



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 Mosher,
Vice Deputy Mayor Timothy Pike,
Thor Christianson, Chris Ystad,
JJ Carlson, Scott Saline*

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

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

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, Ystad, Pike, Carlson, and Saline

V. CORRESPONDENCE/AGENDA CHANGES

[24-160](#) Reminders, Calendars, and General Correspondence

No agenda changes.

VI. CEREMONIAL MATTERS

[24-147](#) Proclamation - Indigenous Peoples' Day

Mayor Eisenbeisz read a proclamation reaffirming Indigenous Peoples' Day.

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

Acting Public Works Director Amy Ainslie told of street repair work.

[24-148](#) 1) Sitka Police Department - Chief Robert Baty and 2) Update on Energy

Planning Projects, Sustainability Coordinator Bri Gabel

Police Chief Robert Baty and Sustainability Coordinator Bri Gabel reported.

VIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Julia Nabua spoke of upcoming events to celebrate Filipino American History Month. Leah Mason, former mayoral candidate, thanked citizens for their support, suggested hiring a Public Works Director be prioritized, and thanked those who had searched for David Jackson. Eric Jordan spoke positively of heat pumps and electric vehicles. Arleigh Reynolds, Sitka Sound Science Center Executive Director, extended an invitation to Whale Fest, November 1-3.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Christianson that the Consent Agenda consisting of Item A be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

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

A [24-149](#) Approve the minutes of the September 24 Assembly meeting

This item was APPROVED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA.

X. BOARD, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

None.

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

B [ORD 24-23](#) Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2025 (Emergency Response Vessel Electronics / Harbor Department Equipment)

A motion was made by Mosher that this Ordinance be APPROVED on SECOND AND FINAL READING. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

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

C [24-150](#) Approve the Municipal Clerk's Certificate of Election

A motion was made by Christianson to formally accept the Certificate of Election for the October 1, 2024, Regular Municipal Election according to the results set forth in the attached election certification prepared by the Municipal Clerk and request that the official tally be included in the minutes as part of the permanent record. The motion PASSED by the following vote.

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

XII. NEW BUSINESS:

D [24-152](#) Oath of Office - Newly Elected Officials

Kevin Mosher and Scott Saline were sworn in as assembly members for three-year terms. Steven Eisenbeisz was sworn in as mayor for a two-year term.

- E** [24-153](#) Reappoint Gerry Hope to a three-year term on the Sustainability Commission
- A motion was made by Mosher that this Item be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**
- Yes:** 7 - Christianson, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Ystad, Pike, Carlson, and Saline
- F** [24-154](#) Approve a liquor license renewal application for Dpjt, Inc. dba Nugget Restaurant at 600 Airport Drive
- A motion was made by Christianson that this Item be APPROVED. The motion PASSED by the following vote.**
- Yes:** 7 - Christianson, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Ystad, Pike, Carlson, and Saline
- G** [RES 24-16](#) Authorizing the Municipal Administrator to apply for and execute loans offered under Clean Water and Drinking Water loan programs (1st and final reading)
- Acting Public Works Director Amy Ainslie provided an overview.
- A motion was made by Ystad that this Resolution be APPROVED on FIRST AND FINAL READING.**
- Yes:** 7 - Christianson, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Ystad, Pike, Carlson, and Saline
- H** [24-155](#) Discussion/ Direction/ Decision on expanding the scope of Project 90990 "Blatchley Heat Pump Replacement"
- Acting Public Works Director Amy Ainslie summarized the item. Pike disclosed the heat pumps in need of repair were located at his place of employment. No conflict was noted.
- A motion was made by Christianson to rename Project 90990 "Blatchley Heat Pump Replacement" to Project 90990 "School Heat Pump Replacement." The motion PASSED by the following vote.**
- Yes:** 7 - Christianson, Mosher, Eisenbeisz, Ystad, Pike, Carlson, and Saline
- I** [24-156](#) Discussion/ Direction/ Decision on future operations of the animal control facility at 209 Jarvis Street
- Municipal Administrator John Leach, Police Chief Robert Baty, and representatives of Friends of the Sitka Animal Shelter, Kristina Tirman and Dusty Kidd, shared their perspective on recent issues at the shelter. The consensus was for the parties to meet and collaborate on a revised memorandum of understanding, restore volunteer access to the shelter, and pursue long-term solutions, such as code revisions.
- J** [24-158](#) Discussion/ Direction/ Decision on rescheduling the two regular December meetings
- Due to staff and assembly travel the week of December 9, and the Christmas Eve

holiday, the December meetings were rescheduled to December 17 and 30.

K [24-157](#)**Assignments: Deputy Mayor, Vice-Deputy Mayor, and Assembly Liaisons**

Christianson and Pike were nominated for Deputy Mayor. A vote was taken. Christianson received 1 vote and Pike received 6. Pike was appointed Deputy Mayor. Carlson was nominated for Vice Deputy Mayor. Hearing no other nominations, Carlson was appointed Vice Deputy Mayor.

The following liaison appointments were made:

Gary Paxton Industrial Park Board - Ystad / Christianson
Health Needs and Human Services - Carlson / Mosher
Historic Preservation - Saline / Carlson
Investment - Eisenbeisz / Carlson
Library - Saline / Pike
Local Emergency Planning - Mosher / Christianson
Parks and Recreation - Mosher / Ystad
Planning - Christianson / Ystad
Police and Fire - Pike / Mosher
Port and Harbors - Ystad / Mosher
Sustainability - Christianson / Mosher
Tree and Landscape - Saline / Pike
SEDA - Eisenbeisz / Christianson
Sitka Tribe of Alaska - Eisenbeisz / Pike
School Board - Saline / Pike

XIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

Austin Cranford, Jim Rogers, Linda Behnken, Victoria O'Connell Curran, Dr. Wolf, Allison Brazel, Kate Johnson, Sydney Stong, Patricia Durham, Tabitha Sutton, Miriam Taylor, and Leah Mason spoke to the operations of the animal shelter. Linda Behnken commented on the boat haul out.

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

Mayor - Eisenbeisz reported on Southeast Conference.

Administrator - Leach reported on Southeast Conference.

Attorney - Jones thanked staff for helping her transition to her new role.

Liaison Representatives - Ystad reported on the recent Parks and Recreation meeting.

Clerk - Peterson thanked her team and election workers for their hard work to make a successful election happen.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**L** [24-159](#)

Legal Matter - Baranof Taxi & Tours, LLC, and Thaddeus & Melissa A.

Lara v. Robert M. Baty

Outside legal counsel was unable to join the call. The item was pulled.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Christianson to ADJOURN. Hearing no objections, the meeting ADJOURNED at 10:19 p.m.

ATTEST: _____

**Sara Peterson, MMC
Municipal Clerk**