan Gateway Borough and let them know this is a project we want to do and he will also talk to the Clan Leaders for the Eagle/Beaver Pole. He would like to try a fiberglass Beaver.

Councilor Watson: Do we have to keep the logs the same height? It appears shorter. Mayor Seludo mentioned that he will bring a measuring tape tomorrow and check the height. Another concern Councilor Watson has was he does not feel right giving him to go ahead to release an RFP for the Eagle/Beaver pole due to concerning previous bidding amounts.

Frank said we can start this process by talking to the Clan Leaders; likes time frame of January/March; and will see if the Ketchikan Gateway Borough can match CPV funds.

Councilor Watson: I would like to see the Chief Ebbits poles get started on.

Councilor G. Blair: I thought we rating the poles to see what we were going to work on. We were trying to see how long enough and find long enough pole.

Discussion on Chief Ebbits:

Mayor Seludo will reach out to the Ketchikan Gateway Borough to inform them of what are plans are. He also mentioned that Robert Mills is a possible carver and he has a website where the Council can see his work. We can present at the next Totem and Tourism Meeting.

Mayor Seludo mentioned that he will reach out to the Ketchikan Gateway Borough in regards of the Chief Ebbits and the Eagle/Beaver Pole and keep this on committee.

Discussion:

Councilor Watson: Can we find someone who can re-paint our poles for next year? I believe it was last done five or so years ago. Would like to get this done for next season.

Mayor Seludo: I would like to get this set-up for next year. He would like to add funds into the budget modification when it comes to that time.

Councilor Watson: We also need to start looking at the Lincoln Pole. There are too many pieces falling off the top.

Mayor Seludo mentioned that we will start the process for funding the Chief Ebbits. He mentioned we need to start setting aside funds for new totems.

Council Comments

There were no Council Comments.

Adjournment

There was a motion made to adjourn.

Motion made by Committee Member Blair, Seconded by Committee Member Watson.
Voting Yea: Mayor Seludo, Committee Member Makua, Committee Member Blair, Committee Member Natkong Sr., Committee Member Watson, Committee Member Blair

Motion Passes. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Frank H. Seludo, Mayor

Brianna Berg, Interim City Clerk