



# CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS  
330 Harbor Drive  
Sitka, AK  
(907)747-1811

## Minutes - Final

### City and Borough Assembly

*Mayor Steven Eisenbeisz,  
Deputy Mayor Timothy Pike,  
Vice Deputy Mayor JJ Carlson,  
Kevin Mosher, Scott Saline,  
Thor Christianson, Katie Riley*

*Municipal Administrator: John Leach  
Municipal Attorney: Rachel Jones  
Municipal Clerk: Sara Peterson*

---

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

---

#### REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. RECITAL OF LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

IV. ROLL CALL

**Present:** 7 - Christianson, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Pike, Carlson, Saline, and Riley

V. CORRESPONDENCE/AGENDA CHANGES

No agenda changes.

[26-010](#)

Reminders, Calendars, and General Correspondence

VI. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

None.

VII. **SPECIAL REPORTS: Government to Government, Municipal Boards/Commissions/Committees, Municipal Departments, School District, Students and Guests (five minute time limit)**

[26-003](#)

Department Quarterly Reports - Public Works and Harrigan Centennial Hall

Quarterly reports were given by Public Works Director Mark Seavey and Harrigan Centennial Hall Manager Tony Rosas.

**VIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD**

Kyle Larson spoke about demographic destabilization. Leah Mason commented on her application for the Sustainability Commission.

**IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A motion was made by Christianson that the Consent Agenda consisting of items A, B, & C be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**

**Yes:** 7 - Christianson, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Pike, Carlson, Saline, and Riley

- A**     [26-004](#)           Approve the minutes of the December 30 Assembly meeting

**This item was APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

- B**     [26-005](#)           Approve a liquor license renewal application for American Legion Post #13 at 205 Lincoln Street

**This item was APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

- C**     [RES 26-01](#)         Adopting an alternative allocation method for the FY26 Shared Fisheries Business Tax Program and certifying that this allocation method fairly represents the distribution of significant effects of fisheries business activity in FMA 18: CENTRAL SOUTHEAST AREA (first and final reading)

**This Item was APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

**X. BOARD, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

- D**     [26-006](#)           Reappoint Jeff Budd to a three-year term on the Library Commission and Appoint James Rogers and Courtney Lecrone to three-year terms on the Animal Hearing Board under the Category of Animal Keeper

**A motion was made by Mosher that this Item be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**

**Yes:** 7 - Christianson, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Pike, Carlson, Saline, and Riley

**XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- E**     [26-008](#)           Approve the professional services contract between the City and Borough of Sitka and Element Agency LLC for Visit Sitka Services (postponed at the December 16, 2025 meeting)

Carlson noted the increase in the contract amount compared to the prior contract and clarified that the majority of the funding would come from the Visitor Enhancement Fund.

**A motion was made by Mosher that this Item be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**

Yes: 7 - Christianson, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Pike, Carlson, Saline, and Riley

XII. NEW BUSINESS:

**New Business First Reading**

F [ORD 26-01](#) Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2026 (Childcare Study)

Sponsors Christianson, Pike, and Mosher explained the request and scope of work, including a needs analysis and program framework, to be completed by Southeast Childhood Collective.

Annette Evans, Kari Sagel, Deidre Jensen, Lauren Wild, and Margaret Galanin spoke in support.

A discussion of the Assembly ensued. Members expressed support, citing the need to increase childcare capacity, noting that childcare was a goal identified in the Strategic Plan, and thanked the Health Needs and Human Services Commission for its prior work on the issue.

**A motion was made by Mosher that this Ordinance be APPROVED on FIRST READING. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**

Yes: 7 - Christianson, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Pike, Carlson, Saline, and Riley

**Additional New Business Items**

G [26-007](#) Approve the Sixth Amendment to Employee Agreement between City and Borough of Sitka and John Leach, dated January 14, 2026 (possible executive session)

Sponsors Pike, Mosher, and Eisenbeisz offered comments. It was clarified that the discussion item originated with Assembly members, not Administrator Leach. Assembly members discussed recruitment challenges, the need for cross-training, and the importance of competitive compensation. The amendment would extend Leach's employment agreement to December, if needed, and included a salary increase.

**A motion was made by Christianson that this Item be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**

Yes: 7 - Christianson, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Pike, Carlson, Saline, and Riley

XIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

None.

XIV. REPORTS

**a. Mayor, b. Administrator, c. Attorney, d. Liaison Representatives, e. Clerk, f. Other**

Administrator - Leach provided an update on upcoming work related to legislative

priorities and the state of the city report. He also summarized a recent meeting with Senator Stedman.

Liaison Representatives - Pike reported on the Sustainability Commission, Riley reported on the Planning Commission, and Saline noted plans for a public meeting regarding bear resistant garbage cans.

Clerk - Peterson provided an update on board/committee vacancies, reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule, and told of an upcoming code rewrite project.

**XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Christianson to ADJOURN. Hearing no objections, the meeting ADJOURNED at 7:32 p.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sara Peterson, MMC  
Municipal Clerk