



# 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 Kevin Knox,  
Vice Deputy Mayor Kevin Mosher,  
Thor Christianson, Crystal Duncan, Rebecca Himschoot,  
David Miller*

*Municipal Administrator: John Leach  
Municipal Attorney: Brian Hanson  
Municipal Clerk: Sara Peterson*

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Tuesday, February 22, 2022

6:00 PM

Assembly Chambers

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#### REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. RECITAL OF LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

IV. ROLL CALL

**Present:** 6 - Christianson, Knox, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Himschoot, and Duncan

**Absent:** 1 - Miller

V. CORRESPONDENCE/AGENDA CHANGES

Himschoot announced National Brain Injury Day was March 3 and noted there was an Alaska Brain Injury Council at the University of Alaska.

[22-032](#)

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)**

Sitka Tribe of Alaska Tribal Chairman, Woody Widmark, told of recent business.

[22-025](#)

Parks and Recreation Committee - Chair James Poulson

Chair James Poulson provided an overview of the work of the Parks and Recreation Committee.

## VIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

John Stein spoke in opposition to requiring the Benches and Birds project group be responsible for maintenance of the Elizabeth Peratrovich bench. Leah Mason spoke to the gap in services and reminded the Assembly to think about where attention was placed and who benefited. Brett Wilcox spoke in opposition to masks and urged the Assembly to rescind the mask mandate. Greg Dunn requested the Assembly rescind the mask mandate. Levi Green spoke in opposition to parking enforcement.

## IX. CONSENT AGENDA

- A [22-026](#) Approve the minutes of the February 3 and February 8 Assembly meetings

**A motion was made by Mosher that this item be APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**

**Yes:** 6 - Christianson, Knox, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Himschoot, and Duncan

**Absent:** 1 - Miller

## X. BOARD, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

- B [22-027](#) Reappoint Steve Clayton to a three-year term on the Building Department Appeals Board in the category of alternate and Appoint 1) Gail Roderick to an unexpired term on the Police and Fire Commission, and 2) Noah Goodwin-Bain to a three-year term on the Tree and Landscape Committee

Knox and Christianson thanked Clayton for reapplying.

**A motion was made by Knox to REAPPOINT Steve Clayton to a three-year term on the Building Department Appeals Board in the category of alternate. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**

**Yes:** 6 - Knox, Eisenbeisz, Himschoot, Mosher, Christianson, and Duncan

**Absent:** 1 - Miller

**A motion was made by Knox to APPOINT 1) Gail Roderick to an unexpired term on the Police and Fire Commission, and 2) Noah Goodwin-Bain to a three-year term on the Tree and Landscape Committee. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**

**Yes:** 6 - Christianson, Knox, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Himschoot, and Duncan

**Absent:** 1 - Miller

## XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- C**     [ORD 22-02](#)     Amending Title 11 “Vehicles and Traffic” of the Sitka General Code by repealing Section 11.28.040 “Exception - Prohibition of all-purpose vehicles traveling on public roadways” in Chapter 11.28 “State Traffic Laws Adopted” and adding Chapter 11.75 “All-Purpose Vehicles”
- From the public, John Dull spoke in opposition. Logan Kluting and Valorie Nelson spoke in support.
- Christianson felt comfortable with the legislation, thanked the working group, and said the correct department to contact if there were concerns related to ATVs was the Police Department. Clerk Sara Peterson reminded the Police and Fire Commission that had requested to revisit the ordinance in a year and she had calendared that. Knox spoke to concerns about commercial ATV operations in Sitka. Himschoot spoke to the need for ATV safety education and expressed concern about heavily traveled areas.
- A motion was made by Himschoot that this Ordinance be APPROVED on SECOND AND FINAL READING. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**
- Yes:** 5 - Christianson, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Himschoot, and Duncan
- No:** 1 - Knox
- Absent:** 1 - Miller

## XII. NEW BUSINESS:

### New Business First Reading

- D**     [ORD 22-03](#)     Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2022 (Lincoln Street Closure Expenses)
- Administrator Leach explained resources and appropriations needed to close Lincoln Street for a total of 71 days during the summer season.
- Eisenbeisz, while opposed to closing Lincoln Street, spoke in support of the cost allocation study. Knox hoped for aesthetically pleasing barriers.
- A motion was made by Mosher that this Ordinance be APPROVED on FIRST READING. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**
- Yes:** 5 - Christianson, Knox, Mosher, Himschoot, and Duncan
- No:** 1 - Eisenbeisz
- Absent:** 1 - Miller

### Additional New Business Items

- E**     [22-029](#)     Discussion / Direction / Decision on guidelines for telephonic and videoconference participation by Assembly members and the public at Assembly meetings
- Eisenbeisz said concessions had been made for telephonic participation during the pandemic, Sitka was no longer under an emergency order, and there was a desire to

either align with code or amend. Clerk Sara Peterson reviewed the packet memo, told of code guidelines for Assembly and public participation, and offered recommendations. Peterson explained current code allowed a member of the public outside of Sitka to participate by phone while a citizen in Sitka was not allowed to do so.

Assembly members wished to keep the lines of access to local government open. Knox, Duncan, and Mosher volunteered to work on an ordinance that addressed the issues raised.

- F**     [22-030](#)     Discussion / Direction / Decision on final placement of the Benches and Birds Project at Harrigan Centennial Hall
- Administrator Leach provided a summary of the project, noted staff had reviewed the plan last fall and provided input to the Benches and Birds group. Staff had proposed an alternative location for the benches as opposed to the courtyard location selected by the group.
- Assembly members spoke to the importance of the project, thanked staff and members of the Benches and Birds group. It was determined the benches would be placed in the courtyard area in front of Harrigan Centennial Hall. Leach noted the memorandum of agreement would be finalized and ready for signature.

- G**     [22-028](#)     Discussion / Direction / Decision on sending the Municipal Administrator and the Mayor to the lobbying trip in Washington, DC and the Seatrade Cruise Global event in Miami, FL over the week of April 25-28
- Administrator Leach told of the Sea Trade Cruise Global event and lobbying trip. He explained the City had been attending Sea Trade Cruise Global since 2012. Since the U.S. House and Senate would be in session during the same week, he told of the opportunity to split the trip and include a lobbying trip to visit the Alaska Delegation in Washington D.C. Leach stated appropriations were in place for the trips. Assembly members agreed to the travel.

### **XIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD:**

Lloyd Platson spoke to the Benches and Birds memorandum of agreement (MOA). He said Sitka Counseling was willing to sign the MOA and would prefer for the City to maintain the benches. He added the City would have control over the QR code. Anna Laffrey, Lakota Harden, Lee House, Claire Sanchez, and Leah Mason spoke in support of the Benches and Birds project and thanked the group. Kevin Mosher thanked the artist, Zach LaPerrière.

### **XIV. REPORTS**

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

Administrator - Leach reported on his attendance at Southeast Conference and the Alaska Municipal League Winter Conference.

Liaison Representatives - Knox told of the Port and Harbors Commission meeting.

Other - Assembly Members congratulated the Sitka High School DDF team on their state win.

**XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

H [22-031](#) Legal Matter: Purchase and Sale Agreement for Sitka Community Hospital Site

**A motion was made by Duncan to go into executive session with the Municipal Attorney to discuss a legal matter affecting the municipality regarding the Purchase and Sale Agreement for Sitka Community Hospital Site. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**

**Yes:** 6 - Mosher, Knox, Christianson, Duncan, Eisenbeisz, and Himschoot

**Absent:** 1 - Miller

The Assembly was in executive session from 8:35pm - 9:10pm.

**A motion was made by Knox to reconvene as the Assembly in regular session. The motion PASSED by unanimous voice vote.**

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Knox to ADJOURN. Hearing no objections, the meeting ADJOURNED at 9:15pm.**

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