



**City of Saxman
Regular Meeting
August 18, 2021
5:30 PM**

AGENDA

Call to Order

Prayer

Roll Call/Quorum

Public Comments

Consideration of the Agenda

Consent Agenda: *Matters listed under the consent agenda are routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion on these items. If the Mayor or council member requests discussion, that item will be removed from the consent calendar and will be considered under "Unfinished Business".*

1. July 21 2021 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Background: July minutes presented for approval

2. Finance Committee Minutes August 13, 2021

Background: Finance Committee minutes for review

3. Finance Committee Recommendations

Background: August 12, 2021 committee recommendations for Council approval.

4. Mayor's Report

Background: Mayor's Report to the City Council

5. Administrator Report

Background: City Administrator Report for the City Council

Old Business

New Business

6. Alaska-British Columbia Transboundary Salmon Rivers

Background: Canada continues to permit massive mines with toxic tailings dams along shared rivers without the meaningful engagement of those of us downstream. Meanwhile, transboundary salmon runs plummet. The Southeast Alaska Indigenous Transboundary Commission (SEITC) and Salmon Beyond Borders humbly request that the City of Saxman Council consider adopting a municipal resolution based on the attached Resolution of Support language that has been carefully drafted, considered, and signed by many of our closest transboundary partners who represent multiple sectors and interests of Southeast Alaska.

7. City of Saxman Priority List

Background: The Mayor would like to present the need to update the Saxman Priority List. It was originally recommended by the City Council during the Council Orientation

October 2019. Many of the projects have been completed and new projects are becoming priorities.

8. Pay Part-time Employees Holiday Pay

Background: The City Administrator would like to address the Council about amending the Personnel Policy to include that part-time personnel get paid for holidays. As it is now we employ 2 part-time positions that accomplish the work of working full time hours. When there is a paid holiday the City Administrator is allowed paid leave, but if the part-time employees don't want to lose any money in their pay checks they feel compelled to work the holiday. I believe this just results in a decrease in production since City Hall is not open and the City Administrator is supposed to be on holiday. The City can't afford benefits to these 2 employees, but it could afford paying them for holiday's while allowing them to have off time without the stress of missing pay. It is a small thing for the City but would show appreciation to the part-time employees. This would only include employees that were done with their 90 day probation.

Public Hearings: *After the reading of each draft Ordinance the Mayor will ask for comments from the public. After public comments are closed by the Mayor motions may be made.*

Unfinished Business

Executive Session

Next Meeting Dates

9. September Calendar for Review

Council/Mayor Comments

Adjournment



**City of Saxman
Regular Meeting
July 21, 2021
5:30 PM**

Item 1.

MINUTES

Call to Order

Mayor Seludo called the meeting to order at 5:40 PM

Prayer

Invocation by Councilor Watson

Roll Call/Quorum

PRESENT

Mayor Frank Seludo
Council Member Rick Makua
Council Member Denny Blair
Council Member Norman Natkong
Council Member Woody Watson
Council Member Gabriella Daniels

ABSENT

Council Member Billy Joe Thomas

Public Comments

No public comments

Consideration of the Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.

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

Consent Agenda: *Matters listed under the consent agenda are routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion on these items. If the Mayor or council member requests discussion, that item will be removed from the consent calendar and will be considered under "Unfinished Business".*

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda. Motion passes.

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

1. July 13, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes

Background: July 13 Special Meeting Minutes for approval.

2. July 15, 2021 Finance Meeting Minutes
Background: July 15, 2021 Finance Meeting minutes for approval.
3. Finance Meeting Recommendations
Background: Finance meeting recommendation

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Hearings: *After the reading of each draft Ordinance the Mayor will ask for comments from the public. After public comments are closed by the Mayor motions may be made.*

4. Land Sale Amendment

Background: The Building and Ordinance committee recommended setting this amendment for Public Hearing and a motion to pass.

The Mayor opened the floor to public comment. The Clerk reported no written testimony submitted.

The Mayor closed public comment.

There was a motion made to approve Ordinance #21-04. Motion Passed

Motion made by Council Member Makua, Seconded by Council Member Watson.

Voting Yea: Mayor Seludo, Council Member Makua, Council Member Blair, Council Member Natkong, Council Member Watson, Council Member Daniels

Unfinished Business

Executive Session

Next Meeting Dates:

City Council Meeting: August 18, 2021

Building and Ordinance Meeting: Postponed

Seaport Meeting: Postponed

Public Safety Planning Meeting: Postponed

Finance Meeting: August 12, 2021

Tourism Master Planning Meeting: Postponed

Totem and Tourism Meeting: Postponed

Additional Meetings: OVS and Tlingit and Haida Broadband Meeting TBD

Council/Mayor Comments

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion Passed.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 5:56 PM.

Frank Seludo, Mayor

ATTEST: Lori Richmond, City Clerk



**City of Saxman
Finance
August 12, 2021
4:00 PM**

Item 2.

AGENDA

Call to Order

Roll Call

Public Comments

FY21 Financials

1. July General Fund Financials
Background: Presentation of the General Fund financials
2. July Water Sewer Financials
Background: Presentation of the Water and Sewer Fund financials.
3. July Seaport Financials
Background: Presentation of the Seaport financials
4. July Seaport Balance Sheet.
Background: Presentation of the Seaport balance sheet.
5. July Cash Accounts
Background: Statement of Cash Accounts

Adjournment



**City of Saxman
Finance
August 12, 2021
4:00 PM**

Item 3.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. FY21 Financials

A motion was made to recommend to the City Council approving the July Financials. Motion Passed.

Administrator's Report
August 18th, 2021
Reporting on June

Item 5.

City Council:

An update on D. Markel the Finance Clerk: She should be returning to work next Monday. We may need to look at installing a automatic door opener to support her return to work in a wheel chair.

Most of you have met Brianna Berg, our new Deputy Clerk in training. She is doing a fantastic job picking up the most important finance tasks. She is a quick learner and is intelligent about all the programs we use, including the web site. She has really been a great help in the absence of Diane.

Richard Shields has been kind enough to accept a temporary full-time position as the Water Plant Operator. He hit the ground running and has been instrumental in keeping the city in clean water. I am still actively head hunting for a permanent full-time operator. In the meantime, I am learning as much as I can to help support Richard.

There is a online Level One operator class in October and I have secured 3 seats. The Mayor and I will be taking this class to help meet regulations and hopefully we will have a new operator by then.

August 25th is the last day the Clerks Office will accept Declaration of Candidacy forms. Currently we only have one candidate, Frank Seludo, who has declared his intent for candidacy.

ANTHC has secured a grant for an Inflow and Infiltration study in Saxman. At the same time Borough has been awarded a similar grant. Elizabeth Merrill, the engineer assigned to Saxman, has asked permission to coordinate efforts so both the Borough and Saxman can capitalize on the opportunity. My response was, as long as it doesn't diminish in any way the service provided to Saxman, then the City would be happy to work together.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Lori Richmond

City Administrator/City Clerk



**A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT
FOR A PERMANENT BAN ON TAILINGS DAMS AND FOR A TEMPORARY HALT TO THE
PERMITTING, EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT, AND EXPANSION OF CANADIAN MINES
ALONG ALASKA-BRITISH COLUMBIA TRANSBOUNDARY SALMON RIVERS
UNTIL THE UNITED STATES-CANADA BOUNDARY WATERS TREATY OF 1909 AND
THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ARE UPHELD AND AN
INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON WATERSHED PROTECTIONS IS IMPLEMENTED**

WHEREAS, the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 was signed to prevent and resolve disputes over the use of shared waters between the United States (U.S.) and Canada, declaring in Article IV that, "it is further agreed that the waters herein defined as boundary waters and waters flowing across the boundary shall not be polluted on either side to the injury of health or property on the other;" and

WHEREAS, the Alaska-British Columbia (B.C.) Memorandum of Understanding and associated Statement of Cooperation on Protection of Transboundary Waters signed by the State of Alaska and the Province of B.C. in 2015 are important, but cannot provide binding, enforceable protections for the residents, rivers, and watersheds of the Alaska-B.C. transboundary region; and

WHEREAS, inadequately regulated Canadian hard rock mines in Northwest B.C., most of which are large-scale and open-pit, are occurring in known acid-generating ore bodies near the transboundary Taku, Stikine, and Unuk Rivers shared with Southeast Alaska, producing massive tailings dams that have to store toxic waste forever, expansive waste rock storage facilities, the need for perpetual water treatment, roads, and other infrastructure, as well as threatening (both in the short term and on geological timescales) the productivity and ecological health of these watersheds through cumulative impacts, contamination, habitat destruction, and/or possible catastrophic failures; and

WHEREAS, the Taku, Stikine, and Unuk Rivers are of tremendous and unique cultural, ecological, subsistence, economic, and recreational value as Indigenous people from several Nations have stewarded the Alaska-B.C. transboundary region since time immemorial and this region is now home to nearly 80,000 people in dozens of communities; and

WHEREAS, the Southeast Alaska Indigenous Transboundary Commission - a consortium of fifteen federally recognized Tribes in Southeast Alaska - in 2018 submitted a petition to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, asserting that Canada has violated their human rights by failing to prevent foreseeable harms from hard rock mines in B.C., and on March 31, 2021 sent a request to B.C. Premier Horgan for a pause in the permitting of B.C. mining projects in Alaska-B.C. transboundary watersheds until an agreement is made regarding Alaska Tribal participation in ongoing permit decisions pursuant to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP); and

WHEREAS, the clean water and intact habitat of Alaska-B.C. transboundary watersheds are historically some of the most productive wild salmon rivers on the entire west coast of North America, with the Taku, Stikine, and Unuk Rivers alone contributing nearly \$50 million in economic activity, \$34 million in direct spending, over 400 jobs and almost \$20 million in labor income towards Southeast Alaska's annual multi-billion dollar fishing and visitor industries; and

WHEREAS, the leaching of heavy metals to groundwater and sediment from mining can contaminate freshwater systems for decades, preventing recovery of fish populations many



years after the cessation of mining activity and posing a risk to human health, and B.C.'s Tulsequah Chief mine in the Taku River watershed has been abandoned and leaching acid mine drainage since 1957; and

WHEREAS, B.C.'s environmental assessment process does not set legal requirements or standards for assessing cumulative effects of existing and proposed development, and B.C.'s open-pit Red Chris mine has been operating at the headwaters of the Stikine River since 2015, the entire riparian corridor of the Iskut River, the largest tributary of the Stikine River, is staked with B.C. mineral claims, B.C.'s Kerr-Sulphurets-Mitchell project (KSM), if built as proposed in the Unuk-Nass River watersheds, would be the largest open-pit mine in Canada and one of the largest in the world, and more than half of the B.C. portion of the Unuk watershed is staked with mineral claims; and

WHEREAS, the Taku, Stikine, and Unuk Rivers are experiencing a decline in wild salmon populations, resulting in the Alaska Department of Fish and Game listing Chinook salmon in the Unuk River as a Stock of Concern in 2017 and will soon list Chinook salmon in the Taku and Stikine Rivers as Stocks of Concern; and

WHEREAS, on June 30, 2021, Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans eliminated 60% of its commercial salmon fleet in B.C. due to poor returns and declining populations - some near 90% declines - resulting in the largest set of commercial salmon fishery closures in B.C. history, while simultaneously B.C. continues to permit industrialization of the headwaters (spawning and rearing grounds) of some of its largest salmon producing systems; and

WHEREAS, the risk of natural forces such as extreme precipitation events and landslides, which are becoming more common due to climate change, add further instability to the mining infrastructure and could trigger catastrophic failure of the tailings waste dams and thereby release contaminants into the Taku, Stikine, and Unuk waterbodies and are inadequately addressed in B.C. mine operations designs; and

WHEREAS, following B.C.'s Mount Polley mine disaster in 2014 an expert panel appointed by the B.C. government found that if mining companies continue their business-as-usual operations the province could face an average of two dam failures every ten years and the same expert panel reported there are 123 active tailings dams in B.C.; and

WHEREAS, the Auditor General of B.C., in her report issued on May 3, 2016, found that the B.C. Ministry of Energy and Mines and Ministry of the Environment's "compliance and enforcement activities of the mining sector are inadequate to protect the province from significant environmental risks", and according to a 2017 report by the United Nations Environment Programme, Canada has the world's second-worst record for mine tailings spills after China, with seven incidents reported in the previous decade; and

WHEREAS, the June 2021 *Audit of Code Requirements for Tailings Storage Facilities* by B.C.'s Mine Audits and Effectiveness Unit, has found provincial mining code changes developed after the Mount Polley disaster lack the definition needed to ensure compliance, verification and enforcement—which means communities and the environment across the province lack full protection against the potentially catastrophic consequences of tailings dam failures that B.C.'s new mining code was meant to provide; and

WHEREAS, B.C. touts itself to U.S. officials and potential investors as a world-class marketplace for responsibly-sourced metals and a mining jurisdiction with highly positive ESG (Environment, Social, Governance) outcomes and yet, B.C. is supporting widespread exploration and the



permitting of open pits and tailings dams at mine sites across B.C. just upriver from four U.S. border states (AK, WA, ID, MT) and at the headwaters of some of North America's last remaining productive wild salmon rivers, without the consultation and consent of local Tribes and communities downstream; and

WHEREAS, Native Tribes in Alaska, First Nations in B.C., commercial fishermen, local communities, conservation groups, thousands of concerned citizens, and local, state, provincial, and federal lawmakers (including all eight Senators from the four border states) on both sides of the U.S.-Canada border have raised concerns since 1998 about B.C. mining development potentially causing significant harm to water quality, fish and wildlife, cultural practices, and local economies in Alaska-B.C. transboundary watersheds and still do not have a meaningful say in the shared management of our shared rivers; and

WHEREAS, the below signed agree to share information and seek all opportunities for collaboration to address these issues, promote methods to protect these vital rivers from harm, and seek to facilitate and promote meaningful dialogue and engagement at the local, state, federal, provincial, and Tribal levels to assure protection of resources on both sides of the border.

We, the undersigned business owners, organizations, and community members, seek a thriving Salmon Coast (AK-B.C. transboundary region) fed by intact ecosystems, healthy salmon populations and landscapes, robust traditional lifestyles, and sustainable economies.

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED that we call upon President Joe Biden and the United States government and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the Canadian government to *immediately*:

1. **Utilize** their authority under the United States-Canada Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 to prevent and resolve disputes over the use of shared waters; and
2. **Support** an immediate temporary halt to permitting, exploration, development, and expansion of Canadian mines along shared Alaska-B.C. salmon rivers until a binding international agreement on watershed protections, developed by *all* jurisdictions in these shared transboundary watersheds and consistent with the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, is implemented; and
3. **Convene** with local communities, stakeholders, and Indigenous leaders of the Taku, Stikine, and Unuk watersheds to develop the aforementioned binding international agreement on watershed protections. This agreement will identify and honor no-go zones and decisions by local residents and Indigenous people on both sides of the international border, ensure mining companies and shareholders are liable for cleaning up their waste and compensating impacted communities for all damages, and enforce requirements for mining best practices, including a permanent ban on the perpetual storage of contaminated water and wet tailings behind earthen dams along these irreplaceable Alaska-B.C. transboundary salmon rivers.

1= Staff can complete as appropriations allow

2=Approval of Council

3=Approval from voters

Saxman Project Priority List 2019-2020

| Priority Number | Project Name | Notes |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | Ditch Cleaning | On going |
| 1 | Paint Lobby | done |
| 1 | Tlinget Words for Building Signs | |
| 1 | Drinking Fountain | 1 of 2 done |
| 1 | Lights for Red Hall Parking | |
| 1 | Lifespan of a Totem Pole Sign | vetoed |
| 1 | Move Coho Street Sign | done |
| 1 | Fix Gym Floor | |
| 1 | Gym LED Lights | |
| 1 | Seaport Walls Construction | ??? |
| 1 | Timer for Gym Fans | |
| 1 | Gym lights switch downstairs | |
| 1 | New Sewer Lines | |
| 1 | Website | Done |
| 1 | Motion Sensors/Photo Cells | |
| 1 | Boat Launch | Done |
| 1 | Building Columns Totem Wrap | |
| 1 | Impound Lot | |
| 1 | Towing Contract | Done |
| 1 | Council Table and Chairs | Done |
| 1 | Street Signs | ??? |
| 1 | Fix Potholes | |
| 1 | Motion Sensors on Light Switches | |
| 1 | Backhoe Thumb | |
| 1 | Upstairs SCC Facelift | |
| 1 | Building Numbers on all Buildings | |
| 1 | Snow Plow | Done |
| 1 | Sander | Done |

1= Staff can complete as appropriations allow

2=Approval of Council

3=Approval from voters

| | | |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2 | Community Center Foundation Repair | |
| 2 | Public Safety Building Repair | Total Re-build |
| 2 | New Water Lines | |
| 2 | Dump Truck | Fixed, train a CDL |
| 2 | Track Hoe | |
| 2 | Street Lights on Totem Row | |
| 2 | Level Both Sides of Totem Row | Between sidewalks and totems |
| 2 | Seaport Master Plan | |
| 2 | Covered Storage at Seaport | |
| 2 | Paving SCC Parking Lot | |
| 2 | Bulk Water Fill Station | |
| 2 | Upstairs SCC Kitchen | |
| 2 | Pave Seaport | |
| 2 | Totem Poles | Restoration/Replace |
| 2 | Revise Ordinances | Ongoing |
| 2 | Master Plan for Tourism | Done |
| 2 | Security Cameras | |
| 2 | New Pick Up | Done |
| 2 | Salvation Army Building | |
| 2 | SCC Corner Lot Purchase | |
| 3 | Sell Land to Homeowners | |
| 3 | Apartments – Low Income | Condos? |
| 3 | Second Gym | Need Bond |

September 2021

Item 9.

| September 2021 | | | | | | | October 2021 | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 2 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 8 | 9 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| | | | | | | | 31 | | | | | | |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--------|---------------------------------|---|------------------------------|----------------------|--------|----------|
| Aug 29 | 30 | 31 | Sep 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 Post Notice of Election | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 4:00pm Building and Ordinance Committee Meeting 5:00pm Seaport | 15 | 16 4:00pm Finance | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 Absentee Voting in Person | 21 | 22 5:30pm Regular Meeting | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 Last day to mail absentee ballott | 29 | 30 | Oct 1 | 2 |