

**KENAI CITY COUNCIL – JOINT WORK SESSION
WITH KENAITZE INDIAN TRIBE
JANUARY 4 2023, 4:30 P.M.
KENAI CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
210 FIDALGO AVE., KENAI, AK 99611
VICE MAYOR JAMES BAISDEN, PRESIDING**

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Mayor Baisden called the join work session to order at approximately 4:30 p.m.

B. INTRODUCTION

1. Introduction of Kenai City Council and Staff.

Vice Mayor Baisden, City Council Members and staff introduced themselves and stated their position with the City. Those in attendance were:

James Baisden, Vice Mayor	Henry Knackstedt, Council Member
Teea Winger, Council Member	Victoria Askin, Council Member
Deborah Sounart, Council Member	Alex Douthit, Council Member
Paul Ostrander, City Manager	Tony Prior, Fire Chief
Terry Eubank, Finance Director	Scott Bloom, City Attorney
Brad Walker, Parks and Recreation Director	Ben Langham, Lieutenant
Eland Conway, Airport Manager	Linda Mitchell, Planning Director
Kathy Romain, Senior Services Director	Katha Wolfe, Library Director
Shellie Saner, City Clerk	

2. Introduction of Kenaitze Tribal Council and Staff.

Tribal Council Chair Ronette Stanton, Tribal Members and staff introduced themselves and stated their position with the Kenaitze Indian Tribe. Those in attendance were:

Ronette Stanton, Chair	Wayne D. Wilson Jr., Vice Chair
Brenda Smith, Secretary	Gabe Juliussen Jr., Treasurer
Bernadine Atchison, Council Member	Liisia Blizzard, Council Member
Mary Ann Mills, Council Member	Peter Evon, Executive Director

C. DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Kenai Waterfront Revitalization

There was discussion regarding the funds previously appropriated by the City for a feasibility study which helped identify what the community wanted to see for the project; the expectations between private or city owned lands; and general support statement for growth in the area.

2. Refurbishment of the Old Town Playground

There was discussion regarding previous verbal agreements to refurbish the equipment which was not completed and the need to refurbish the equipment; grant opportunities that maybe available to the City or Tribe; and that the that playground had been utilized for children for many years, even before there was equipment installed.

3. Grant Opportunities

There was discussion regarding grant funding availability for Parks and Recreation; Public Safety, Fire Protection and Environmental Protection to include the salmon habitat.

4. Increased Coordination / Collaboration between Tribal Security and Kenai Police Department

There was common agreement to the benefits of coordination efforts between the Police Department and Tribal Security, to include training opportunities as well as emergency planning.

5. Opportunities for City Council to Support Tribal Activities


There was discussion regarding the benefits of the Tribe and Council meeting to discuss goals for both organizations and the City being aware of the Tribe initiatives; and the value of government to government communications.

D. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None.

E. **ADJOURNMENT**

The work session adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Notes were prepared by:


Michelle M. Saner, MMC, City Clerk