

Called to Order: 5:35

Prayer: Curtis Zunigha

Attendance:

Chief Chet Brooks, Assistant Chief Bonnie Jo Griffith, Secretary Nicky Michael, Treasurer Benita Shea, Councilwoman Annette Ketchum, Councilwoman Michelle Holley.

Approve Agenda

Councilwoman Shea motions to approve.

Councilman Young seconds.

All in favor.

Unfinished Business

Anita Mathis asks if the Gift Shop can sell a carving of the Tribe's seal.

Councilwoman Griffith motions to approve.

Councilwoman Annette Ketchum seconds.

All in favor

Titus Frenchman: States that Dee Ketchum has not been called up to ask question

He asks if the Tribe will make a statement against the mascot protecting our children from ie—Redskins. The Osage and other Tribes refuse to do business with UPS and any other businesses supporting the mascots. He wants us to publicly pronounce our stance a Tribe.

New Business:

Resolution 2015-20: To Amend the Housing Eligibility and Occupancy Policy.

Discussion

Councilwoman Ketchum is concerned that in changing the “shall” to “may” and “will” to “might,” we are making this an ambiguous policy.

Titus Frenchman is recognized and asks that our policy be more inclusive due to the numerous obstacles for Native people, who are often the lowest income bracket—we need to be assisting not putting road blocks in front of our people.

Councilman Young speaks to the importance of revising our policy. If for instance, someone is caught in one of our homes with an illegal substance, under the old policy, we could evict an innocent home owner who had no knowledge of the substance. Moreover, we shouldn’t be running credit reports on low income people to live in low income housing. We want to help the poorest people in America.

Councilwoman Ketchum states: So you are saying low income people do not have good credit rating. Is that what you are saying?

Councilman Young: I don’t know, but I don’t want to be a barrier to someone who doesn’t have credit.

Councilwoman Ketchum states: That’s not what we are talking about. We are talking about whether they owe so many bills for whether they can pay their rent. If they owe so much then they would possibly have to live with their relative or something. We just rent to anyone and then two months later we have to evict them causes a terrible workload for the personnel.

Councilman Young motions to approve.

Councilman Shea seconds.

4 in favor.

1 opposed (Ketchum)

2 abstain (Brooks, Griffith)

Chief Brooks explains that the current policy could exclude him from housing (Section 8 b, past due tax obligations). While he’s not in the current homeownership, but the state of Oklahoma claims I owe them \$8,800 in taxes and Chief Brooks disputes this due to the compact on tobacco. I have never been convicted of tax evasion. However, our Constitution states that no Tribal Council member shall vote on a subject for which they have personal interest in the outcome of the vote.

Resolution 2015-21 To Allow Tribal Council Members to attend meetings via Telecommunications

Discussion: Does this include all meetings?

The consensus is it should only cover cases for which a member simply cannot physically be there, ie weather or health circumstances.

Chief Ketchum states that all Tribal Council meetings be conducted by Roberts Rules of Order. I’m uncertain as to whether or not this includes telecommunications or changing the Constitution.

Tribal Operations Manager Curtis Zunigha affirms Roberts Rules isn’t clear yet. The way he reads it, the By-Laws must specifically allow for this.

Councilwoman Griffith states: We therefore need a referendum then. She then motions to table Resolution 2015-21 for two weeks.

Councilwoman Michael seconds.

All in favor.

Other:

We received an email from Elaine Clinton explaining tree removal costs of \$1500 to the Powwow Committee.

Councilwoman Griffith motions to donate \$1500 to the Delaware Powwow Committee.

Councilwoman Michael seconds.

All in favor.

Accounts Payable policy:

Councilman Young motions to adopt.

Councilwoman Griffith seconds.

All in favor.

Tribal Council Travel Policy:

Councilwoman Griffith motions to table this vote until May 5th.

Councilman Young seconds.

All in favor.

Tribal Operations Manager offers a short report.

1. We have officially changed our address to 5100 Tuxedo.
2. Delaware Indian News (DIN); he hopes this was satisfactory
3. Aid to Tribal Government (ATG); we received a letter approving total of \$480,000
4. Housing Grant totaled: \$576,000

July 22-26, Munsee Trip

Sign up sheet will be circulated and available at the center.

Councilwoman Griffith motions for Executive Session

Councilwoman Ketchum seconds.

All in favor.

Break for ten minutes at 6:45.

Reconvened at 8:02 pm

Councilwoman Griffith motions to reinstate Leslie Falleaf into her position, beginning in the morning, with no back pay, for 90-day probation.

Reason: Her appeal was past the 10 day policy deadline.

Councilwoman Ketchum seconds.

All in favor.

Motions to adjourn.

Chief Brooks adjourns.