



City of Saxman
City Council Special Meeting
August 23, 2023
5:30 PM

MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:41 PM by Mayor Seludo.

Prayer

Invocation by Councilor Watson.

Roll Call/Quorum

PRESENT

Mayor Frank Seludo
Council Member Rick Makua
Council Member Billy Joe Thomas
Council Member Denny Blair
Council Member Norman Natkong Sr.
Council Member Woody Watson
Council Member Gabriella Blair

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

New Business

1. September Calendar

Background: September Calendar for Council's Review.

Council Reviewed and Approved.

2. Resolution 08-2023-08

Background: A Resolution of the Council of the City of Saxman, Alaska Appointing the Judges and Canvass Board for the Regular Election to be held on October, 2023, and Establishing an Effective Date for Council's Consideration and Adoption.

A motion was made to approve Resolution 08.2023.08 A Resolution of the Council of the City of Saxman, Alaska, appointing the Judges and Canvass Board for the Regular Election to be held on October 3, 2023, and Establishing an Effective Date for Council's Consideration and Adoption.

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

Motion Passes.

3. FY 2025 Capital Projects

Background: The Council shall compile a capital project list and identify respective infrastructure priority capital projects for FY 2025. This request will be for FY 2025 State Funding.

Discussion:

Mayor Seludo mentioned that he spoke to Kacie at the KGB and mentioned that they talked about that they had the fire truck as first priority as last year and maybe this year we change it to Water Lines. Mayor Seludo will talk with Elizabeth with ANTHC to get a rough estimate of how much it would cost as we need to turn our list in by Friday. We would by December to actually adjust and change things.

Vice Mayor Thomas: Is in favor of the water lines over the Fire Truck/Station.

Mayor Seludo: If we can get ahold of Elizabeth with ANTHC and get a rough estimate by Friday since we have to turn it in then. Each community does three and chooses one priority. And we put our three priorities as a community to the state and send everything. This committee decides which one to put as number one. Mayor Seludo mentioned he has a meeting on the 30th to put forth our priority project with the Lobbying Executive Committee at the KGB.

Comments:

Councilor Watson: Prefers the water lines with all the breaks we have been having. Vice Mayor Thomas seconded that.

There was a motion made to go with the water line replacement as the City of Saxman's Request for Fiscal Year 2025 State Funding as our #1 Priority Project.

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

Motion Passes.

There was a motion made to make the New Public Safety Building as our Number Two Priority Project and the Saxman Totem Harbor as our Third Priority Project.

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

Motion Passes.

4. Southeast Conference

Background: The Mayor is requesting the Council's approval to attend the Southeast Conference Annual Meeting. This will be held in Sitka from September 19-21, 2023. The budget for the Mayor's additional travel was not budgeted for two trips and he is requesting that the Council approve this travel as it will go over budget.

Discussion:

Vice Mayor Thomas: I think that it would be good for the Clerk to go with on this training along with Mayor Seludo.

Councilor Watson: I think it is okay for this to go through.

A motion was made for Mayor Seludo and one other staff member to go the SE Annual Conference this September in Sitka.

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

The Mayor Called for a Roll Call Vote:

Roll Call Vote:

Voting Yes: Vice Mayor Thomas, Councilor Makua, Councilor D. Blair, Councilor Natkong, Councilor Watson and Council G. Blair.

Voting No: None.

Motion Passes.

5. KIC - Native American Heritage Month

Background: The Mayor will provide an oral report on this agenda item for the Council's review.

Mayor Seludo mentioned that he received a phone call last week. KIC does not have the money budgeted for Native American Heritage Month. IF they want to do it we would be invited. Basically a free rental for upstairs if the City allowed this.

They were thinking Indian Tacos. And Mayor Seludo mentioned he needed to bring this to Council to see what they decide. It would be one evening. KIC still needs to meet to set a date in November of 2023. They are still trying to plan a date for November use of the SCC upstairs lobby/theater/kitchen area.

Vice Mayor Thomas: Mentioned that we could give it to them under the words the Community of Saxman would give it to them to use for one night.

Councilor Watson: Mentioned that if ANB/ANS approved to be the host for this event - the rental fee could be waived for this event like usual besides the clean up.

Vice Mayor Thomas: He mentioned that he is all for working with KIC. He feels like the City of Saxman and KIC need a better relationship.

Councilor Natkong: Mentioned that he feels like this is a good idea for a relationship to be built with them.

There was a motion made to move forward to work with KIC for Native American Heritage Month.

Motion made by Council Member Watson, Seconded by Council Member Makua.
Voting Yea: Council Member Makua, Council Member Thomas, Council Member Blair, Council Member Natkong Sr., Council Member Watson, Council Member Blair

Motion Passes.

6. Auditor RFP

Background: The draft Auditor RFP was first introduced at the Finance Committee Meeting on August 21, 2023, and was reviewed by the Council. It was brought to the Special Meeting for action to be taken.

This was put off from the Finance Meeting on Monday, August 21, 2023. This is a draft from the accountants and we need to send to the lawyer and then bring it back to the next Regular Council Meeting. Mayor Seludo requested that we postpone this.

We can send tonight to the Attorney and have him review. If there are no changes and then we can call a Special Meeting either way. It would have to be on the 8th of September at 5:30 PM.

This RFP To Provide Audit Services for City of Saxman, Alaska, will be sent to the Attorney on August 23, 2023, and will be brought to the Special Meeting scheduled for September 8, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

Council/Mayor Comments

7. Water Operator Report

Background: The Water Plant Operator presents a written report for the month of August.

Discussion:

There was a part that we received and we have to wait for the plant to shut down to install that part. The chlorine reading that was taken August 22, 2023, for the samples read good.

We brought on another person and we are going to clean out the reservoir. We are probably going to rent some equipment to bring some of the stuff down. And up by the old reservoir we still have to do some cleaning up there.

The old reservoir; we got the whole lot cleared of the trees - they started on Monday, They are burning the brush. Took bunch of trees at the top of the hill. Back up water. Valve open for build up. There is a lot of silt there. He had them open it a month ago.

Chlorine not plugged into automatic so when plant shuts down that screen shuts down and keeps pumping. Other machine tells unit when to kick the polymer on. We will be able to wire things back together.

ARWA reimbursed us for Robert Seros training from the Water Provisional Training. Vice Mayor Thomas was thinking we could use this for the training for Southeast Conference.

8. Mayor/Interim City Administrator Report

Background: The Mayor/Interim City Administrator will give a oral report.

Mayor Seludo mentioned that he met with Borough yesterday about the Fire/EMS contract. He has a letter from them which was presented to the Council. Contract ends August 1, 2024. They want to work on it and be done by December/January. It will start next July in the new budget.

Mayor Seludo provided the letter the the council for review.

Mayor Seludo also mentioned that there is a funding opportunity through the CPV funding through the KGB for upgrading our tourism restrooms. KGB has some designs and is working on obtaining more information on how big we would want them, etc. The Clerk is working with the KGB to get this process started and this will be reported back through Committee.

Mayor Seludo also mentioned that we have one more applicant for the Administrator position. Councilor G. Blair questioned whether Mayor Seludo is planning on setting up an interview. Mayor Seludo mentioned that he would like to interview a couple of them.

Councilor G. Blair: Questioned when we can have a meeting to go over the other positions? Do we need to fill any other positions?

Mayor Seludo: Mentioned that Bri took over the Clerk Position and they will be discussing salary/wages soon.

Councilor G. Blair: Mentioned that she was thinking we need a Grant Writer. We should have a personnel meeting to discuss these items.

Vice Mayor Thomas: Questioned what it would take to send one of our own to get training for VPSO? Can we get more information to post this out to the public?

Mayor Seludo: Some of the requirements include passing background and physical test. He will reach out to get more information.

Councilor G. Blair: Asked for an update on the vacant duplex.

Mayor Seludo: If we have no VPSO then he has a person interested in it. The Organized Village of Saxman's President spoke with Mayor Seludo in regards of the concerns of the community. They were thinking of having a workshop.

Councilor G. Blair: Can we add this as a number one priority for the Borough? I think the borough can help us with this? We could reach out to the Boroughs attorney office and talk to them.

Mayor Seludo: Is the council willing to have a workshop with Joe Williams/Organized Village of Saxman in regards of the junk cars/drug activity in our community?

The Council is interested and is waiting on further information when available.

Council/Mayor Comments

Mayor Seludo: Thank you all for coming and showing up. I think this is one of the longer meetings we had.

Vice Mayor Thomas: Thank you all for showing up. Sorry I missed a couple meetings last month. I am glad everyone is voicing their opinions and speaking up. Thank you staff and thank you Mayor Seludo. Thank you all for the work you are doing and keeping this rolling.

Councilor D. Blair: Good Meeting, I feel like we accomplished a lot.

Councilor G. Blair: I feel like we got a lot done. I am glad you're back Bri. The last meeting was different without you.

Councilor Makua: We have best interest of our community and we appreciate it. Thank you Bri and Mayor Seludo.

Councilor Natkong: Good Meeting. Thank you all for showing up and thank you staff for all the hard work.

Councilor Watson: We got a lot done. Thanks, staff, for being here for us.

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn.


Motion made by Council Member Blair, Seconded by Council Member Thomas.

Voting Yea: Mayor Seludo, Council Member Makua, Council Member Thomas, Council Member Blair, Council Member Natkong Sr., Council Member Watson, Council Member Blair

Motion Passes. Meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM.



Frank H. Seludo, Mayor



Brianna Berg, City Clerk