

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
TRIBAL COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2016
LITTLE RIVER BAND
GOVERNMENT CENTER**

**OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians held a meeting at the Little River Band Government Center on June 29, 2016. Following are the minutes of that meeting.

I. Opening Prayer

Kareen Lewis, Tribal Historic Preservation Department, offered the Opening Prayer. Lewis introduced herself in Anishinaabemowin.

We gather here today to do some work on behalf of our Tribal members. In doing this work I ask that you would help us all to remember that Seven Generations ago our Ancestors were thinking of us and praying for us. I ask that you help us all to behave in a respectful manner in their honor. Help us to think how they would have thought of us today and the things that we need for ourselves in the direction that we are going. I want to give thanks for all the things that we have for all of our jobs, for our casino that is helping us out, for each and every person who has helped contribute to our up and coming Jiingtamok. I want to ask for safe travel for the people coming to and leaving from our Jiingtamok. Ask that everybody could help them to enjoy themselves here that we represent ourselves as a friendly and loving community. Encourage our children to get to know some other people here so that we could continue on. Help us today with whatever we are taking care of today. Ahaaw. Miigwech.

II. General Business

A. Call to Order

The regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

B. Roll Call

J. Riley - Present	J. Burger- Present	F. Medacco- Present
S. Crampton - Present	G. DiPiazza- Present	M. Wabindato -Present
R. Wittenberg-Present	V. Johnson - Present	S. Lewis - Present

Quorum established.

Others Present: Darleen Martin, Peggy & Jim Derouin, Melanie & Mike Ceplina, Martha Howell, Stella Whitepigeon, Jason Verdi, Bill Willis, Jennifer Crampton, Steven Wheeler, Frank Figgels, Krystyne Medawis, Julie Wolfe.

Others Present That Did Not Sign In: Grace Hendler, George Le Vasseur, Ogema Romanelli, Officer from Public Safety, Rachel Rochman, Jamie Friedel, Jason Holguin, Rebecca Liebing, Shayne Machen, Marcella Leusby.

C. Approval of Agenda

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH NO CHANGES OR ADDITIONS; by Di Piazza; supported by Lewis.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Roll Call #1

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Riley noted that the agenda was approved.

D. Tribal Council Minutes ☐ 6/22/16

MOVE TO ACCEPT THE TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES FOR 6/22/16; by Riley; supported by Lewis.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Roll Call #2

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Riley noted that the minutes are accepted.

III. Continuing Business

A. Grants & Contracts

Speaker Johnson noted they do not have anything under Grants & Contracts.

B. Budget Modifications

1. Acceptance of contract funds from the U.S. Department of Interior-Bureau of Indian Affairs and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2016-__ in the amount of \$205,983.

The Tribe has received additional funding for the 2015 Bureau of Indian Affairs Self-Governance Compact.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said Item #1 is additional funds the Tribe has received under the 2015 Self-Governance Compact. Willis said these funds are specifically awarded for Contract Support Costs in the amount of \$205,983.

Mike Ceplina, Tribal #0692, asked what this money was going to be used for and how it is going to be spent.

Bill Willis replied Contract Support Costs or Indirect Costs of funding is typically utilized for those programs or departments that help support the Government Operations such as Accounting, IT, Human Resources, Maintenance and the Grants Department is included in that also. Willis said that funding is specific to help support those ancillary departments.

Speaker Johnson said he has Darleen Martin and then Councilor Di Piazza.

Darleen Martin, Tribal #0575, said it says 2015 here is that supposed to be 2016.

Bill Willis said no.

Darleen Martin said this is from last year.

Councilor Burger replied yes.

Councilor Di Piazza asked Bill Willis how much have they received so far.

Bill Willis said in 2015 he would have to go back and look. Willis said these are funds that were awarded obviously there must have been some left over money from 2015 that they now are giving them.

Councilor Di Piazza asked if that was going to be added to this year \$2,615,000.

Bill Willis said they can but those funds will probably are already spent.

Councilor Burger said she is looking at the Authority to Obligate documentation that comes from the Office of Self-Governance and in 2015 the Tribe's roll out total was \$2,615,471 from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Burger said the Contract Support Costs are additional funds that are calculated on the Direct Cost that the

Tribe spends to support programs and believed that the Budget Director has stated that these are in part Indirect Costs which according to the roll up sheet is not fully accurate but they will support the Family Services, Education, and Natural Resources Programs that they operate under their Bureau of Indian Affairs Self-Governance Compact. Burger said the 2015 Contract Support Costs dollars are late getting out and they have not received any for 2016 yet so the Feds still owe them money as far as she is concerned.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #16-0629-185;
 ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE U.S.
 DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR-BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
 AND APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING
 BUDGET MB-2016-28 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$205,983;** by Medacco;
 supported by Burger.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Roll Call #3

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Riley confirmed that Resolution #16-0629-185 passes.

2. Acceptance of contract funds from the Department of Health and Human Services-Suicide Prevention Coalition and approving a modification to the Operating Budget MB-2016-__ in the amount of \$4,100

The Tribe has received additional funding for a Special Project titled Suicide Prevention Coalition that is under the Indian Health Service 2016 Self-Governance Compact.

Bill Willis, Budget Coordinator, represented this agenda item. Willis said these are actually new funds that they received from Indian Health Service under the 2016 Self-Governance Compact for IHS. Willis said they are specifically awarded for Suicide Prevention Coalition activities and believed that Julie Wolfe had explained to Council in Agenda Review there are already some activities planned in the near future.

**MOVE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #16-0629-186;
 ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT FUNDS FROM THE
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES-SUICIDE
 PREVENTION COALITION AND APPROVING A**

MODIFICATION TO THE OPERATING BUDGET MB-2016-29 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,100; by Burger; supported by Di Piazza.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Councilor Burger said again she is looking at the Funding Sheet and every time that the government awards them more money or pays its obligation to their people they provide them with a running tally of the amount to date. Burger said it looks like the Tribe has received \$2,662,342 and the \$4,100 is on top of that amount.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item.

Darleen Martin, Tribal #0575, asked if they had anyone in this Tribe in the Health Department or Health Services that is qualified to do a Suicide Prevention.

Councilor Burger replied yes.

Darleen Martin asked who that would be.

Councilor Burger answered they have individuals in their Be-Da-Bin Department that are qualified to do that.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item.

Roll Call #4

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Burger-	Yes	F. Medacco-	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza-	Yes	M. Wabindato -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	V. Johnson -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Riley confirmed that Resolution #16-0629-186 passes.

C. Approval of Budgeted Expenditure

1. Approval for Councilor Burger to attend the Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committees Quarterly Meetings being held in Washington, D.C. on July 19-21, 2016

The Tribal Council participates on various committees and these activities support the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians participation with activities for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Services.

MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL FOR COUNCILOR BURGER TO ATTEND THE TRIBAL SELF-GOVERNANCE ADVISORY

COMMITTEES QUARTERLY MEETINGS BEING HELD IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ON JULY 19-21, 2016; by Medacco; supported by Di Piazza.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain. Johnson said has Councilor Burger who is going to abstain from this action and believed it is because she is the one travelling if it is passed. Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item.

Mike Ceplina asked Councilor Burger if they ever signed a Compact.

Councilor Burger said pardon her.

Mike Ceplina reiterated for the Self-Governance did they ever sign a Compact.

Councilor Burger said they have a Compact with the Indian Health Service and just concluded the final negotiation with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Speaker Johnson thanked Mike Ceplina and said that was a very important question and he wanted to add that in his comments that they are moving forward in that area. Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item.

Roll Call #5

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Abstain	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-0-1-0)

Recorder Riley noted that travel is approved.

2. Approval for Councilor Riley to attend the 2016 Bike Time Event in Norton Shores on July 13-17, 2016

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians has a booth set up for this event and requires representation for the Tribe.

Mike Ceplina said this kind of relates to it, and asked if they made anything on Bike Time last year.

Speaker Johnson said yes they did and it was close to \$25,000.

MOVE TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE FOR COUNCILOR RILEY TO ATTEND THE 2016 BIKE TIME EVENT IN NORTON SHORES ON JULY 13-17, 2016; by Burger; supported by Lewis.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain from this and that it was open for discussion.

Recorder Riley said oh, he was going to abstain.

Speaker Johnson said Councilor Riley is going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Councilor Crampton said he just wanted to explain that last year's Bike Time Event it was the first time and there was the opposition to the event itself so they actually split it up, half of the group downtown and Muskegon wanted to have their own and think it was called Iron Horse Rally.

Councilor Medacco said Rebel Road.

Councilor Crampton confirmed Rebel Road and said it was two competing factions so it split their profits. Crampton said this year they have come to agreements so it should be quite larger than it was last year.

Recorder Riley said he just wanted to say that the reason that he is going down there is to work the booth and help set up and do outreach for their efforts in Muskegon.

Speaker Johnson said it so noted. Johnson asked if there was any other discussion on this item.

Roll Call #6

J. Riley - Abstain	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-0-1-0)

Recorder Riley noted that the travel is approved.

IV. Old Business

- A. **Operations Report** None Submitted
- B. **Financial Report** None Submitted
- C. **Health Commission** None Submitted
- D. **Housing Commission** May 2016
- E. **Commerce Commission** None Submitted
- F. **LRBOI Tribal Government Preference Report** None Submitted

Speaker Johnson noted they have not received the Operations, Financial, Health Commission, Commerce Commission or the LRBOI Tribal Government Preference Reports however they do have on file the Housing Commission

Report. Johnson asked if there was any action that the Council has to take from this report.

Recorder Riley replied it is just information.

Speaker Johnson said with that said they will noted that they have accepted the report and it will be filed into Council's minutes.

G. Approval to Renew Existing Policies for General Insurance Coverage for Tribal Government, Trading Post, Muskegon Gaming Development

This is renewal of existing insurance policies for general property, casualty, theft, work comp, etc. This coverage is administered by the Stephen H. Madigan, LLC, Insurance Agency. This item was postponed during Approval of the Agenda at the 6/22/16 Tribal Council Meeting.

Steve Wheeler, Tribal CFO, represented this agenda item. Wheeler said this is their annual premium renewal for all the Tribe's insurances. Wheeler said it deals with their property, auto, liability, crime and work comp. Wheeler said this is all the non-employee benefit type insurances and is covers the Tribe for property, lands, casualty, theft, and crime. Wheeler said the information got to them a little bit late and he forwarded all of that information to Tribal Council after he received it. Wheeler said this covers the Tribe, the Trading Post, and the Muskegon Gaming Development. Wheeler said he will touch on the premium because the premium costs actually decreased from year over year. Wheeler said this is a policy for a one year period \$254,736 for 2016-2017 compared to \$255,838 for 2015-2016 so they decreased about \$1,100 overall. Wheeler said within that costs the General Liability and Auto increased about \$4,000 a year over year. Wheeler said they added some more homes and a few more vehicles. Wheeler said the property part went up \$850 approximately and that is just due to the increased value of the property. Wheeler said Crime Coverage remains the same and Work Comp they did realize a savings year over year of \$6,000 due to a low claims history in this past year, so overall it is fairly static but about a \$1,000 cheaper than last year. Wheeler said the coverage is still with Stephen Madigan, LLC who has represented their insurance coverages for several years now.

Recorder Riley asked Steve Wheeler if he believed the lowering of the comp and the incidents has to do with them being in a centrally located building now and having to try and maintain less property.

Steve Wheeler said it probably has more to do with the previous year that there were more slips and falls due to winter conditions and ice. Wheeler said this past winter they didn't have any that he is aware of any slips and falls that were actual comp claims so that is one reason why that decreased.

Speaker Johnson asked if there was any more discussion on this item or a motion.

MOVE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #16-0629-187; APPROVAL TO RENEW INSURANCE POLICIES FOR COMMERCIAL PROPERTY, GENERAL LIABILITY, BUSINESS AUTO, COMMERCIAL CRIME AND WORKERS COMPENSATION WITH TRIBAL FIRST THROUGH AGENT STEPHEN MADIGAN, LLC TO PROVIDE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS, LITTLE RIVER TRADING POST, AND MUSKEGON GAMING DEVELOPMENT; by Burger; supported by Riley.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and that it was open for discussion.

Roll Call #7

J. Riley -	Yes	J. Burger-	Yes	F. Medacco-	Yes
S. Crampton -	Yes	G. DiPiazza-	Yes	M. Wabindato -	Yes
R. Wittenberg-	Yes	V. Johnson -	Yes	S. Lewis -	Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

Recorder Riley confirmed that Resolution #16-0629-187 passed.

V. New Business

A. Motion to Post for 30 Days the Proposed Adoption of a Tribal Prevailing Wage Rate

The purpose of this ordinance is to authorize the Tribe to determine area prevailing wages to the extent permitted under Federal Law so that the Davis-Bacon Prevailing Wage Determination will not apply under covered agreements.

Speaker Johnson said this is a combination of the Housing Director and the Unified Legal Department working together on this he believed. Johnson explained it has to do with the Davis-Bacon Prevailing Wage and they will have the ability to set their own rates that are very competitive.

Recorder Riley said just to put it in simple terms it is going to be cheaper for them to build HUD Housing and other grant funded commercial properties.

MOTION TO POST FOR 30 DAYS THE PROPOSED ADOPTION OF A TRIBAL PREVAILING WAGE RATE; by Di Piazza; supported by Lewis.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain.

Mike Ceplina asked who is going to decide what the wages are.

Recorder Riley said Human Resources by looking at the competitive area the local area and what the competitive wages are for individual positions.

Roll Call #8

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson -- Yes	S. Lewis -- Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

B. Placing hold on Rental Rate Increases for Low Income and Elder Homes at Aki Maadiziwin

The Rental Rates were to go up on July 1, 2016 and this resolution will place a hold on that increase until further investigation.

Mike Ceplina, Tribal #0692, said he is a person that is in Housing and he was for lowering the rent at one time to help their people. Ceplina said it was raised back up to 20% which is double the rate which is \$100 or \$200. Ceplina said people think that is nothing for them to pay on their wages. Ceplina said it might be nothing for them up there as Elected Officials to pay but when it comes to them at \$200 it is. Ceplina said \$200 is a lot to feed his family and that or cloth them. Ceplina said right now he has a van that needs a transmission which is \$1,700-2,000 and out of his wages they can figure that one out. Ceplina said he doesn't have the money but yet they are going to raise the rents for people out there to help them it is not going to help them. Ceplina said it is going to help someone but not them.

Councilor Di Piazza said it is not up to 20% yet and 2.5% over four years. Di Piazza said he guessed what is disappointing that this was implemented in 2014 the rate increase. Di Piazza said everybody is here today because it is supposed to implement July 1st. Di Piazza said he is looking back at the commission meetings and asked if anybody showed up in May to voice this concern at the Housing Commission or did anybody show up in June.

Speaker Johnson said he is going to treat that as a rhetorical question.

Councilor Di Piazza said this was brought forward for a 30 day or a 60 day stay on it to postpone it for further investigation to look into credits and things along that order so.....everybody knew this was going to transpire in 2014. Di Piazza said to show up today when this has been going on since 2014 and everybody has known this was going to increase and like he said he was looking at the May Commission Meetings and he doesn't see anybody's name on there to show up and voice that concern at the commission. Di Piazza said June he doesn't have in front of him and he was not there so he doesn't know who showed up there to voice that concern so he is a little disappointed because it works both ways.

Councilor Crampton said he is in favor of this because he thinks the whole program needs to be reworked and it is not working as intended. Crampton said he is not aware of a Council member on this salary that is living in Low Income. Crampton asked Council if any of them are living in Low Income Housing. Crampton said when they do that it keeps their Tribal members who actually need that Housing from getting into those houses and that is one of the problems that they had before.

Speaker Johnson said to Mike Ceplina that he knows he wanted to speak but out of respect and on a protocol he has Martha Howell raise her hand and invites her to come up and speak at this time then he will get him next.

Martha Howell, Tribal #3635, said in response to what Councilor Di Piazza said. Howell said in 2014 the majority of the people who are at the big meeting they had at that time down at the Community Center about the housing increase then everybody was worried about it so to say that they haven't been worried about it is very unfair because they have all been worried about it. Howell said every time it increases they are worried about it. Howell said where are they going to get the extra money and how are they going to squeeze extra funds to go further or how are they going to go from Shut-Off Notice to Shut-Off Notice on their Utility bills because if they get a Shut-Off Notice they kicked out of housing. Howell said to say that they are not concerned is unfair because they can't make it to a commission meeting. Howell said when they go to a commission meeting and she has filed complaints against Commissioners on the Housing Commission herself about the way they behave during meetings and the things they say to them like "*go out and make more money.*" Howell said when they make more money they take it away from them. Howell said when housing increases it is not fair. Howell said she would like to thank Councilor Crampton for being in agreement that something needs to be done because it does need to be fixed and it is broken. Howell said it is hurting a lot of people and impacting their children in a negative way and impacting their Elders in a negative way. Howell said she really hopes that they all look forward to the future because it is not only about the people sitting here now this decision will impact people who don't live here yet and homes that haven't been built yet. Howell said it will impact their children. Howell said really take a good look and think not only for the people sitting here but for the future.

Speaker Johnson said he has Mike Ceplina, Councilor Medacco and the gentleman sitting next to Mike Ceplina and he didn't get his name.

Jason Verdi stated his name.

Mike Ceplina said all he has to say is, and Councilor Medacco knows this, from day one when he brought this forward to raise it back up he was in opposition to it. Ceplina said he even thanked him the other week when his rent went \$100 up that \$100 could be used for his family. Ceplina said they are supposed to be here

to help their people not to hinder them. Ceplina said this just reminds him that it seems like they don't want their people living on their Reservation anymore, on their lands. Ceplina said they raise the rents so high they got to go rent downtown and if they rented downtown they know what kind of housing is down there, substandard housing. Ceplina said if they are going to pay high rent down there, yeah, they can go into the condos and all that because it is really high. Ceplina said he can't afford that and he doesn't know who else can so he is glad that they are looking at this.

Councilor Medacco said just to start here he knows when they first implemented this they only talked about it doing credits and things like that for the Elders and people who had children. Medacco said those things were never taken into place. Medacco said he is in favor of looking at the system but the way this resolution comes before him today he cannot be in favor of it because it reads "*till an investigation is done.*" Medacco said there is no scope of work and it doesn't say who is going to do the investigation such as is housing going to do it or is the commission going to do it or is Council going to do it. Medacco said what are they going to look at and what are they going to investigate because he has no paperwork in front of him stating how it is going to be laid out and how it is supposed to be done. Medacco said the commission, as far as he knows, they were unaware of this coming in front of them last week, because when they are sitting out there they need the membership involvement, the ones who live out there, they need the commission, some kind of recommendation if they are for it or against it, but they have none of that, and usually they sit down and usually they have work sessions. Medacco said Mike Ceplina knows this they had a work session to see what kinds of things that they can put in there to implement that helps people out but they didn't have.....like he said.....one thing that is on here in the final "*Whereas is the Tribal Council wishes to place a hold on the rental rates increase set for July 1st, 2016 until a further investigation can be done*" and that is it. Medacco said an investigation on what. Medacco said that is where he is at today is that he is in favor that they know they need to look at some things like the kind of credits they can put in place but the way this resolution is written he can't be in favor of this resolution as of today.

Speaker Johnson said he has Jason Verdi and then he has Martha Howell.

Jason Verdi, Tribal #0655, said he lives out at Aki and he works real hard. Verdi said he has to work weekends to try to pay his bills and then raises get raised. Verdi said he has transmission problems and engine problems on his vehicles and they keep raising their rents. Verdi said he can't go to work, right now he is supposed to be at work, he can't attend every single meeting because if he does he will be fired then what is the Tribe going to get from him, nothing. Verdi said that is all he has to say and thanked them.

Speaker Johnson said he has Martha Howell and Rochelle.

Martha Howell thanked them for letting her speak again. Howell said she has had discussions, multiple discussions, not only in the past week with different individual Tribal Council members but has had discussions with Housing Commissioners, and she was under the impression in 2014, she even spoke with Bobby Jo, who said he wanted to implement credits and different things to help offset the cost of the rental increases before the implementation of the increase. Howell said she was under the impression that the Housing Commission is full aware that they need to have these credits and deductions implemented and they have not done their due diligence so to say everything is brand new and fresh or that this was all sprung on them and they didn't know anything about it is.....she doesn't believe it because everybody knows. Howell said if they are alive and live here and they know what is going on in the community they are well aware and well versed on what is going on.

Rachel Rochman, Tribal #3634, said she wanted a couple of things cleared just for herself. Rochman said the housing up there was by HUD, correct.

Councilors Medacco and Burger answered together some of the houses.

Rachel Rochman said some of it but not of them. Rochman said she is also curious to the money that they are gaining from this what is it exactly benefitting and going towards. Rochman said it seems like she is hearing that they need to investigate and they need to know people are unhappy and they are not for this and they want to see them show up and cry or put forth their opinions obviously, it is obvious that everybody's opinion is the same, nobody would appreciate that and them as individuals up there wouldn't appreciate it. Rochman said nobody.....she means especially if they had fixed incomes like herself she has seven children. Rochman said she is on a fixed income and she is disabled. Rochman said she can't pay her electric that is a constant struggle and a constant struggle to keep her vehicles going let alone there are so many other issues with the Tribe with employment and she means, they all know the problems, they exist they are there and they are stumbling blocks to what they call their people. Rochman said she doesn't call herself anybody's people anymore. Rochman said she is her own and she moved here because her mom said to go be with her people and what she imagined her people to be that's not what it is so she just kind of keeps herself out of things and doesn't come to meetings very often because she just feels it is going to be on deaf ears and she is going to be scoffed at and not understood nor cared for as an individual. Rochman said to Councilor Medacco that she is really baffled because she voted for him and thought he was one person who worked up there and it was important to have people in the Council on the Board of Housing and all that who live there and knows what is going on in the community. Rochman said Councilor Medacco knows what is going on in the community plus he is a new Christian and she thought, yep, good for him God has blessed him and good for him because he is going to look out for them. Rochman said to Councilor Medacco that she has seven kids and that he

knows that and has known her for a long time. Rochman asked Councilor Medacco when he became disconnected from people.

Speaker Johnson interrupted and said Rochelle that he was going to treat that as a rhetorical question because that is a personal attack and he doesn't appreciate that here.

Rachel Rochman said that wasn't a personal attack because she has known Councilor Medacco for a long time and they have been friends so.....it is just the truth.

Speaker Johnson said it is.

Rachel Rochman said it is just freedom of speech and he can call it an attack but that is just his opinion. Rochman said this is her heart felt..... Rochman said to Councilor Medacco a question to him what in the world happened.

Councilor Medacco said what happened, nothing has happened. Medacco said when he was working at Housing Maintenance over there everybody knows that they have to maintain a certain amount of money to maintain a house every year. Medacco said when he worked up there before the \$75 minimum was in place they had people up there that was paying less than that. Medacco said when something goes wrong because Housing furnish all the appliances and just say a furnace goes out \$5,000 minimum and who is responsible for that payment. Medacco said the Tribe picks it up.

Rachel Rochman said she understands that and they have a lot of money.

Councilor Medacco said like he said they have to maintain a certain amount to maintain a house because they have their furnaces even a simple thing as a thing on the side of their furnace. Medacco said Mike Ceplina had one brake and accidents happen but that is \$350 for that one piece for that little pump.

Rachel Rochman said yes she totally agrees.....her money.....a lot of her money does go into the house that she lives in all actuality. Rochman said oddly since Councilor Medacco left the Maintenance up there sadly and she doesn't know if it has to do with health or what is going on and she thinks it is health with some of their Maintenance but it declined even further and a lot of their houses are not being cared for as, her personal opinion if she was the landlord, like these houses are brand new and she would want them tip top. Rochman said she replaced a lot of the stuff in her house and right now she is buying faucets for her home, she is buying those, because she knows they are not going to be probably fixed otherwise. Rochman said that is the truth and a lot of them put money into their property up there, she means slowly, she put money into landscaping because there is no landscaping up there and she has been putting her own wallet into the landscaping up there on her property. Rochman said well their property.

Rochman said they are all in the same boat in one sense some make more money than others.

The five minute timer went off.

Rachel Rochman said she doesn't know what that means.

Speaker Johnson said he has Mike Ceplina, Councilors Di Piazza and Burger and a lady in the audience.

Mike Ceplina said they just got to remind people that most of the money that was given to them for those houses through HUD and NAHASDA which are grants was given to them. Ceplina said they give millions of dollars to non-Tribal people, millions of dollars from that casino. Ceplina said he would think that they could spend some of that money on their people over there to help them out. Ceplina said it won't cost millions of dollars he will guarantee them that. Ceplina said he would hope that they would look at this issue again because his kids love it up there and why should they have to move. Ceplina said it just reminds him of history repeating itself driving them off of their own land. Ceplina said that is one thing to think about. Ceplina said they like living up there and it is their land.

Speaker Johnson said he has Councilors Di Piazza and Burger and Stella Whitepigeon in the cue.

Councilor Di Piazza said to say they don't hear and they don't understand which is why this resolution was brought forward for a 60 day stay of the rent increase so it does need investigation because the system is flawed and broken otherwise he wouldn't have brought it forward. Di Piazza said they can submit e-mails to the Council and to the commission and things with their opinions and what they think. Di Piazza said like he said this was implemented in 2014 and it has already increased a couple of.....they know.....twice and this will be the third time so.....he understands people need funds and they need to do things because his car brakes all the time and he has to pay for it. Di Piazza said there is help to get that done too for everybody because there is Car Repair. Di Piazza said he pays \$80 a month for water and sewer along with his disposal, trash. Di Piazza said he doesn't qualify to even live there because he owns a home. Di Piazza said so he is punished because he owns a home. Di Piazza asked so how does everybody feel about that he can't live in Aki because he owns a home. Di Piazza said maybe he would but it is a subsidized housing and that 3,800 members they do have are subsidizing for them to live there at that price. Di Piazza said the system needs some tweaking and that is why it is going to be investigated. Di Piazza said like he said they all talked about credits and would that affect everybody he doesn't know until they get to that point. Di Piazza said this is to postpone it for 60 days and he is done.

Councilor Burger said it's always a dilemma when a person sits in a Council seat and listens to the needs of their people because she thinks some inferences are often made that might be erroneously so that their folks don't want to move up or move out and that they are contented where they are. Burger said she wanted to place it from her perspective. Burger said she sits on Tribal Council and her annual income gross salary is \$55,000 a year and she is a single income household. Burger said that seems like a lot of money but let her tell them what she had to do over the last year because she is now a single income household. Burger said the first thing she had to do is restructure her debt load that required her to take finances out of her retirement that she earned over the last 30 years of working to pay off some real estate, to pay bills, and to pay medical costs for her husband. Burger said in that process she refinanced the home that she currently owns and she was fortunate because she had a husband that had an income and they bought a house together here. Burger said the payment of that house was over \$1,200 a month and she went to the bank and filed a credit application based on her single income of \$55,000 gross a year which means that is not what she takes home in her pocket by the way. Burger said she refinanced her home and her current payment is over \$950 a month because she has her taxes for property, the privilege of living in a township and her house insurance in case something explodes and blows up she can replace it on top of her house payment. Burger said her annual taxes about \$2,600 a month or year here and that is her tax load and she pays that to Stronach Township. Burger said her house insurance is \$1,800 a year and because she has a mortgage she is required to carry house insurance, can't be without it. Burger said she has maintenance on her property and this year of all years her house when she purchased it back in 2003 or 2006 and it was built in 2003 which means her house is now 13 years old if her math is correct had central air which is out. Burger said she can't repair it because she has to replace the whole unit and she has had some quotes and that is going to be about \$2,000 to replace her central air. Burger said she can't afford it so it is going to sit. Burger said she has some issues with her roof every year the ice dams up and every year she has leaks and it has now started to erode the shingles. Burger said she has to make some arrangements to try and figure out how to pay for those repairs. Burger said in addition she pays heat and her heat bill last year she spent just about \$4,000 on propane. Burger said her lights run about \$85 a month. Burger said she is running around replacing all her light bulbs with halogens and all these low emission lights to try to reduce her bill because at one point it was \$120 a month. Burger said so what is her option. Burger said her option is probably to list her house and downsize. Burger said she needs to either get into a rental property here in the county or try to find something that she can afford to purchase and ideally because she has to pay for snow removal which is \$40 a shot to have somebody plow her driveway all winter and she has to pay for trash pick-up and the other things her township assesses her. Burger said of course she has to mow her own lawn luckily her husband was lucky and she has a riding lawn mower. Burger said her husband won that playing Black Jack. Burger said but she has those expenses and they are her expenses on her income of \$55,000 a year, single woman, single household, and has a 17 year old

daughter at home who is looking at going to college. Burger said she would love to get in the condominiums so she wouldn't have any maintenance payments or any maintenance costs to her. Burger said everything on the inside of the walls would be hers and everything on the outside would belong to the Homeowners Association. Burger said she has checked into that. Burger said the average fees in Manistee for a Homeowners Association somebody that cuts their grass, takes care of their landscaping, takes care of their snow removal is \$225 a month on top of a house payment to purchase the condo. Burger said when she sits here and hears the needs of her people and the needs of her people include those of them that are homeowners and those of them that work for a living, not to say that any of them don't, but those of them that have the same expenses and don't have the same opportunity. Burger said she is probably going to have to sell her house because she can't afford to maintain it and when she does that she is going to find a smaller place to live where she has maintenance costs hopefully reduced maybe the landlord can take care of it for her. Burger said so when she thinks about all the things in their Housing Department and their development she thinks about the value of those homes to the people that live there. Burger said she can't think of one home up there that is not less than \$150,000 in property value. Burger said she can't think of one instance where a person that is living in it would say that they don't appreciate it and she believes they do. Burger said please understand that as a Legislator she has to look at the finances of the Tribe and one of the things in the finances of the Tribe that she can tell them without any hesitation or fail is that the enterprise is not making the money that it used to make. Burger said it is not delivering the same resources to the government that it used to deliver and that is why they are looking at a facility in Muskegon. Burger said so at the end of the day they have to come to some balance. Burger reiterated that they have to come to some balance in the circle. Burger said the balance is that she can support a 60 day stay on the implementation of the raise but what she wants to look at is she wants to look at the value of their homes and she wants to look at the mean income of the individuals living there and she wants to start setting some rates that are reflective of probably what individuals are able to pay. Burger said she knows when she went to the bank and had to raid her retirement to make a down payment to refinance her home they didn't hesitate to tell her that she had to come up with the money so those are all considerations. Burger said she guessed what she is asking is that they all be patient with this process because some of them are sitting where they are, directly where they are, and wondering how they are going to make the \$800 repair on their vehicle, wondering how they are going to come up with the maintenance money to fix their homes, and she has worked very hard her whole life and she does have some resources but she doesn't feel that she should have to pillage her resources to prove a point.

MOVE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #16-0629-188; PLACING A HOLD ON THE RENTAL RATE INCREASES FOR LOW INCOME AND ELDER HOUSES AT AKI MAADIZIWIN; by Burger; supported by Di Piazza.

Speaker Johnson asked if anybody was going to abstain and there is no need to add regarding the discussion because he has a lot of hands. Johnson said let him go through the list of hands here and one of the things that he would like to do is listen to the voices that have not spoken yet and there is already people that have spoken here. Johnson said what he has got down here Stella Whitepigeon has not spoken yet, Recorder Riley hasn't and Julie Wolfe hasn't then they will go to Rochelle, Councilor Crampton, Martha Howell and Mike Ceplina. Johnson asked if he missed anybody.

Stella Whitepigeon, Tribal #0601, said the calculations for the rent she doesn't quite understand how they can take three of their Per Caps from 2015, one Per Cap from 2016 and raising the rent for 2016 but yet they are including their income from the prior year which increases her annual income by \$4,000 according to that calculation but she doesn't make that. Whitepigeon said she doesn't make \$16,000 a year and makes almost \$12,000. Whitepigeon said she is disabled, an Elder, on a fixed income, and she doesn't have a vehicle nor can she save for a vehicle. Whitepigeon said when she rented here the lease was to have the maintenance would be taken care of for snow removal, for lawn care, however that is not true. Whitepigeon said they might come in and plow the driveway but yet there has been many, many times that the snow is knee high and waist high on the porch so she can't get out the door unless she does the job. Whitepigeon said also the she just recently had to weed around the property, the home, because the weeds there are waist high, knee high, and they are so difficult to remove because they are tight up around the foundation of the home which is destroying the foundation of these beautiful homes that were put there that she has to use tools such as pliers and flat head screwdriver to dig them out. Whitepigeon said she has to sit on the ground and she had become exhausted, sweaty, and had chills from sun exposure. Whitepigeon said these homes, yeah they pay the rent, but where is the rent money going to because they are supposed to be paying, they know, taking care of the Elders in the community but it is not being taken care of. Whitepigeon said if they drive up there now they will see these waist high weeds all around the lamp post, all around the street signs, and all around the sidewalks. Whitepigeon said it is just out of control and they have Maintenance people that come up there and they are quite capable of driving a riding lawnmower but yet don't have the common sense that they don't have the.....where the grass shoots out of the lawnmower at the bottom they face it toward the house where she has been walking down the road and there was an Elder that was coming out to her mailbox and it shot out a rock and just missed her and hit her porch. Whitepigeon said they have shot it toward her home and all they have up there is nothing but sand and weeds. Whitepigeon said there is no lawn to walk on and there is no outside where they can enjoy. Whitepigeon said having weeds that tall creates problems for a foundation but it causes insects and she is sure that a lot of people have ant problems because she does. Whitepigeon said also when she leased that property it will be two years this coming September she had to make out a list of items that were wrong with the home and those items haven't yet been fixed today. Whitepigeon said she asked.....she has 15 light bulbs out in the home

and she was told that Housing no longer pays for bulbs but yet this is not her home and the Maintenance is supposed to maintain that home. Whitepigeon said she has a toilet handle broken so every time she wants to flush the toilet she has to remove the lid and manually do it. Whitepigeon said she doesn't like the calculation because the calculation is incorrect. Whitepigeon said they shouldn't be allowed to take income from two different years and apply it to the next year which increases her annual income which is a lie because she doesn't make that much. Whitepigeon said she is on a fixed income and doesn't have a vehicle and she is having to maintain this home. Whitepigeon said she was told that they don't supply light bulbs for their homes anymore and they have to buy them so 15 lightbulbs and the style of lightbulb that is up in these canisters are on sale for \$1.50 each so she is having to take out of her \$900 a month of income \$150-200 to maintain their home. Whitepigeon said that just doesn't make sense to her and why would she have to make a list of items that are wrong.....her doors where it appears to her that somebody had tried to bust in on them because they don't work. Whitepigeon said she has to pull really hard in order to use the key to try to get in and out. Whitepigeon said she has a leak in the basement and the laundry doors needed repair and she has a list that has never been looked at and never been taken care of and why would she even have to make a list of items that are wrong because nothing is done. Whitepigeon said then they are saying yeah well she knows.....when they own their own home they have rights too to buy in the Tax Agreement Area where they are not going to have to pay taxes. Whitepigeon said they also have privileges that they don't when they live at Aki Maadiziwin such as she can have as many guests as they would like to come and visit them and stay as long as they want but they don't. Whitepigeon said if they have guests that comes to stay with them they have three days then their guests have to leave their family members have to leave and they come to stay with them. Whitepigeon said there has been times when she was sick and she would have loved to have somebody come and stay with her but she is not allowed that privilege so they have a lot of issues that are going on here. Whitepigeon said aren't these homes paid for and where is the rent money or all this money that they are paying for rent going to and it is certainly not in maintenance not when they have waist high weeds that they have to dig out with a shovel. Whitepigeon said they have an Elder out there sitting on the ground trying to go around to try to.....

The five minute timer went off.

Stella Whitepigeon said they try to look like their maintaining a home and let's take pride in their community. Whitepigeon said she takes pride in being clean and showing that her house is clean. Whitepigeon said she doesn't like seeing waist high weeds.

Speaker Johnson said to Stella Whitepigeon that her five minutes have expired.

Julie Wolfe, Tribal #1062, said the motion that they are voting on is Elder and Low Income Housing. Wolfe said there was an abstention and thinks there is a Councilor that lives that would be a Conflict of Interest so maybe they should abstain because there is an impact or gain financially.

Councilor Wittenberg said yes he can address that for her. Wittenberg said he is over 62 and this doesn't qualify for that because the over 62 stays at 10%.

Julie Wolfe said okay she just wanted to clear that up for the record and that is what she assumed that he was in the other part but she wanted to clear it up for the record so people when they see it later and see why he voted would have the answer. Wolfe said secondly she is a single mom and a homeowner and she steadily have increases and if she goes to the bank for refinance all the costs come out of pocket and she has to plan and prepare for those which she thinks the Council and the previous Council did their due diligence implementing a Progressive Plan of the rental rate increase. Wolfe said she does see the negative side which a lot of the members that are living there they built a community there and built their life there. Wolfe said she is disappointed that some of these that are going to be impacted are going to impact her work because their kids are going to be gone from the community if they have to move from this area so it does create a hardship and it does harden her heart to see that all these little kids that she has been doing prevention with since they could walk or talk, Kindergarten age, now they are 5th & 6th Graders they may be forced to move because of an increase and another thing if they are a homeowner and they are in foreclosure or they are this they have to go through the State and look through all kinds of resources to find and can't just use Aki thinking they can move there and be safe with their family because there are no homes available for members. Wolfe said she would say the increase is give and take it is hard on some but it is going to benefit some other ones. Wolfe said if she was to lose her home she wouldn't be able to live at Aki for however long the foreclosure, Probate Court, and everything goes through. Wolfe said right now she has a home and in the middle of home repair and she went to the State first to ask them can they replace her furnace and they got a matching grant and there are a lot of resources out there not just on the Tribe's dollar and backpack. Wolfe said she is not for or against it. Wolfe said it is the Legislators choice but there are a facts to consider here and not just.....she guesses where the people value is. Wolfe asked where is the value on their membership and each individual person because that would be really sad for some of them families that she works with.....whatever in passing.....or do they just come around in the community if they had to leave because they could no longer afford their place to live. Wolfe said they are not upholding their Constitution and doing their job which is the general welfare of all members and they are impacted differently. Wolfe said when Chuck Fisher was in Housing when she first relocated back to the Reservation in 2001 there was a State Program that was individual development that put her in her homeownership and why isn't their Housing using that and why isn't their Housing making the renters go to those State Programs. Wolfe said they got the

benefit and they are dual citizens. Wolfe said anything that any county offers they can use and they need to use all of their resources which is being an Anishinaabe, being resourceful and living with what they can. Wolfe said she is going on a soapbox now and probably going to get docked now because she only had her 15 Break and she is over by two minutes.

Recorder Riley called the question.

Speaker Johnson reiterated that the question has been called and at this point they are going to do a roll call vote then they can get back into the discussion.

Roll Call #9

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- No
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - No	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (7-2-0-0)

Recorder Riley confirmed that Resolution #16-0629-188 has passed and rent is frozen for 60 days.

Speaker Johnson said still on the list he has and they are going through this list just once. Johnson said they are not going to go back to it because this issue has been resolved. Johnson said he has Rochelle, Councilor Crampton, Martha Howell and Mike Ceplina which is it.

Rachel Rochman, Tribal #3634, said she completely agree with their situation and feel their heartache too because she is in the same boat like she said. Rochman said different wages same boat with their economy is falling and they all know that. Rochman said they know how prices are blowing up yet that is the government's plan is to put everybody under. Rochman said they have to know about the new world order and what is going on so it is of no surprise so they all suffer but as individuals if she had a choice in helping them she would help them. Rochman said they have a choice in helping them so help them.

Councilor Burger said she believed she just made a vote to that.

Rachel Rochman said yes and hopefully that will stop it completely and not just for 60 days because she would have to come back and do the same speech over and over. Rochman said they all know where they stand because they are in the gutter. Rochman said she wanted to say that her house is a HUD Home and the Tribe didn't pay for the HUD Home. Rochman said her money, a lot of it, has went into the home since 2014 actually which is when this has begun and she has stopped putting money into land there. Rochman said she hasn't had the money to and was trying to make the property up there look nicer and worked really hard at it but she just got to the point now where she can't afford it nor does she see this as a long term for herself. Rochman said she thinks if they want to look at

what to do she thinks they need to look into grants, build more homes, so they can have other people even from the Council there to come and live. Rochman said there is an opportunity for everybody and they all have a right to it so they need to build more homes. Rochman said her personal opinion is they don't need a Government Center, Police, and all that. Rochman said that portion of their Tribe is unnecessary and a bundle of money that is really unnecessary. Rochman reiterated that really it is if they looked at it. Rochman said if they got rid of that whole sector that would save the Tribe a lot of money and go towards their community. Rochman said she thinks they should build more homes, they know, write for a grant and get some more homes build up there that way people that are struggling it is going to get worse and worse here in the world and they all are going to start struggling. Rochman said they already are let alone they are too and they just have less money.

Councilor Crampton said it is a requirement that they maintain their own government or they wouldn't have the casino so he doesn't understand that. Crampton said he was going to make a suggestion that would probably suffice Councilors Medacco and Johnson but they didn't get to it. Crampton said it was to amend the last two "*Whereas*" to review, further review instead of an investigation but he thinks that the problem here is that they need to review the whole program because he heard Julie Wolfe say "*Welfare of all members.*" Crampton said the system that they heard currently have in place out there does not allow for members to come in here and get new homes because people are sitting in those transitional homes that should be going to them. Crampton said they are very comfortable with the rates as they are now and he understands that but other Tribes and he has brought GTB members down here, Soo Tribes down here, and brought Bay Mills Tribal members down here, and showed them their houses at Aki. Crampton said they are very jealous because this is a very nice thing that they have done for their members but the system is broken out there. Crampton said he is not aware that they are making a profit and thought they were taking a loss every year at Aki. Crampton said so that is probably why they are not running out there and changing their light bulbs. Crampton said when they have to look out for the welfare of the whole membership they can't have a system in place where they have people moving into these Low Income, great that's comfortable, but they have to do something to help themselves to get out of there so they can make room for other people who actually need those houses. Crampton said once they are in there they have to move on and have to help themselves at some point so they can help the other members who are in a worse off situation. Crampton said the problem here is there is no houses for them to graduate into so they need to put other houses up. Crampton said right now the Council is looking into a very aggressive plan where they are calling for a 150 houses across the street to do just that and grasp to put in 20 more houses out at Aki Maadiziwin to be designated as Low Income but the whole system needs a review and they can't just think to themselves that when they get in there they got to think about the other Tribal members because that is what they have to do. Crampton said it is very easy to come in here and point fingers and say they are

not taking care of their people because they are not taking care of them but that is not true. Crampton said he thinks the list has grown to 50 people now. Crampton said 50 people waiting to get into these houses 50 people who are desperate who don't have a house and who are not worried about light bulbs but worried about food and their kids sleeping in a car.

Speaker Johnson said he has some hands going up here and he said they are not going any further than that list because the issue has been resolved, okay, but he is saying he has people who had their hands up prior to the call of the question and out of respect to those people they have the opportunity to speak and he is not going to entertain more beyond that. Johnson said Recorder Riley had a correction on something here so go ahead with the correction.

Recorder Riley said he just said when it was passed that the rents were frozen for 60 days and that is not entirely correct the percentage of their income is frozen for 60 days so if they get a raise or whatever it still goes up but it is going to be the percentage.

Speaker Johnson said he still has Martha Howell and Mike Ceplina who had their hands up prior to the question called.

Martha Howell, Tribal #3635, said she just wanted to thank everybody for putting this hold on and investigating it further to find a workable solution that's for everybody because that is what they need however she is still stuck at the move on, the move up and move on comment. Howell said before she moved to this community her current companion, Clatus Clyne, has worked for this Tribe for 14 years and she will speak on behalf of him because she knows that he would want her to. Howell said back before she moved here he was working 40 hours a week and his pay got dropped to 32 hours a week and he got his house foreclosed on and became homeless and didn't have anywhere to go. Howell said she moved to town and they moved in together and they are kind of living happily ever after so to say. Howell said she had a house foreclosed on so they came here and they are both good employees and good members of their community. Howell said Clatus goes out and mows the lawn at the playground and mows the lawns for Elders in Elders Housing. Howell said Jaime Friedel the other day pulling weeds out. Howell said they take care of this community. Howell said when they go to events who do they see there the same ole faces and they know whose going to be at something when somethings going on and they can count on her and Clatus to be there. Howell said to hear her Tribal Council members telling her to move up and move on do they really want them to go and where are they supposed to go. Howell reiterated where they are supposed to go. Howell said that is all she has.

Mike Ceplina said he looks around this audience and he sees one Housing Commissioner here and asked where all the rest are and if they care about their jobs and that as a Commissioner they should be here. Ceplina said another thing that he wants them to look at when they look at Housing how they concentrate is

Housing out there in town. Ceplina said other Tribes they have Housing that they can go on their Tribal Lands and put a house up. Ceplina said they have a Well & Septic Program and he is sure they could help people to run the Utilities there if they could buy their own home and stick on their land he thinks that would be another option so they could move out as they say. Ceplina said they know in their own homes but it would be on Tribal Property and they don't have to pay Property Taxes. Ceplina said one more thing is if they establish their boundaries he believed that they won't have to pay taxes, property taxes, either and they would have a lot more authority. Ceplina said this Tax Agreement can go away.

Speaker Johnson said he has exhausted the cue and he just wanted to make a comment because he has not spoken on this issue at all and he is sure some of them would like to hear something from him on this. Johnson said he is not going to talk about his vote but is going to talk about this issue here about Council's role with the Aki and they do care about what is going on up there. Johnson said they really do. Johnson said a classic example is two years ago Council went there and took care of those porches in blistering hot summer heat and two of those Council members were up in their upper 70's. Johnson said they were not young so make any suggestion that Council doesn't care about this is very disheartening to him because he knows Council does care and they are listening. Johnson said up until this point on this issue he knows Council only received two e-mails on this issue, only two. Johnson said he just wanted everybody to understand Council is here to support that issue also Council has a judicial responsibility to the entire Tribe and that is they want to make sure that Aki is self-sustaining. Johnson said that is all they are asking because they are not making any money off this but are trying to make it self-sustaining. Johnson said when they go through rentals in the community those rentals those people who own those homes are looking to make money and they are not. Johnson reiterated that they are trying to make this thing self-sustaining and that is their role as Elected Officials. Johnson said they want to make sure that this place is self-sustaining and that is all they are asking. Johnson said now when they get together in the future they are going to look at points to help those who need help more than others and maybe they work out some systems to help them out but at the end of the day they all need to understand that this site has to be self-sustaining for not this generation but future generations. Johnson reiterated that they have to do that. Johnson said with that said now they are going to move onto the next item.

VI. Concluding Business

- A. Next Meeting Date(s) - Wednesday, July 6, 2016**
- B. Ogema Weekly Status and Business Update**

Ogema Romanelli said he has about seven items today. Romanelli said the first one is that the Tribe met with officials in Muskegon over the roads issue pertaining to the properties that they have there. Romanelli said the second thing is that they attended both legal and himself along with Council members a Board Meeting on Friday. Romanelli said they had IHS visitors here, Indian Health

Services Visitors, here on Thursday and they were given a tour of the Government Center and the possibility of the Pharmacy, etc. Romanelli said so that is just kind of an update there. Romanelli said they have a Pow Wow this weekend as everybody should know. Romanelli said they are participating in Bike Time, with Bike Time, in a couple of weeks. Romanelli said they are participating with Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival. Romanelli said he wanted an update on their Board of Directors applicant, Jim Wabindato, and it appears that a Temporary License could be and most probably could be arranged for Friday of this week so and they have do that in the past and he did look up the information. Romanelli said with the last appointment the person was appointed on March 9th but did not get their complete background check until April 12th over a month later so they have done it in the past and again if they want to put it back on the agenda they are welcome to do so and that is the latest update on that Board Appointment. Romanelli said he thinks that should do it.

Speaker Johnson asked if there were any questions on the Business Update.

Mike Ceplina, Tribal #0692, said just on his Business Update he oversees the entities and that stuff. Ceplina said new Tribal Council members when this expansion was brought about it was said that it would bring in \$5.5 more million a year. Ceplina asked if that is happening because in his Per Capita he doesn't see it happening and he just heard from Tribal Council that they are not doing that good but yet in that report it says \$5.5 million more a year.

Ogema Romanelli said Mike Ceplina is talking about the expansion over at the Resort. Romanelli said the latest figures that they have, yes, it doesn't appear that is happening at this point and time. Romanelli said now it also and he doesn't know how far he can talk on this the expansion is just about complete right now. Romanelli said there is a payment that is going to have to be made and figured in as well but yeah that is what his understanding and he guessed they could have more people speak on it and they have Board Members as well.

Mike Ceplina said another thing is when he was sitting on Tribal Council they seen what the plans were and it is nothing like they seen but it is less so is it less that they are going to be paying this company. Ceplina said it should be. Ceplina said it is just a question.

Ogema Romanelli said part of it he can speak to because they are talking about Valuing Engineering that happened during the process which again can change some of the scope of the project but now again and he thinks that is a good question. Romanelli said are they paying those Contractors less.

Mike Ceplina said yes because they pay for the work. Ceplina said if the work is not done than they don't pay. Ceplina said that is all he has and thanked them.

Speaker Johnson said he had Recorder Riley raise his hand in regards to that.

Recorder Riley said he just wanted to say that the increase is there theoretically at this point because they haven't had it go full swing yet and haven't started on the loan payment and everything. Riley said what they are looking at is basically the same amount to run the government this year or next year is this year and that is with the loan payment and that loan payment comes to around \$5 million a year.

Speaker Johnson said they are still in the Business and he has Rachel.

Rachel Rochman, Tribal #3634, said she doesn't know if she is supposed to say that every time but it seems like everybody else is so. Rochman said she is kind of, yeah, and this is why she doesn't come to meetings because everybody has something to say about and then she can see what needs to be done to fix things. Rochman said she could go through and tell them from this person or that person who is going to do some good and who is not going to do good for them. Rochman said she can tell them exactly what needs to be done to fix so many different problems and it is so obvious yet when it comes to this one in particular she is just appalled at the renovations. Rochman said these are not upgrades and she is just curious because her mind wonders back to Wendell Long. Rochman said he is busted in Arizona and busted at the casino he started working while he was working for them and they called him a duck a while ago which means some of them are really not dumb and they can see the clear writing on the wall. Rochman said they can't brainwash everybody something went on and she is just curious was Wendell Long part of this too who knows because she probably won't get a straight answer. Rochman said she can't even believe it was supposed to be an upgrade but this is like a down grade. Rochman said she expected the pool to be beautiful because they were supposed to step up. Rochman said the Buffet is like two little lines and when people think of a Casino Buffet they think they will have everything and they go there and it is less than it was before. Rochman reiterated that these were not upgrades like they should be stepping up and keep on growing to bigger and better. Rochman said the pool that they already had was like definitely not what she would consider four or five stars, is it five stars they get for a hotel, they know, it is on top of the line. Rochman said they just said it was an okay pool and she first thought when she heard they were putting it in, good, great, because people long for that and then they got rid of the sauna. Rochman said they are the only place, and she doesn't know the circumference, probably all the way up to Traverse City circle it all round and down to Muskegon that has a sauna and they are getting rid of it plus that is part of like tradition isn't it. Rochman said she is not a big one on tradition but a lot of people say they are so into tradition and they are getting rid of the sauna. Rochman reiterated they are the only ones who have one and people go there just for the sauna, just for the sauna. Rochman said she knows because her husband is one of them. Rochman said by the way her husband has been trying to get a job with the Tribe she doesn't know for how long, jobs are scarce out there and Manistee especially they don't have much to offer. Rochman said it would be great if someone gave him a job and he is a really good worker and she will tell

him to apply again and maybe one of them will hear and he will be able to get a job finally to help take care of the seven children and his disabled wife. Rochman said he married her with five kids and he is a good guy and wants to take care of them but there is no work around here so hopefully. Rochman said that is what she has to say.

Speaker Johnson said anything else under Business.

Stella Whitepigeon, Tribal #0601, said to Councilor Crampton that she had to get up there and give a rebuttal. Whitepigeon said to Councilor Crampton that he is so disrespectful and asked him if he ever had been homeless because she was homeless for four years. Whitepigeon asked Councilor Crampton if he ever had cancer and that she has had cancer twice and a genetic mutation that causes cancer. Whitepigeon asked Councilor Crampton if he has ever been ill and if he has ever been without money. Whitepigeon said the lighting situation was nothing but an example and she didn't need to be disrespected like that.

Speaker Johnson said again they are going down a bad road and they just had a prayer in the morning or when they first started this meeting. Johnson said he doesn't want to go down this road okay. Johnson said with that said he wants to stay focused on the Business Status Update and asked if there was anything else on business.

B. Legislative Affairs Update

Councilor Crampton said just to say that Scodes actually helped the Native Americans with their decision in the Dollar General case but it wasn't so on the recent case with the Labor Unions. Crampton said they denied their __ petition and it will not be heard so they are stuck with the ruling from the 6th Circuit.

Speaker Johnson asked if there were any other updates. Johnson said he just wanted to add to that Legislative Update. Johnson said he knows that Recorder Riley and he had the opportunity to go out to meet with several Senators at Martha's Vineyard. Johnson said he had an opportunity to have some discussions with seven U.S Senators especially on the House Bill or Senate Bill #248 which is a Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act. Johnson said he had a chance to talk to Martin Heinrich of New Mexico, Tom Caper of Delaware, Bob Casey of Pennsylvania, Tim Caine of Virginia, John Tester of Montana, Gary Peters from Michigan and Al Franken from Minnesota. Johnson said all of them listened to Little River and several other Tribes were there. Johnson said there were at least five other Tribes there talking about this. Johnson said fortunately he could not see and did not hear anybody from Labor there and there were a lot of Tribes there voicing their opinion or their position on Senate Bill #248. Johnson said it appears from those seven Senators that he talked to is they did not say they were against this bill so that is in the right direction. Johnson said they talked about the Supreme Court as Councilor Crampton said they got denied and this is Plan B or their back-up plan

to this issue and they are moving forward on this in a very good way. Johnson said Martin Heinrich the Senator from New Mexico has a real good relationship with Morin and Morin is a guy who sponsored this bill from the Republican side. Johnson said the Republicans have a very strong support for this bill and he would say it was 100% at this point but what they need is seven or six Democrats to make it veto proof. Johnson said he thinks they are very close to that and they are going to move forward. Johnson said Martin said he will be talking to Morin about this issue to see how they can move this thing forward to get a roll call vote done. Johnson said so he was very pleased for the opportunity to go out there and speak to these people and tell them about Little River's position on this item and he thinks it was well worth his time to be out there to campaign on behalf of Little River in this issue.

Recorder Riley said he just wanted to add to that. Riley said he spoke with pretty much all the same people as Virgil with the addition of Chuck Schumur and Elizabeth Warren and there were several candidates that are in some pretty tight races for Senate and some battleground states and it looks like they are probably going to win. Riley said if it doesn't come to a vote until next year then that is support that they have in the future drummed up as well.

Speaker Johnson asked if there were any other Legislative Updates.

Mike Ceplina said he just wanted to ask if they have any updates on the casino in Muskegon.

Speaker Johnson said that would be under Business and out of that he guessed they could go into it. Johnson asked the Ogema if he wanted to give an update.

Ogema Romanelli said yes they can give a little bit of information. Romanelli said they have what is called a Shoreline Group and thinks it was in place while he was here as well and they constantly are in meetings once a week then they also since it is in the hands of the BIA, are also meeting with them by phone meeting every other week is how it has been. Romanelli said they are moving forward and the latest that they heard back several years ago they wouldn't even give them any kind of commitment to timelines. Romanelli said right now they are talking probably two years or less for their or the work to be completed to get the casino up and running. Romanelli said he thinks the odds are still about 90-95% chance that it is going to happen. Romanelli said they always have a chance that it won't because of the things that happened within the Presidential Election and what happens on the Federal Level and also what is happening within the State. Romanelli said as they know the State has gone through some things as well. Romanelli said the project is absolutely well worth-while as they talk about the things that are happening with Housing, Education, and Employment and all but that is where they are at. Romanelli said the meeting that he had last Thursday he thinks it was regarding roads and it has to do with the Muskegon Roads with in the county being compatible with what they plan on doing with

their properties so they are constantly on it where there are a lot of things still going on and the BIA is still in the process where they are now in the Environmental Assessment and they are taking assessment of what or how it will impact the county, the sewers, the roads and everything else. Romanelli said all those assessments he believed have come back in and they sent their packet in he thinks a while back in February or whatever a year ago and so it is now in the hands of the BIA. Romanelli said they are getting this all packaged up and getting ready to send to the Department of Interior. Romanelli said the Department of Interior will look at their package and make the determination whether they will put their land into trust and by all accounts their package and what they put together and the work that they have done is much better than what they have received in the past and they have learned from other Tribes on what worked and what didn't so that is about where they are at now. Romanelli said for example the Bike Time and the Bike Time issue is not only to assist Bike Time and make a little bit of money but it is also to show what impact it will have when they have a large number of cars and people going through and around the property so it gives them a little more insight that way. Romanelli said the next step they hope will happen and it appears they are on track is that there will one more Scoping Type Hearing and they had one at Fruitport Schools about the end of last year well at the end of this year they will have one final hearing and that hearing will be to give the local community the option to speak out on the project once they have this information in front of them about the different impacts to the local community. Romanelli said once that happens then it goes to the BIA or the Department of Interior and then as they know they go to the State and have to have a vote of the full House and the Senate and Governor sign-off. Romanelli asked if there are things that could happen, yeah, but it is still looking very good and as a matter of fact it is looking better as they go along.

Speaker Johnson said he would like to build onto that a little bit also sir if he will. Johnson said they have a company called AES that is doing what they call EIS Report which is the Environmental Impact Study which is a major milestone in this process. Johnson said that has just been submitted to Interior, the BIA, the Midwest and they will look at that and submit it to the Feds in Washington but that was a huge step and that is when they are going to have their second hearing on that finding on the EIS Report. Johnson said also while he was out at Martha's Vineyard he had a chance to talk to some other Tribes and one of the Tribes is in Washington and Washington has a Tribe out there that just got a two-part determination approved and it went through the same process they did. Johnson said they took them seven years to do it and they are at a real fast track and the Governor there also saw how it recognized to promote jobs and so forth. Johnson said so he thinks they are on the right track here with the promise of or with the idea of creating jobs in the area. Johnson said he thinks it is going to be quite helpful so they already seen one Tribe just recently within the last couple of months get a two-part determination approved.

Mike Ceplina said they all know that the government takes their time.

C. Public Comment Period

Councilor Lewis said she just wanted to say that she appreciates everybody being here today. Lewis said they thank them for their thoughts on the housing issues and they are taking that into consideration. Lewis said Councilor Crampton, Councilor Wittenberg and herself are all Liaisons for the Housing and no matter what situation in life they always come to a point where they outgrow and right now they have outgrown their situation here with as many people as they have that need help and she is so thankful for the Councilors in the past because they put them where they are now and look how many houses they have. Lewis said they have to be thankful for everything they have up there or they should be and yeah they became stagnant and for those that are not in the room anybody can pass that along to other people she doesn't want them to misunderstand what Councilor Crampton was saying of move up and move out and that is not what he is saying because they had many talks about the housing issues. Lewis said what he is really saying is that they all understand they are stagnant right now and they need to progress and that is what he is trying to translate to them. Lewis said they need to progress in their situation here and they are working on all of that. Lewis reiterated that she just wanted to say thanks for all their information, all their thoughts, and they really do respect those and are taking them into consideration. Lewis said the other thing she just wanted to remind everybody that they are having a Youth Dance from 7:00-10:00 July 1st and that is the night before the Pow Wow Council and the Ogema are sponsoring it and this is just a first step of trying to do something for their kids. Lewis said they are pulling them in and they are aware that they are there and this is a step on approaching them and acknowledging them and that they do mean a lot to them. Lewis reiterated that they do take all of this into consideration the things that they hear from people. Lewis said they all carry that with them in their meetings each day so put on their dancing shoes come on out Friday night.

Councilor Crampton said he would like to thank Councilor Lewis for her words and just to remind everybody that he is not actually a Liaison but an Alternate. Crampton said he really feels sad about any twisting of his intentions and trying to make it that he is disrespectful to other people and he is just beyond the excuses and have really wished Tom St. Dennis was here so he can tell them how aggressively he looked at this housing issue and knows that he has talked to Frank Figgels a lot about it and looked at the problem. Crampton said he believed he has a solution and have looked at the problem many times and it is not just the Council because they try to make the Council out to be the bad guy and try to make everybody else be the bad guy and there really is no bad guy and there is enough blame to go around. Crampton said they have had people, part of the people is people get into Low Income Housing and knows it is based on a percentage and say they are not going to get a job but just base everything off of Per Cap that way nothing ever gets raised on them and they don't have to move out. Crampton said he has to deal with the phone calls from the mothers in

Orlando, Florida who have three kids in a station wagon that want to come here but they can't because somebody is doing that. Crampton said they get them every day and that is really what breaks their heart when they are talking about people wanting to come to the Reservation but they haven't got nothing for them, yeah, they go the people in that situation in Low Income Housing but when they get a job and get the income up they also got to have houses for them to graduate into. Crampton said they have to look at the whole membership and they just can't look at a few people and say poor person or poor that person. Crampton said really he will if they want the numbers of the people it breaks his heart and his wife is here and she knows. Crampton said he sits in that room and holds his head in his hands because this is a huge problem when they hear a story like that it is tough to go to sleep but he thinks he has a solution.

Rachel Rochman said this is some food for thought. Rochman said when she said the Department of the Police and the government and all that she really doesn't see a necessity for it and thinks that would save money and thinks getting rid the Housing Department itself would save money and putting Chad Gehrke just the head of paperwork and what not and just having a Council of people that live up on the Reservation. Rochman said they don't get paid but just have an interest because they live there to come together with them on a regular basis and run things up there. Rochman reiterated that she just doesn't really see the necessity of constant people overseeing other people which is kind like what the British and Roman Pope, they know, it kind of like their order. Rochman said again that she doesn't see the necessity for constant people overseeing other people when it is just as simple as people live up there, come together, grant writer of course they need that to make sure that grants are getting written and also go ahead and raise her rent to 30% if that money, all of the extra will go to building more houses up there because she would have no problem with that and she would actually go and work herself and put up those houses. Rochman said these are options that as people, human beings, they need to pull together and she is just baffled at how everything is so ceremonic with everybody just trollies along behind the government's coat tails and just follows the order, it is ridiculous because they can pull together because they all have money. Rochman said cut out things that are not necessary and that is her opinion hopefully one day it will change otherwise the new world order will take effect and they will all be screwed.

Speaker Johnson said he has one more hand and thinks they will recess.

Mike Ceplina said they have two homes right now that is going to be built and where are those funds coming from and how much are they going to cost.

Speaker Johnson asked Frank Figgels if he wanted to respond to that please.

Frank Figgels, Housing Director, said the two homes that are just started construction and they just started the excavation for the basements yesterday are being built out of an Indian Housing Block Grant Funds which is NAHASDA

Funding and they were about he thinks a little over \$200,000 a piece but doesn't have the exact number in his hands. Figgels reiterated that it was a little over \$200,000 each. Figgels said they are three bedroom, full basement and two car garage.

Speaker Johnson thanked Frank Figgels. Johnson said he would just like to add onto that is that was with the Davis-Bacon rates on that houses.

Frank Figgels said that is correct.

Speaker Johnson said with the new action on the posting of that it will help them out on future houses but not on the two existing houses they are building.

Mike Ceplina said so his question is they are always told that they had to pay Bacon-Davis wages so where did it come around that they don't have to.

Speaker Johnson said he believed that was a requirement through the HUD and they required them to do that unless they had something legislatively in place and that is what they are working on a legislative fix so they can override that mandate for HUD.

Mike Ceplina said they could have saved themselves a lot of money before.

Speaker Johnson said before he entertains a motion he just wanted to say to everybody that he really appreciates the respectfulness that was extended today on this very heated discussion and knows that everybody is concerned about this and knows that Council is going to do whatever they can to help their membership out.

The purpose of closed session is to discuss business matters considered privileged or confidential involving consideration of bids/contracts, pending legal issues, and/or personnel matters.

MOTION TO END FIRST OPEN AT 11:43; by Crampton; supported by Lewis.

Roll Call #10

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- No	M. Wabindato - Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (8-1-0-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

VIII. Open Session

The Council reconvened in Open Session at 11:58 a.m.

MOTION TO GO BACK INTO OPEN SESSION; by Riley; supported by Lewis.

Roll Call #11

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

A. Items moved from Closed to Open Session

There were no items to be moved from Closed Session to Open Session.

IX. Adjourn

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING; by Burger; supported by Riley.

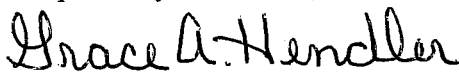
Roll Call #12

J. Riley - Yes	J. Burger- Yes	F. Medacco- Yes
S. Crampton - Yes	G. DiPiazza- Yes	M. Wabindato -Yes
R. Wittenberg-Yes	V. Johnson - Yes	S. Lewis - Yes

Motion carried (9-0-0-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Grace A. Hendler
Transcribing Assistant



Joseph Riley II,
Tribal Council Recorder