



SITKA POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

Wednesday, June 28, 2023
Centennial Hall – 5:30 PM



Regular Meeting Minutes

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Present: James Mellema, Gail Roderick and Gregg Olson
City Staff: Chief Warren, Lt Achee, Assemblymember Pike and Exc. Assistant
Serena Wild

B. AGENDA CHANGES/CORRESPONDENCE

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 24, 2023

Motion: Motion by Mellema to approve the May 24, 2023 minutes.

Action: Motion passed by unanimous consent.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

E. PARKING CITATION HEARING BOARD

F. REPORTS

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. Amending Title 11 “Vehicles and Traffic” of the Sitka General Code by repealing Chapter 11.56 “Taxicabs” and replacing with Chapter 11.55 “Commercial Passenger Vehicles”

Municipal Administrator John Leach highlighted that the code pertaining to Taxicabs needs updated and the process to do so has been going on for a couple years. Proposed changes would bring the code up to national standards regarding taxicabs and will be a long process before final code is in place. There will be multiple chances for the public to voice their opinions regarding the change.

Sig Rutter, Why Wait Taxi, came forward and disagreed with any changes.

Nalani James, Bayside Tours, spoke against the proposed changes to the code.

Michelle Martin, Martin’s Taxi, stated she felt the taxi owners were being harassed with the proposed changes.

Commissioner Mellema shared he felt there were strong feelings towards the changes and the City should take the opportunity to get feedback on the proposed changes.

I. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Chairperson Olson would like to see a Town Hall regarding the changes in code. Assemblymember Pike stated these changes won't happen overnight and be a months long process. Current code doesn't seem to work anymore and has missing pieces. It was decided a Town Hall will occur.

J. NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS

Next meeting: **Wednesday, July 26, 2023 @ Harrigan Centennial Hall**

Agenda items: Discussion on Title 11 "Vehicles and Traffic" of the Sitka General Code Chapter 11.56 "Taxicabs"

K. ADJOURNMENT

Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:18 PM.