

ALASKA LEGISLATURE SPECIAL COMMITTEE / SUBJECT FILE 8672
1397 SCOMM 52: JOINT SPEC. COMMITTEE ON LOCAL OPTION LAWS 1985-86



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GAMBELL

JOINT SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LOCAL OPTION LAWS

DECEMBER 11, 1985

Present: Rep. John Binkley, chairman
Rep. Katie Hurley
Legal Counsel: Laurie Otto

Rep. Binkley: Invocation offered. This committee was created by the legislature to go out and study the local option laws which deal with alcohol. The community controlling the alcohol coming into the community. These laws were started in 1980 and legislature wanted to see how they are working. If they're working good in the communities, if there's problems with them, how we can change them to make them better because alcohol is still a big problem in Alaska. We want to do all we can to try and help communities try and help deal with the alcohol problem. We're out talking to communities about the local options laws and to find out to what extent alcohol is a problem in your communities. Laurie?

Laurie Otto: One of the things you should understand is how the committee came into being in the first place. In the Bethel area a number of villages went to Rep. John Binkley (their representative) and pointed out that there were a number of problems with the local option law. They thought the law was good, but because it didn't allow the villages to ban possession of alcohol-it was a big loop hole, plus it didn't say anything about home brew and once people ban commercial liquor people started making home brew. Some of the villages wanted to be able to ban possession of alcohol. Since this is a serious step the legislatures decided to go out and hold hearings first to find out if other people also wanted to have that option and if there were other changes that other people thought should happen. One of the things you'll hear people asking the people who testify is: what problems are caused in this area because of alcohol. They're not asking that

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to be snooply and try and bring out your problems, but in order to be able to pass a laws that is constitutional and legal that will let be people ban possession of alcohol. The legislature has to have on the record evidence that shows alcohol presents a serious threat to the public health, safety and welfare. I think anybody who lives in Alaska whether Anchorage, Fairbanks, Bethel or any of the villages in that area and probably Gambell will say alcohol is a problem. What the legislature is trying to do and what this committee is trying to do is show how it's a problem. Some of the things other people have talked about in other places are suicides of young people, people that drown in the Yukon Kuskokwim area because of drinking, family problems or problems of children not going to school and not having proper care in their homes and then turning into juvenile delinquents and then having other problems later on in their life. Those are some of the things we'll be asking about and again you should understand why we're asking those questions. It's to be able to pass a law that will stand up in court.

Rep.
Binkley:

Excellent explanation. If we could have some testimony from people. I don't know who would like to lead off.

Laurie
Otto:

This committee is here really just to listen to you. To what suggestions you have about the local option law. To listen to your suggestions in other areas of the law relating to controlling alcohol or problems in your community that the legislature can help you with. Also, to talk about some of the alcohol issues that I just raised. They're not here to necessarily say anything to you at all although if you have questions all of us will be glad to answer. It's primarily to listen to you and that's why we're asking for testimony. It's important that all of this be on the record so that the purpose of the meeting will be fulfill. So the person that's talking should probably come up to the front of the room and move this microphone over and speak in the microphone so we'll be able to have a clear record of the proceedings.

Estelle
Oozevaseuk:

I'm Estelle Oozevaseuk, from Gambell. I've been doing a little voluntary work for years for no pay or anything just to help the people out here

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that is my real concern. I was just wondering about if this stands only for alcohol no other drugs?

Rep.

Hurley:

Right now the local option laws are just dealing with alcohol, but the committee doesn't mind hearing about what the other problems are after you address the one about alcohol. Is that correct?

Laurie

Otto:

I think it's important to fulfill the purpose of the committee, that the committee hears about alcohol, but because they are representatives of the legislature.

Oozevaseuk: Not the other drugs?

Laurie

Otto:

The purpose of the hearing is alcohol, but because these are legislators that have control over all the laws and because they are in Gambell and because everybody is here this is a good opportunity for you to maybe address the problems with the other substances as well; although, the main purpose of the hearing is alcohol.

Oozevaseuk: The alcohol, I've been talking so many people while I'm traveling even in Washington, D.C. I confronted Ted Stevens and Markowsky about our problem here. I asked them try to stop that, try to help us here. I even asked for the smelling dogs and they always say it cost so much out here in Alaska, but I heard there is one in Anchorage now?

Rep.

Binkley:

I think they have several, yes.

Oozevaseuk:

Good, I'm glad when I heard about that. I've never tasted a drop in my life. I don't like it after I heard from my grandparents a tale about alcohol. I hate it. So I tried to help them all I can now. I know it's a problem among the families here and among the young people. When I went down to the school I tried to have the children understand high school. I tried to have the children understand about taking those drugs alcohol included. Beating on their brains about learning. Their education will be marred by it. I know that it will happen if it goes on like that. Long time ago when I was working as health aide the alcohol problem was pretty bad out here

even one man had been killed. It's a very bad thing for a person who's working in the clinic. I don't like it to happen again. It's getting more and more. The people you know are very smart in bringing alcohol. Some really hit it. I know even with my own daughters and sons when we travel I thought they have nothing, but they still have some in spite of my watching. I wish somebody could help us about that. I try to make my children understand about that especially with my girls. That's the main key to a person--alcohol and when it gets through to that person it gets harder and harder on them and they start on other hard drugs. That leads them to the other hard drugs. I've heard so many times that some hard drugs are here for a year, but I have nothing to show even if I heard about that and I asked my daughters to buy some just for me for prove. I would really would like to stop them and I promised them that I wouldn't try to take them out if they go into jail for that. Instead I will push because I will never tell a lie or hide my children's behavior if they do like that. I know tough love. I've been to many meetings and have learned more about it even though I never tasted or never know the experience about how they act when they drink. Through the reading and listening to the people that are in the meeting I learn about it. I told them so many times even in Nome treatment center. I told them natural happiness is the best one. Instead of using alcohol for happiness. Alcohol happiness is only for a very short time, but if you use natural happiness it will go on. Once you refuse to take part even if somebody asks you that will make you a little higher. You will get a little higher, stronger. That's true so that's my plea. I wish somebody could help us about importing some alcohol because there's no bars here. Nothing here because the people who brought in and they were drinking themselves. They always invite their friends over and the friends when they got drunk go out they have problem they goes into our jail here the one that brought of nothing. No problem with it because they're at their home. I was an advisor for the city and I.R.A. council I asked them so many times to be a good example. I don't like to go on with those city council and I.R.A. council because the young people are looking at them. Even though some are just complaining about that they always is that when I talk to them because our city council are drinking--some of them. I don't like that to happen. I wish

they could be a good example to the people, like me I never drink. I am always scared, even though I'm scared I try to help all I can because that's no way of living. Before those young ones down at the elementary school starts it I wish somebody could help us to stop that. Help us. We need that very badly. Often times even at court in Nome when I went with my clients (I'm a counselor too) I always say to them I wish somebody could authorize me a little more higher so that I can have a closer talk with the people about it. I'm worried about it, no matter who they are. Even though they are not my own kids, they are not my own I'm always sorry and worry about them. I feel sorry for them. Not only for my children, but everybody - every young people. I know that our grandchildren are going. If it goes on like that Gambell will be no place to live for the older people if it goes on. I don't like it, I really don't like it. I even talked to our judge Burger about it. He and I talked in Anchorage, he asked me if I could be one of the policemen. I said to them my legs are no good in doing that work. I'd be very glad if my legs were good. That's my testimony. I grow up with out knowing alcohol. How it acts and I never seen any people drink it until I grow up and our children starts to take it. I saw it is no good. I heard threw my grandparents and parents how it is before. I wish it could happen again, the time when they stop the flow of alcohol to here.

Rep.

Hurley: When did it start getting so bad here?

Oozevaseuk: Almost a year ago it started to be heavy here.

Rep.

Hurley: Since, they have local option here?

Oozevaseuk: I talked to them. I asked the city council about the local option law because I know it's getting more and more. So many people and the ones who never drink are starting to drink.

Laurie

Otto: Why is that?

Rep.

Hurley: Why do you think?

Oozevaseuk: Maybe because their friends invited them over. Especially the girls are invited. My girls are

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complaining about that sometimes. They've been invited and some times I'm glad they refuse to do it. I told them so many times be strong and refuse! Even though they can't drink they complain about it.

Rep.

Hurley: Among the young people it's worse in the last year. Is that what your saying?

Oozevaseuk: Not only the young people I guess I think the ones a little older than that too. The young people, like one thirteen year old was drunk this past fall. I was sorry to hear about that. My grandson is about that age and I was talking all the time to him in case he might take it too. I know that he will, you know how weak they are refusing about the invitation.

Laurie

Otto: Do people here drink home brew or commercial liquor?

Oozevaseuk: Yes, they do home brew too. That worries me too because I know if they do it wrong they will die of it. I have worked as a health aide before.

Laurie

Otto: How long did you work as a health aide?

Oozevaseuk: So many years. First I work with public health service and then to Norton Sound and then in 1975 that's the time I quit working after the crash of airplane because I can't do much like in full.

Laurie

Otto: We're there lots of alcohol related problems in those days or is it much worse now?

Oozevaseuk: It was very bad when I was working as a health aide. So many freight had come in.

Laurie

Otto: Then you had the local option law. Did that make things better?

Oozevaseuk: Look, when we had that local option law it stops for a while. That's the time I was happy about it.

Laurie

Otto: Don't you still have local option?

Oozevaseuk: I don't know, ask the city council about that.

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They had, but...

Winfred

James Sr.: Yes.

Laurie

Otto: Is it enforced?

Oozevaseuk: Yes, by the, but...

James Sr.: We can't search the people anymore unless we get a warrant. Soon after it started, the reason it almost quit because they were searching the baggage. As soon as the plane arrived from Nome, right there at the airport without the warrant, but the troopers stopped them because the police couldn't search the peoples baggage without warrant. Unless someone say possibility of that guy is bringing booze then the local magistrate would issue a warrant to the police to search a person. There's more money involved in the village.

Laurie

Otto: There's more money where?

James Sr.: Or anyone to make a round trip to Nome.

Rep.

Binkley: I see they can now afford to fly into Nome to get the alcohol.

James Sr.: When we have more people working, but now we don't have many people working so it may slow down.

Rep.

Binkley: For the record could you please state your name?

Winfred

James Sr.: My name is Winfred James Sr., vice Mayor city of Gambell.

Leonard

Apangalook: My name is Leonard Apangalook, former magistrate. I have been a magistrate from 1967 until about three months ago when I resigned. I'm not sure of my opinion would be representative of the general public in Gambell because I have been directly involved with the local option law for the past few years.

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Apangalook: Actually I feel there are many ramifications to the law. I don't have anything prepared. I do have my own personal opinion now that I'm not in the office any more. I can't help but mention some statistics as magistrate here. In 1973 the city passed a local ordinance banning alcohol. It took some effect, but was very weak and the municipal penalties were not severe enough to effectively control alcohol in the village.

Laurie

Otto: What were the penalties?

Apangalook: Ten days in jail or up to one hundred dollars fine or both. In 1979 the local option law came into effect here in the village. Like Estelle said it was heeded pretty much for a brief time. In 6 years that it was in effect or just short of six years I guess, I sentenced quite a few offenders under that law on filings by the local law enforcement people. Surprisingly I have had in that many years two or three repeat offenders. The law did help some, without it I don't know how or where we would be to day. I mentioned earlier there were many ramifications to it it relates with education, village attitudes. I might mention also earlier when the option came into effect it was gradually challenged by the local people I'm sure like any place else in most of the other villages. Until a case came up in Saint Mary's where a state trooper was charged with the same violation and he revealed that and was held by the supreme court. So I guess it's a pretty strong law, of course it was enacted by the state. There are many weaknesses with it. Our local law enforcement agencies are not professionals, they're not state troopers and I've seen in my period of eighteen years as magistrate probably more than twenty of the policemen in the village to date all of the people we have had in that department have not been effective. That I think is the biggest primarily problem we have with enforcing the local option law. I'm some what surprised the law would be analyzed this early by the state is a little premature. I'd liked to have seen professional people locally try to enforce it and not the current lay people we now have to handle it. As Estelle mentioned there was an alcohol related death back in 1967 I guess, and at that time the city council had a meeting and sought possible solutions to our alcohol problem in the village. They were not able to find any solutions, but fortunately at

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that meeting there was a state trooper who I'm sure he was advised to be impartial was not helping to try and solve the problem at the meeting. I kind of got mad at him. There was a professional man directly involved with enforcement of law dealing with problems like we had then everyday in other villages too. When the city council came to a dead end with no solution with our problem they couldn't go on any more. Feeling some what mad at this trooper I asked him I said, "You're a professional person, you're directly involved with enforcement of law and dealing with it everyday. In your professional opinion what is the best possible solution"? He thought for a long time and he looked at me and said education. I thought he hit the right spot. I feel we need to look at in each communities social progress. What might apply in Anchorage ^{and} the metropolitan ^{area} of our state will not apply in the smaller villages. Socially, economically, we're not that far advanced. Just like the subsistence issue in the state this particular law needs to be scaled laterally with subsistence. It's really hard, people in Anchorage might say it's unconstitutional I'm sure that's how it would go in Anchorage and bigger urban areas, but out here I think out people are really not prepared to let alcohol go rampant. We're just not advanced that far along in time. It really was not taking effect like I earlier said it was trying to be enforced locally by untrained people and not at Nome like the state troopers. We need to get to the root of the problem. It seems like our law enforcement people who was dealing with trying to trim the branches at the end and not getting at the stem. That's a big area that needs to be looked at. As magistrate, the only time I handled cases under the law was after the crimes were committed or the law was broken and of course that was the only way I could handle the cases. I guess that's all I have.

Rep.
Binkley:

Leonard, you mentioned the enforcement as a problem because of the lack of training for effective enforcement of the local option. Can you give me an example of how the lack of training has really hindered the local police from making cases on importation or sale in Gambell?

Apangalook: I worked a lot with the enforcement people here locally and knowledge of the law is in a lot of

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cases I had to help them with preparing complaints, researching the law and applying requires a lot of work. Library research is something that their really weak in much less applying.

Rep.

Binkley: Did they have one V.P.S.O. here?

Apangalook: Yes, V.P.S.O.

Rep.

Binkley: Do they have a village police officer, a V.P.O.?

Apangalook: I'm not sure now. We do have patrolmen.

Rep.

Binkley: That would be the same thing. So hired by the local councilmen?

Apangalook: Yes.

Rep.

Hurley: Were most of the cases that you tried did they deal with selling or importation?

Apangalook: Importation was the majority of the problems.

Rep.

Hurley: How many did you have? Do you have a rough guess?

Apangalook: I can't think of it now, but all that information is available with the administrative office in Anchorage. I filled in the monthly statistical reports to Anchorage every month. Those would be available there at the office.

Rep.

Binkley: Was it a lot? I mean were you doing a lot of importation cases Leonard or was it pretty rear that you would see them?

Apangalook: No. It was quite often, but more seasonal. Early in the spring alcohol activity would pick up and just a sprinkling of it during the summer. Later on in the fall it starts to pick up until about winter.

Rep.

Hurley: Is that because during a busy time there isn't so much?

Apangalook: I guess just like other fishing communities we have seasonal activities. Hunting, whaling, you

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know those are lacks times, but early in the fall perhaps when funds are needed for heating fuel, hunting supplies it's going to get cold people start worrying about those things and kind of drop their alcoholic activities. When it starts warming up and it starts coming again. I think the law would be very effective if it would impose the proper law it would work. When the local option law first came into effect initially I started with fines, but that didn't work. So incarceration even in first offense for ten days that kind of worked very effectively. Like I said there were only two or three repeat offenders in six years.

Rep.
Binkley:

Now Leonard I don't know if you were here when we were explaining about one of the proposals before the committee was to just add an additional option to the list of options. This would allow the communities to ban possession of commercial alcohol or home brew. What would be your opinion on that or would you think that would be something useful in this community?

Apangalook: I would have to analyze the beginning and opinion on that, but like I said I think each community should be scaled on the progression of their social progress to see how far along we are in relation to the country. Are we ready for it? I strongly feel for Gambell we are not.

Laurie

Otto: Ready for what?

Apangalook: To ban alcohol. The local option law.

Laurie

Otto: Your not ready for the local option law?

Apangalook: We're not ready to ban it.

Rep.

Binkley: No, we're talking about ban the possession of alcohol in addition to what you have. Right now you can ban importation, you can ban sale, but add another one to that banning session. Home brew or commercial.

Apangalook: I think if you were to take a poll in the village it would probably go 50-50. We have unfortunately, despite the ban we have people in the community that are addicted very badly to alcohol. There are probably three or four

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classifications of users in the community. Professionals, repeat offenders, and those very starters. The professionals I have not handled any professional violators here. They get away with it.

Laurie

Otto: You mean bootleggers?

Apangalook: Bootleggers, regular users. For some reason the enforcement people will not touch them. In that regard I kind of feel the state troopers are to preoccupied with trying to get the big fish and letting the little ones go. I might get flack from them on that.

Laurie

Otto: They say it themselves?

Apangalook: Yes. In the mean time the little people (us the villages) are suffering for that attitude.

Laurie

Otto: They're smiling because I always say I have a series and ask a lot of questions. As Johnne said in other villages other people have said, "From our point of view the spirit and purpose of the local option law was to stop people from having alcohol in the village. The way of going about it was to ban importation, but the underlying purpose was to stop people from having alcohol. They have said by not covering possession of alcohol and by allowing people to have home brew, those are really loop holes in the law. They have asked this committee and the legislatures to close those loop holes by allowing villages if they want to do so to ban possession". So you won't have to prove necessarily who imported it and to ban home brew. I know you say if that law were voted on in Gambell 50-50 people would vote 50-50. I'm interested to know since you were the magistrate here for so long and are in a very good position to be able to evaluate whether you think that's a wise idea. What do you think the wisdom of allowing villages to ban possession of alcohol is? Do you think that should happen and then give the villagers a chance to choose?

Apangalook: I feel we should be given the option.

Laurie

Otto: Ok. Are there other options that you have thought of or you can think of that would also be helpful to villages in controlling problems with

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alcohol?

Apangalook: More aggressive enforcement by the state trooper level at the source of supply because out here the only thing the local enforcement people can do is handle it locally. The root of the problem is the supplier.

Laurie

Otto: If sale is left a misdemeanor or a felony depending on the quantity and the circumstances. If importation is left a misdemeanor where you can punish it with a jail sentence if you want to. Do you think it would work if possession, mere possession were only punished by a fine rather than by a jail sentence. A fine or community service and confiscation of the alcohol.

Apangalook: Possession is less serious than importation.

Laurie

Otto: So a fine would be a sufficient penalty? I know that both you and Estelle have said that when the local option law first went into effect it worked very well because people heeded the law and now it's working less well because of the search and seizure problems that have been experienced here. Is it better today, right now with the problems than it was before the local option law was in effect at all.

Apangalook: Yes. It seems to me maybe because I've been away from directive leadership for three months I haven't heard a thing.

Laurie

Otto: But say the last three months that you were on the job. Were things better then than 1976, 1977, or 1978?

Apangalook: I would have to refer to the records to say, but I think it was half working.

Laurie

Otto: Did you also handle trouble offenses or criminal cases?

Apangalook: Only under emergency conditions and those cases were very rare. You mean alcohol related?

Laurie

Otto: Yes, how many childrens cases that you

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handled are alcohol related?

Apangalook: The only ones that I handled under emergency conditions alcohol related were bound over to Nome with recommendations to the superior court judge.

Laurie

Otto: So all the childrens cases that you handled here were alcohol related?

Apangalook: Yes.

Laurie

Otto: Did you also have any contact with juveniles who were charged with violating the law? What percentage of those and I know you're not going to give me specific accurate figures, but estimating what percentage of those were alcohol related?

Apangalook: Yes. Of all the cases in that group would be 99% alcohol related.

Laurie

Otto: What age range did you deal with of delinquency cases?

Apangalook: 17 to nearly 18. Mostly in that age group.

Laurie

Otto: Not young children then?

Apangalook: No, none younger. Any younger I merely bound over to the superior court in Nome.

Laurie

Otto: For a child in the need of aid situation then?

Apangalook: Yes.

Laurie

Otto: On the average, and again I know you don't have exact statistics and I would defer to the court system for accurate figures, but just to get a sense of what's going on here on the average how many criminal cases did you handle a year when you were the magistrate?

Apangalook: If I remember correctly it was in the mid 80's in the time I left at the end of August this year (1985).

Laurie

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Otto: So probably the end of 1984 you had 120 cases?

(Conclusion of Gambell, side 1; tape 7 -
12/11/85).

Laurie

Otto: Of those cases how many were alcohol related?

Apangalook: Probably 90% of those were alcohol related.

Laurie

Otto: What kinds of cases did you have?

Apangalook: Importation, some sale, assault and battery
mostly those.

Laurie

Otto: Are there any felonies that occurred here that
didn't get bound over to the superior court in
Nome? About how many in a year? Are those third
degree assaults? These are all alcohol related
as well?

Apangalook: Yes. Not very much about three or four a year.
Assault with dangerous weapons. One in
particular I can think of. Yes, they were all
alcohol related.

Laurie

Otto: Did you also do domestic violence injunctions?
That's not used very often in this community?
Are those also alcohol related?

Apangalook: Not really. Once or twice with in the past year
that I can remember. No, not those particular
ones.

Laurie

Otto: Are you aware of situations where the V.P.S.O. or
patrolman (the village law enforcement) had
enough information to show that somebody had
alcohol, knew that somebody had alcohol, but
didn't have enough to show importation so really
couldn't do anything to correct a potentially
dangerous situation.

Apangalook: Yes. I think they were prealerted in most
cases. They know their shady people when they
travel they suspect, but of course they can't act
on some of these things unless they have hard
concrete evidence.

Laurie

Otto: Right. Are there situations where if there were

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a law banning possession the police would be able to intervene earlier and maybe stop the more serious problems.

Apangalook: I believe so. I think that might help a lot too.

Laurie

Otto: So there might be a little more projection for some of the committee members. You said that you asked the trooper and said you're a professional person what do you think the best possible solution is. I will turn around and ask you that question. You're a professional person your obviously fairly preceptive about the problems here. What do think the best possible solution is?

Apangalook: I think when he answered me with education he hit it right in the spot.

Laurie

Otto: Education has to start young right? I agree with you and him that education is the ultimate answer because you have to teach the children about the problems before they will be able to live their lives in the best way. What about the people who are older, who are already set in their ways? What's the best possible solution?

Apangalook: I think the state here again is failing in that respect because all the treatment facilities are all out side. Anchorage, Nome and any representatives from these agencies that come out to the villages are on hurry up trips, they come and go. I don't know how far in time the state will start establishing a state office building here for the agencies of the state can serve the people direct with in the village. To try and give services out of Nome is very hard. I'd like to see the state establish more agencies directly in the villages or regional offices like an office to serve both Gambell and Savoonga to serve as agencies.

Laurie

Otto: Now are you part of Kawerak region?

Apangalook: I don't know.

Laurie

Otto: Is this part of Kawerak?

Apangalook: This is Northwest region.

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Laurie

Otto: Same as Nome?

Winfred

James Sr. We're a corporation by ourselves, but we're tied in with Kawerak.

Laurie

Otto: But Kawerak's a non-profit arm of the regional corporation, right?

Gerard

Koonooka: That is correct. I'm a ? member of the court.

Laurie

Otto: So this is a Kawerak region, community?

Gerard

Koonooka: Kawerak has some contract with the B.I.A. and other areas that their work expands over here.

Laurie

Otto: Right.

Gerard

Koonooka: But the I.R.A. has taken some of the contracts away from Kawerak now.

Laurie

Otto: That's what I was going to ask. I know that Kaweraks been for the past maybe year or two years contracting directly with the state to provide some of the social services in this area instead of D.F.Y.S. for example working with the villages. Kaweraks taken over that responsibility and I've wondered if things have gotten better in any way since that's happening.

Apangalook: I have a general impression of most services coming into the village and their all coming out of Nome. Here one day and gone the next day. I think that's not very effective. I'd like to see direct permanent services with in the village.

Winfred

James Sr. (Not eligible enough to hear.)

Laurie

Otto: Ok. Thank you.

Rep.

Hurley: I don't want to ask a to personal a question, but did you say you resigned in August or retired?

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Apangalook: I'm semi-retired. I resigned also.

Rep.

Hurley: Did you resign no because of...just because you didn't want to be the magistrate any more?

Apangalook: No, because I had medical problems.

Rep.

Hurley: ...and you had to resign?

Apangalook: The doctor recommended I unload some of my responsibilities.

Rep.

Hurley: Cause' it sounded like you were really a conscientious magistrate and I was wondering if there was pressures. Have you always lived in Gambell?

Apangalook: Yes.

Rep.

Hurley: Is everyone here been in Gambell all of their lives?

Apangalook: Yes.

Rep.

Hurley: There obviously aren't a lot of violent crimes here. Sounds to me like most of the crimes you've had really are related to possession or importing alcohol, but not violent is that correct?

Apangalook: Yes, very true.

Rep.

Hurley: I think it is interesting.

Laurie

Otto: It's interesting because we've had a lot of child abuse and domestic violence and all related to alcohol, but I don't get that. It's the actual consumption.

unidentified

man: I think most of the problems are alcohol related.

Rep.

Hurley: Does anyone think that people can...If people in Gambell could learn to drink socially with out getting violent or drunk. What is your feeling

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about that? Is it possible to learn about alcohol to just be able to...

Laurie

Otto: I don't know if you noticed Katie, but everybody in the back of the room here is shaking their head at the same time.

Rep.

Hurley: They're sort of laughing aren't they.

Estelle: ...we talk about that so many times the drinker. Try to learn to social drink because there would be no violence. I told them so many times if you can stop now - try to learn social drink first and then a time you will stop.

Rep.

Hurley: That's what I'm saying. Is that possible or is it not?

unidentified

Man: Excuse me. What's the next step to social drinking here? What is the next step? We all know that alcoholism is.

Apangalook: One time when I looked at the case I handled and most of the cases for a span of time were those cases of very young people that dropped out of high school. I hadn't noticed that until I started to look closer. It seems out of boredom of not being in school or being left out of something.

Rep.

Hurley: Was that before you had a local high school? When the young people were having to go away to school?

Apangalook: I don't remember it might of been before or after.

Rep.

Binkley: Leonard. Thank you very much. Leonard Nowpakahok?

Leonard

Nowpakahok: I wanted to come next to him because he's really triggered me when he stated something about the general public. I think I qualify for that. As the general public I have limited expression of myself in another language like English or apply myself to another culture, white culture. Also, my comprehension level is limited in another language and for that reason I qualify as general public. That local option law I might of

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listened to it, but have never heard about it. I might have never looked, but never seen. Explaining that I might have listened to it, but have never heard it is. It may have been told in a language that I don't understand - don't know what it means. So I just put it a side. Also might have seen it in a poster or paper or somewhere and just look at it and never seen it because it was written in a fine print and wording only a college professional can understand. So I don't know what it is. Another point of view to that law is it's existence is very vague or maybe pretty hard to see. It's something that's not enforced. If law enforcement people like state troopers or city government right here, city councils, I.R.A. council, everybody. All those people are supposed to be out government here - community government are not aware of that law. bring in alcohol, import it , sell it and everything and use it maybe that law does not exist at all. There's evenness of it and I didn't know anything about that law; therefore, (?) that I'm working directly with them, involved with them most of the time, look up to those - like Estelle said. They are doing that, they are breaking that alcohol option law that must be something great and really proper thing to do. Very proper thing to do. So they can do it. Yes, that option law is not enforced the way that I know of. I didn't know. Like city mayor just bringing in some alcohol and sell it, use it and never get arrested or anything. So, we don't know the law as a general law. We didn't even know that here was law. Leonard has said something about the education as a key. This alcohol abuse is directly interfering with the education. One thing that I know of from the general public's point of view, the way it interferes with the young people, elementary age. I have seen the young students come late to class and not quite alert because they're very sleepy and tired. Drinking has been used by the adults in the house and have kept the youngsters awake so they were tired. Also, themselves after the people who have been with the alcoholic beverages being youngsters - their natural way. They're curious, and get involved in that alcohol by consuming that alcohol. So next day when they come to school there's no teaching them very much because they are not alert at all. They have alcohol in their blood. When I mentioned about the city government and everybody also enforcement people using it is education. The other way too how we

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educate them in that way. The youngsters were getting educated do not know what's the right - which way we're trying to educate them we as adults. With the little older ones like in the high school I know of a few youngsters there again - teachers make it very hard for them telling them you are going to fail this. You do this or other wise you're going to fail this and if you fail this you aren't going to graduate you. The youngster gets discouraged and try to hide some place from the parent and everybody else who accuses them - you're failing. So the next thing to do is to get away from there problems, their sadness, their worry, even if they are young. They worry just like us adults or even more so. They want to forget their problems for a while get hold of alcohol - drunk. I know another person, home brew has been mentioned. Now consume some home brew and was always doing something to him. Maybe he was being accused or convicted (I don't know what ever the word is) to him what about where the source is - the home brew. What about that? So education is hurt again. I know that person have been drop out. I know too the school policies (what ever they are) have been pretty hard on him too. So you start looking for those things. Also, how did he get hold of that home brew? I know he can do it himself. I know he can. Adults did it for him and where's the law? That's why I said maybe that's law what ever that law you follow. Maybe it's there, maybe it's not there. As a general public I don't know. If there was a law something would have been done to the people who do that home brewing. That youngster got hold of. That home brew is very dangerous just like Estelle said. From my opinion from my sight. The danger of it is directly to health itself. Directly to the persons physical health. It's very dangerous. It is there where the very young people can get hold of. They don't know what their consuming when they get hold of it when their drinking. It's very dangerous like I said. Directly hurts the health and somebody in port holes will not be very easy to educate. Any student young or old with unhealthy will not be eager to be educated. Another part the painful part that alcohol is doing is; there are some people going around asking for a couple of dollars to borrow and a cup full of sugar and so forth because the welfare money was used to send somebody to Nome or somewhere so they can buy the liquor. They chip in and send somebody there to Nome and bring

Gambell Local option committee"22"

in the liquor. The welfare, where is welfare, why isn't welfare interviewing people how they use their money. Their food stamp and so forth. Is there anyone helping the law in a community like this? As a result some people who have consumed alcohol do not think of themselves nicely. They do not think of themselves very highly. They get so low they don't want to go to church anymore. I'm too sinful to go there. I'm no good. Only good people can go there. In this - is this very good education going on? People who have been down that way can not be educated by the church either, by the Pastor. Then something that hurts me most is the subsistence part. We go hunting for subsistence true, but where it hurts the most people more and more get all the ivory they can get and do not care about the other boats anymore. Other people who will get some ivory too. They get as many as they can. I know that not that much ivory is not carved here. Boxes of it go out to buy alcohol and where's that option law? Why hasn't that law done anything about it? So as the general public that law does exist, but I never heard about it. I've never seen. Thank you for being so patient with me.

Rep.
Binkley: Thank you very much Leonard. Katie?

Rep.
Hurley: I just was very moved by your testimony. Thank you.

Rep.
Binkley: Laurie?

Laurie
Otto: No. I'm just always struck by people who say they maybe don't understand English and they maybe don't understand the culture and then say often the wisest things of anybody else. Often very eloquently in English. Thank you.

Rep.
Binkley: Thank you Leonard.

Gerard
Koonooka: I'm Gerard Koonooka. Just a concerned individual that have three boys growing.

Rep.
Binkley: Good afternoon Gerard.

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Koonooka: How are you?

Rep.

Binkley: Good thank you.

Koonooka: I'm glad the state send some official people like you to solve this problem. We've been trying to solve this for so many years. The local option law when it was put into law did help to a great extend, but like anything else people abide by it, but as soon as they got used to it started breaking it. Due to the fact and if I understand the option law properly the state troopers or the state officials was to confiscate the vehicle that it was imported on. That's the way I understood it. Is that not correct?

Rep.

Binkley: I think Gerard if they knowingly brought it in that vehicle. If somebody knowingly brought it in their own airplane and they were caught then that could be subject confiscation. If you come in on an airline and the airline doesn't know that you've hidden it in your baggage then they can't go back to the airline and take away the airlines airplane.

Gerard

Koonooka: Ok. That wasn't defined clearly. I have boys that are easily influenced. We are forever combating this predicament. Are kids think that it's the natural thing for them to do to get high and violent maybe. Our kids are no exception in a community like this where we parents are forever trying to battle this problem. I have great confidence in you that you would amend this present law and put in amendments in their that would help us solve the problem itself to a point where an offender would be prosecuted proper.

Rep.

Binkley: Well, we'll certainly do everything we can Gerard to give the communities the tools, but it's a problem that we as the state can't solve for you, but we can try and do our best to at least give you the tools so you can help solve the problems with in your community yourselves. I think you pointed out that very well that it takes cooperation and commitment of the part of the community to set an example in order to influence the rest of the community. So, through the laws we can only give you the tools to help with the situation and that's what we're trying to do is to give you more tools so you can help deal with

Gambell Local option committee"24"

the problems.

Rep.

Hurley:

The people would have to vote for the option. All the legislatures can do is say that this law is available for you to pass an ordinance and then all the people would have to vote on it. Is that correct?

Rep.

Binkley:

Yes.

Rep.

Hurley:

But, it should be your choice and that's what we're looking at to see if you can make that choice. Then you will also, have to also enforce it because the state should not be in the position to tell you what to do, but for you to decide. I do think that there is a lot of what the children see on T.V. makes it look like it's ok to do those things.

Rep.

Binkley:

Like the violence.

Rep.

Hurley:

The violence and also the drinking. It's like there isn't any penalty for doing that. Does the church...How many churches do you have in Gambell?

Gerard

Koonooka:

We have two churches.

Rep.

Hurley:

I guess Leonard said that their is some alcohol discussions at the church about the effects of it?

Nowpakahok:

No. Church educators would be willing to do that, but nobody will come to it. The fact of it.

Koonooka:

That's all I have to say. Thank you very much.

Rep.

Binkley:

Ok. Thank you Gerard appreciate it.

Rep.

Hurley:

I wanted to ask Leonard do you teach or do you go to the school and talk to the young people?

Nowpakahok:

I'm very involved. Yes, I teach.

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Rep.

Hurley: I was wondering what you taught in school? Are you one of the aides or?

Nowpakahok: Yes, I'm one of the aides.

Rep.

Hurley: I thought you were.

Nowpakahok: I tried not to give that away, but it leaked out somehow.

Rep.

Hurley: I can tell the way you were talking that you were doing more than you were letting on.

Rep.

Binkley: He's a teacher aide.

Winfred

James Sr.: Next speaker is Anders Apassingok, Sr. he's also a teacher.

Anders

Apassingok
Sr.

Thanks Wini for that introduction. Anders Apassingok. If you can't say that name just ask the Internal Revenue Service they know it well. My name is Anders Apassingok. I'm life time resident here and I have been with the local schools since 1958. I have been working direct with the children from 1958 to 1982. I'd like to ask a couple of questions if I may. One is that a lady over there that was talking with Leonard there was one thing that was mentioned home brew and possession of alcohol that question you put in, do you remember?

Laurie

Otto:

I know I said that other people have said in other villages where they have local option laws have said their purpose in adopting a local option law the ban on importation was to stop people from having alcohol in the village and that home brew and possession should be banned. That they are really loop holes in the local option law that is in effect right now and should be closed by allowing villages to ban home brew and possession. Not just sale and importation.

Apassingok,
Sr.:

My question is isn't home brew already illegal?

Laurie

Gambell Local option committee "26"

Otto: No.

Apassingok,
Sr.:

No. Thank you. The reason I tell my back ground is I with the children that I know everyday from that time on being a local person I know what happens last night. I can see the effect on the children. From the time I can remember there was no alcohol in the community. In 1950 I left here still there wasn't any at all. When I got back permanently it was already a problem. Between that time military was here too. That was one of the reasons the increase of alcohol use because it was handy. I think I'm very for the local option law because I think there has been some control to open use of it since that law became effect here locally. Just before that I think most at least some of the people here can remember one Easter morning when there was no local option law because of the alcohol activities the night before. I just don't know what to say, but if there is something that can be used which is better than this then I'm still for it. I would like to encourage. I know the enforcement is slow and is not as effective. Maybe it's hard to enforce. Another thing I remember now. The question before me - Gerard he asked one question. You said it was up to us to enforce it. Doesn't the state also enforcer that local option law?

Rep.
Binkley:

Yes. The state troopers could enforce it or the V.P.S.O.'s could enforce it also, a local ordinance. What we're looking at Anders right now the importation and sale are state statutes. If we added another one, which would be possession of home brew or commercial liquor. We're invisioning it being a local ordinance that the local community adopts. Still the V.P.S.O. could enforce that or state troopers could, but also, it could be enforced by a local police officer also. It would be something the local community would fine the person or make them do community service work for that and the fine would stay with in the village rather than going through the state.

Apassingok,
Sr.:

I misunderstood the way.

Laurie
Otto:

If there is a local ordinance the way you can do it so you don't have a full blown court hearing.

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Is to have a uniform bail schedule set up by the supreme court that's a standard fine for everybody. So the community does set the fine. The fine is set by the law.

Rep.
Binkley: Did I say set the fine?

Laurie
Otto: Yes.

Rep.
Binkley: I thought I said collect the fine. So the money would go to the local village.

Laurie
Otto: From my point of view and I'm sure you've seen this day in and day out the state troopers are not here all of that time. The state people are not here all of the time. The only way that laws in this community can ever be enforced is that this community wants to enforce them. No matter what laws there are on the books. If Gambell decides they don't want to enforce the law who's going to know? The states not here so for laws to effective...that's hey, and that's not just true in Gambell that's true in Anchorage as well. If the Anchorage police, Anchorage community decide they don't want to enforce a particular law it's not going to be enforced because it's up to the people who lives in a place to make sure that laws get enforced. No matter what the state legislature does or no matter what the state troopers do if people here don't push enforcement either by being witnesses or by dealing by with the law violation in some other way there's not going to be people following the law.

Apassingok,
Sr.: The reason I asked is that the way I understood it that the state didn't have anything to do with helping the local enforcement.

Rep.
Hurley: No. I didn't mean that at all. I just meant that you can't wait to call the troopers in because by that time it's to late. By the time they get here it's to hard to try and make the arrest. Isn't that correct?

Rep.
Binkley: As you pointed out the troopers have a tremendous load and a lot of times for smaller misdemeanors

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it's difficult for them to get out here. If you call and say we've got somebody that's possessing alcohol and we want them arrested, fined, or sighted under local ordinance it's difficult for them to make the time for them to come out here and if there's a local police officer then they could do that. If it's a felony or a homicide or something of that nature then the troopers would generally come out, but I think it's a question of man power and the ability to come out.

Apassingok,
Sr.:

Yes. I think because of the state enforcement involvement there it has worked here to certain extent. I agree with other people that testified before me saying at first it had helped here to control the abuse of alcohol. Like Leonard said maybe because he's not involved directly he doesn't seem to be to much. I think because of that law some of it is enforced. It is working here to a certain extent. I would like to encourage. It seems to me that's the best tool we have unless there's something else that's come up.

Rep.
Binkley:

The local option laws are the best tools?

Apassingok
Sr.:

Yes.

Rep.
Binkley:

What we're saying is to add an additional one to that. To in effect give you more tools to deal with it.

Apassingok
Sr.:

The more the better. If it can be enforced.

Rep.
Binkley:

Gerard?

Gerard
Koonooka:

The more tools now for you now any means add...we could ask the trooper in Nome to search the people who bring liquor here?

Rep.
Binkley:

The problem with that one is Gerard, there's protection under the United States Constitution. That we as legislatures is much as we might want to, can't over come that.

Apassingok,

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Sr.: Then what does the pursuit of happiness mean?

Koonooka: It would solve our problem. Not just anybody, but key personnel.

Laurie

Otto: You know everybody every place we've been going has been saying the troopers should be able to search peoples baggage. Number one that will never happen. That can't happen. Number two I suspect that if you thought about what that really means you wouldn't want it to happen. If that could happen, if I were a law enforcement officer sitting here in this meeting right now and I decided I didn't like the way you looked I could go over to your house and search your house or I could make you stand against the wall for no reason and search you. I could say, Oh you look like a suspicious looking guy let me search you right now and I think that everybody would be very unhappy if that's the way the law was. If you weren't doing anything wrong and you were just sitting in your house eating dinner do you really want a police officer to be able to come there and go through your bed room and see what you have under your bed.

Koonooka: I can see your point now.

Laurie

Otto: I think it's an enforcement problem for the local option law. It's sort of not relevant because we can't change it, but I also think you wouldn't want to change it. I think you probably are in a better situation when law enforcement or anybody else can't just come search you at their whim.

Rep.

Hurley: There are ways that the public can bring pressure on airlines for instance with out going against the law like if the people in this community of Gambell said to all of the airlines that come out here we're only going to fly on the airline that is really fussy about transporting alcohol. Then they would be...they could watch out and try and keep the alcohol being shipped in. Isn't that correct?

Laurie

Otto: Well, airlines can search baggage before they put it on the plane. They don't need a warrant. So Rep. Hurley is saying you can put economic pressure on the airlines by refusing to fly on ones that you know that let people bring booze

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in.

unidentified

Man:

Wouldn't that make airlines offenders if they were to search our baggage with out are?

Laurie

Otto:

See the constitution which is what the ...

unidentified

Man:

The way I see it is when you move from one country from the next.

Rep.

Hurley:

No.

Laurie

Otto:

That's because when you go from one country to the next the government is searching your bags. Ok, that's allowable because that surrounds the whole border of the whole country, but an airlines searching...

Unidentified

Man:

Wouldn't that be our constitutional violation of our constitutional to let them go ahead and search our luggage?

Laurie

Otto:

No, because the constitution regulates government behavior. It says what the government can or can't do. It says the government can not search you unreasonably. So, either the police or anybody acting at the direction of the police they can not search you, but a private person-typically an airlines because of the federal regulations can search you.

unidentified

Man:

Wouldn't that make the person who's searching you a violator too?

Rep.

Hurley:

No. When you go into Anchorage on an airline and you leave from the airport in Nome there's an X-ray machine. Well, that's looking at your carrying on the plane. That's done because it's for your safety. Isn't that correct?

Laurie

Otto:

Right, but it's also that you don't have to fly that's your choice and if the airlines says to you, can I search this and you say no. They

Gambell Local option committee"31"

can't search it, but they can say to you if I can't search it you can't fly on my airplane. That's why they can do it. You don't have to fly on their airplane.

Estelle

Oozevaseuk: What about the passengers that fly with the airplane and on the way I know that I've seen some people who drink on the way and it's very dangerous for them to do that up in the air. What if they get violent up there?

(End of Tape 7, side 2; starting Tape 8, side 1)

Rep.

Hurley: But, for that reason airlines could keep you from getting on their plane and sometimes they do if people have been drinking to much. They say you can't fly.

Estelle

Oozevaseuk: But, just before we start, some of them are just sober, but they have a bottle somewhere in their clothing and on the way they start to drink. They're very clever in doing that in some way they should try to find out if they have anything in their clothing.

Rep.

Hurley: You as an individual can say that to the airlines, but the government can't say that. Isn't that correct Laurie? She could say to or write a letter to the airlines. I don't like to fly with someone who's drinking out of a bottle. Can't you do something about it?

Laurie

Otto: Looking at it from the airlines point of view they don't want to search people because it might mean somebody might not give them business right? If people know that the airlines are going to search you they may just go to another air charter service. If enough people said to the airlines the opposite, you're going to loose my business because you allow drunks to fly or you're going to loose my business because I know you're letting importation occur then from the point of view of the airlines they have more to gain by stopping importation than they have by letting people fly and bring booze in or drink on the airplane. It comes down to cold hard cash. How are the airlines going to make the most money? Are they going to make the most money by allowing it to come on or by stopping it from

Gambell Local option committee"32"

being there. The only way they know their going to loose money from letting importation occur from drunks on the plane is if you let them know in some way. I'm not going to fly on an airlines that allows this to happen. It would have to take a lot of people doing it.

Apassingok,
Sr.:

Anything that helps. After all that's what we're here for. Education attracts me because I've been working with children so long. I'd like to voice that the nods the lady over there mentioned earlier from the audience back there when you mentioned educating through social drinking. No, I don't think so. No, that won't work. You can't educate people how to drink. I've been around them at least one of them, and I know now that he said he will never get out of it. The last I heard he died of alcoholism. So, no I'd like to voice the nods that she mentioned a while ago. I think the main weakness with the local option law is the reinforcement. Again, the education there - wouldn't the state have some part in helping educate our local enforcement. Not just train them some where in Sitka, and let them come and inspect to do their job. When does the state troopers come to the village? Don't they have routine visits and so forth?

Rep.
Binkley:

There's over sight positions. Troopers that over see V.P.S.O.'s, but you're right Anders, there's not enough training and supervision not enough helping the V.P.S.O.'s learn and get better and better at their jobs. That's a problem we have.

Apassingok,
Sr.:

Again there's education for the local enforcement people would be a joint effort of the state and the community. We know here and I know some that had gone to training had come back with alcohol. They ended up firing him the next day. We have people that are trained out there now, but because they violated that law they have been fired. For that reason maybe it's both the state and the locals. Continuous help to the local enforcement would be one way we can help. Another comment I'd like to make. I asked earlier about the state troopers again for helping here and you say by the time they get here it's to late the crime has been committed or something has been done.

Rep.

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Hurley: I think the troopers should be coming here often to help the local people. That's what I believe, but not to wait until you have an emergency and then have to wait for them to get here.

Apassingok, Sr.: I understand the law protects the life, limb and property, but before they can protect it the property is broken. I know there's nothing much we can do there like with the state troopers. it's our part because we wait until something is done before we can report it. Yes, I agree with you on your last comment there. If there was effort for the state troopers or anybody that can help boost the morale of our law enforcement. The the local option law might help.

Rep.
Hurley: I think it would be a good idea if they could have the troopers come and stay here for several months at a time. Even if it wasn't a permanent assignment. Just though they came here and would spend 3 months and then go on to another place and stay 3 months. That's a hard thing I guess to ask of somebody who has a family to be gone that long or even to move a family. Until people get trained they need that support system.

Apassingok, Sr.: The last thing. I'm really proud to be a member of this community because way back there it was well of the local actions that helped in this becoming the local option law. Gambell had been used as an example for alcohol workshops. It was here that people locally got together to do something for the alcohol abuse problem locally before that time. People in general, even the users of the alcohol do realize that it's a problem. They can't help themselves. The people in Gambell had got together and I remember one person we need to do something with alcohol problem because our children are going to think this is natural. A child, if we don't see something going to do it the way we see it all at times thinking it's normal. That's why children, their selfish because to begin with something that we gave to a child is his until a tuder comes in or neighbor comes in and starts playing with it it's natural to take that toy away from him because all that time he learned that it was his so to prevent that local people have gotten together to work to control the alcohol abuse locally. Now, I know it's not as strong as it should be, but again I'd just like

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to say that I'm for that local option law.

Laurie

Otto: Are you for banning home brew and possession of alcohol in addition to ~~infiltration~~? *importation*.

Apassingok,

Sr.: If it can be enforced yes. Like you already mentioned some of the things that couldn't be done so I guess I know that. I know those too.

Rep.

Binkley: Ok. Anders thank you very much.

Roger

Silook: My name is Roger Silook, Sr. I am the former mayor of Gambell. I've been there for 2 years, 4 years ago. I was involved in I.R.A. council, city council the only time I was not on a council was during the 8 years I was in Nome. I've seen it good and bad all my life. As a mayor I didn't quite understand the local option law. The fact that I didn't have any time to study the local option law other than concentrating on financial problems of the city of Gambell. Other than that I am involved. I was the former chairman of Alaskas Commercial Whaling Commission, Former chairman of Walrus Commission, and at present I am a consultant to the Walrus Commission. I've been involved with international committees also. I was elected to the International Subsistence Decision Making Committee. During that time I was a chairman for Alaska's Whaling Commission. I learned a lot of things from the people. I get my education from the people around me that are traveling. I've seen all kind of people. The very day the best day that I've seen in England my first year. They had a law in England that their bars are opened for 2 hours and closed for 2 hours. During night they were all like that, but the next 3 years they were open all the time. I think that's pressure from the people. The local option law to me is very limited. When the village voted dry it must be dry-completely dry. I know that the government uses tax money out of alcohol. I like the tax on cigarettes which will lead a lot of people to quit smoking. I for one will quit smoking.

Laurie

Otto: You did or you're going to?

Silook, Sr.: I will. One thing I'd like to see the complete ban of home brew because of the past history we

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have in Gambell. I don't know how the Coast Guard cutters have stopped the drinking here in Gambell. It was getting pretty worse-bad. There was ~~burdens~~ ^{murders} and even the women were involved in murders and that's very bad. The coast guard cutters have been very successful in stopping everything. I know the people will never get educated even if we talk to them many times how to drink. They'll never get educated. The problem on that is that the people...children start now days very early for alcohol that's a problem. They never wait till they are more mature to become a social drinker. They will never become a social drinker now days unless we revive our old traditional ways because of the not recognition of the elders in the communities the younger generation is losing contact with these elders. Our elders you can call them anything doctors, anything. They're pretty well educated. They got their education from the nature. That's one thing I would like to see. Just like Della Kent is now a doctor she's the only one that's not being recognized because our elders here in Gambell can do a better counseling than any other counselor in the world. They can use the environment for counseling. I've seen the counselor counseling their work, it is to far advanced. Their work is based on the big cities. I attended one meeting in Anchorage - this alcohol related workshop. There was people from the states to come and conduct the workshops. Those people - Anchorage people tried to say something after they asked what they wanted, but they wouldn't except it. They've seen Anchorage as a remote area that's a problem. Anchorage is a big city to us, but to the people from the states it's only a remote area. We are - the Saint Lawrence Island is most remote area. We are 200 miles away from the nearest one in Nome. All the programs are in Nome and we don't know what's going on. One thing I've been thinking about is come up with the educational fair so the people can come and can have booths for everyone of them and educate our people here. What their doing, how they do things like that. A lot of our people don't know what's going on unless they see it and hear it themselves. That is a very interesting thing. If the state can provide funding for the elders other than the counselor that has a credit. Our elders have credit, but it's not documented. They have the credit. They can do the better counseling. That's something that the state should stop that kind of program. I think that

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would be more effective. Before the children get into a bigger serious problem - they can be corrected. Like us, we elders are old. We listen to them. We don't want to do anything wrong while they are watching. Conrad, Willis, and all those elders there knows that. Today the loose that contact because our children get educated and they thought they know better than the elders. In fact the problem we have is because we have no recreational facilities. Nothing in Gambell. Teen center is very small, community center is very small, and the gym is very limited in use; therefore, we have no recreational facilities where the people can get together and get closer together. Elders, younger people and all can get together and come back together again. We are to far from our traditional ways. One thing that is lacking in these communities is the getting away from the traditional ways. We have no job placement programs. Children get graduated from the high school and just sits around here complaining there's nothing to do here or they get into something bad. We need something here. The state has to look at that in the villages and start some kind of program with little financing. Now days everybody can't work with out a little financing. It's very hard.

Rep.
Binkley: What did you use to do in the earlier days about 50 years ago?

Silook,
Sr.: 50 years ago the elders used to get together and tell stories. We loved to go there and listen to them. Besides their fairy tales they talk about 2 stories.

Laurie
Otto: Do they still do that?

Silook,
Sr.: Very rarely. I think the families still do that.

Laurie
Otto: Why not have be group...

Silook,
Sr.: Because our younger generations are no longer available to us.

Rep.
Binkley: One person we talked to said one of the problems we

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that they saw that life seems to be easier now. You can go to the store and buy your food. You can get fuel from the barge to heat your homes. You have lights or t.v. or telephones. In the earlier days you had to go out and find wood and pack water and food in order to get their food. The younger people depended on their elders to teach them those things and they had a lot of respect for them because they would have to learn those things from their elders in order to survive. Now, it seems that they don't have to do that any more. They can go to the store and buy their clothes or get on an airplane and fly someplace. Some how they've lost that dependency on their elders and because they don't depend on them as much they start to loose their respect for them too.

Silook,
Sr.:

Our school has that program. Conrad is one of the instructor or counselor.

Rep.
Hurley:

That's good if it's starting in the schools where they bring you into the schools to teach and talk with the young people.

Silook,
Sr.:

There's a problem with that. The majority of the people here in Gambell still use our own language at home, but it's getting much harder now for people to understand that language. Even if we use that language. I've found that out in the boat Ralph told me that in the boat. He said when he couldn't make his crew understand he turned to the elders and they understand.

Laurie
Otto:
school?

Do they have bi-lingual educationers in the

Silook,
Sr.:

Yes, they do.

Laurie
Otto:

Is it an effective program?

Silook,
Sr.:

It is an effective program.

Leonard
Nowpakahok:

The bi-lingual program is very weakly supported. It's not very strongly supported.

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Laurie

Otto: By the school district?

Nowpakahok: By the school or villages and the administrators from the school. We're always working up hill all the time.

Laurie

Otto: Why is that?

Nowpakahok: For instance we are given half hour a day for that purpose.

Laurie

Otto: You don't teach any of the classes?

Nowpakahok: We do it bi-lingual. Yes, we do it bi-lingual here.

Laurie

Otto: I guess what I'm asking is do you have (this is a Yupik area right?)

Nowpakahok: Yes.

Laurie

Otto: Do you have a class in Yupik and that's the bi-lingual education or do you teach history in Yupik?

Nowpakahok: Yes.

Laurie

Otto: You teach history in Yupik?

Nowpakahok: Bi-lingual.

Laurie

Otto: So you have regular classes like reading, Yupik, and you have social studies in Yupik and math in Yupik?

Nowpakahok: No.

Laurie

Otto: Your instruction is in English?

Nowpakahok: We have to teach everything in (?).

Laurie

Otto: So that's like you're teaching English. Like English is one of the classes you have Yupik is one of the classes you have and you have that for a half hour?

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Nowpakahok: No. We try to keep half hour for Yupik only.

Laurie

Otto: Ok. That's what I meant.

Nowpakahok: There's strong evidence of the children will come to school with both parents saying Yupik education is not necessary. They have that kind of attitude. The administrators that have come from some where else are not highly thinking about it. Since I have the platform I would like to say something. Roger is right on this. Before nine o'clock in the morning they go to the school and have their breakfast there and lunch. English speaking all day they are in school till three o'clock. At 3:00 o'clock there's other programs like cheer leading, computer ad things like that until very late. Then we have them go home for very short time. When they walk into the home there's t.v. turn it on. It's not Yupik at all. So almost 24 hours they have this non Yupik language. Also, our school is suppose to be nine months, but in that short time when the school is out they have gotten away from it.

Rep.

Hurley: You have a way of influencing the school board. The school administration is ran by the school board. You could get the school board to - you could talk to the administration. That's the way that you have a chance to make a change and tell them you want to have more discussion of your heritage and culture.

Nowpakahok: To the school board when we try to do that what do you do with the noise there? We are noise.

Laurie

Otto: What school district are you in?

Nowpakahok: Bering Strait ~~to~~ School District. We are just noise and they shut us off.

Apassingok: Excuse me Roger for taking your time, but one comment that over heard earlier he said that life is easier now. No. It's not easier because to those people who do not have regular income everything is very expensive now. The only dependence for income is for what they can get for local crafts and ivory carvings. It's not easier now. I believe it's harder going through change. On the bi-lingual program, I'm a bi-lingual program director here in school. The

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bi-lingual program we're using now as it is stated in the department of education, bi-lingual education. To speed children's learning in English. Thank you. I'm sorry Roger.

Laurie

Otto: So the bi-lingual program is to speed peoples learning, not to retain the language?

Apassingok

Sr.: No. That's not the purpose. You can get more information on that from the department of Education.

Nowpakahok: The word for that is transitional.

Laurie

Otto: Right, so there's different levels of bi-lingual education and you're in the transitional category. Can I just ask one more question? I know this is off the subject. I just wondered in the t.v. that you have here do you get any Yupik show? Where I live they have news every night in Yupik and they have Yupik television shows. Do you have that here?

Nowpakahok: We don't have a television for a long time now. I don't know what we get.

Rep.

Hurley: Is Yupik language your language?

Oozevaseuk: There's nothing of our language on t.v.

Laurie

Otto: This is Siberian Yupik?

Oozevaseuk: Our Yupik dialogue is different than they are using on Learn Alaska.

Nowpakahok: It's different language all together. It's not Siberian language. (Not able to make out this last sentence)

Oozevaseuk: I would like to say those people say it's easy now. It's still based on the drugs because they got lazy and never go out to get some wood or anything like that even some people aren't interested in hunting now some boys because it's not based on the drugs. It makes them lazy in doing it.

Laurie

Otto: In defense John what he was saying was something

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that an elder in another village said. An elder in another village testified that the reason he thought that the youth didn't respect their elders is because they didn't need to rely on them so much. That they either needed to go out and work to go get money to go to the store to buy things or they had a job and they could go to the store and buy things and they didn't have to go to the elders to be taught how to live and how to exist. So he wasn't saying...this is something somebody said.

Oozevaseuk: Based on our drug and alcohol it's slowed down.

Laurie

Otto: We've been interrupting Roger all evening.

Silook,
Sr.:

That's all right. I like that idea of placing the troopers in this villages. I've been thinking about that for some time. If funding allows that it that will be very good. That traveling I still want to stay away from the local option law here. To educate you for what you needed.

Rep.
Binkley:

We need it.

Silook,
Sr.:

I've traveled a lot. I've traveling all over the world and I've traveled from here up to Arctic and I heard the marine mammals and peoples are the same the counseling from other areas will never be used here. Never! Never work. When you travel from here people are miles. Almost all the way to Anchorage and when you up North people are aggressive up there. Same with the marine mammal. The marine mammal is like an aggressive up in the Arctic they get mad up there and they get jagged over there. For our elders counseling is based on these natural things. The good counselor who would like to have good counseling successful here in the Arctic they have to use the behavior of the animal. Even the weather, even the barometer pressure. You are effected by these things. You are effected to day. You're not feeling good because the weathers bad no time for counseling. Counselor counsels you know just any time. They counsel directly at the problems, there's no way. They have to counsel by pulling it from the environment. That's the only way to counsel our people in this area. Make them understand what's

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going to happen. When the client becomes mad change the subject. I've seen them try to counsel even when their client is mad. That's not going to work. To my last remarks I would like to make Leonard testimony a little bit more understandable before it hits the ears of the public. About the welfare money and the ivory. Not all the welfare recipients use their monies for this kind of purposes we don't know who's using it. Not all the hunters use their ivory to buy booze and other things. There's only very few. The Walrus Commission is trying to do something about that. It's going to be more strict to trade these things. We just passed a resolution in the Walrus Commission. I'm the one who writes the resolutions for the Walrus Commission. We have educated people on the Walrus commission, college people, but they always let me write down the resolution because I write the facts. So, everything will be changing slowly. Another thing we're not going to talk about. There's going to be dramatic change in the near future. Maybe these things will be settled completely. Thank you.

Rep.
Binkley:

Thank you, Roger.

Rep.
Hurley:

I just want to say that one of the things that should be done is using more local people to do counseling.

Silook,
Sr.:

Right

Rep.
Hurley:

I think that's something I think we should have in our paper because there are people...

Silook,
Sr.:

We need funding so that the elders do the counseling before we turn and hire other counselors you know. They have an advantage, they know what to expect.

Rep.
Binkley:

Thank you Roger.

Estelle
Oozevaseuk:

Not only for counselor, but also for recreation as an alternative. (Not eligible enough to type out) ...I use hunting that's more effective the one's that I have worked on have

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been going out hunting now. I really encourage them to do that because that's a good alternative to use. I'd like to do some of the young people. I've worked on I ask them what they really like, Eskimo singing or other kinds of recreation, but we have no place to work. They always want me to teach them to sing and dance, but there's no place to do that. People are interested in Eskimo way of alternative other than like some young people prefer to have the Eskimo way of alternative. I try to find them.

John
Aningayou:

I'm an old time around the village. I joined the village council. I had spend my life in the old time as the Gambell Welfare Committee. I had worded on that for 6 years. I get the experience about my people at that time. It's pretty hard to treat the people. I also had joined the city councils. I also had the first city police working actively around here. For \$3.00 some dollars a month or something like that very small. I don't care about that. I would like to help my people about the things you are thinking about as well as all the people around here. I am the one that destroyed the army barracks enough here, beer here - when they start to leave here. At that time I was just a member of the Welfare Committee as a chairman. I do my self just like a police duty because I find a lot of boys on that drinking. I couldn't tell the councils at that time to destroy it so the boys can not go any more. So when I got mad I told them the council just like you people of what's going on over there - so the boys can go over there and dig for it. When they get involved you go for it and put them in jail. I don't like - I don't understand between the boys and going out straight to jail. So I did that, all night long watching when they seemed to go bad. I couldn't get any help from the village council that it's among them was Conrad Oozeva and maybe Roger too. He knows me pretty well. When I couldn't get any help I hunt for my dog and maybe 30 gallons of gas and (Not very eligible to ~~enbilde~~) hear the neighbor to go down when it free. I got the idea to help my people. So I try water, pour all over and put the (?) and pour it and bury it with grave, pour it with water and done this all the way to top. That's how I at the end completely destroyed it no more. When the boys tried there were solid frozen. So, I find myself and joined alcohol anonymous myself. Estelle

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used to be my chairman and we do have a town workshop about the same problem. What do we get nothing because something didn't back us here when we get back - the city council. So, you can find our testimony about that. I find it a long ways below those young boys some (?-Not ~~eligible~~ *audible* enough to detect wording) (?) shock. There's no one else around - the earth and that take away the bitterness if a person loose someone alive in the (?). No body will come and remove that bitter sorrow in their heart. So, what quacks are Gambell people? We are not going down hill. We are trying to come up to better living. They go to school and they graduate, but they never know about the government law. We all know. Anybody goes wrong thee government will always take it. I don't know about all of this, but local after local for. They send us a menu or a guide line it's real bad. If a person brings alcohol here to the island so they never use this punishment at all after this day. I don't know if the state was going to help every village. I don't know as far as I know nobody. The problem is here the council, the governing body here never no action on it at all. It doesn't matter how much I say to them because if they hear me they can learn and then they be mad what I say to them. I need action. So, everybody can have how many in the home, something like this somewhere in history I hear from the people here. I want completely help still going never stop. Reward for this after number four law. No more importation. Still come in. Some time it works, some time little. So I wish them counselors could be aware about the rulers of the Gambell people the reward for them to put into office to work for us as servant. So, even they do have police right now I am active everyday out go down to beach and ride around and never meet nobody. So I was thinking about like everybody maybe they don't know the city limit. So, that's why they do have the police to protect the city limit. Not, inside the court house. So, I'm wondering about if that they might figure it as city limits. It's in the center of the village, that court house. Their police are spend their time all day long. What about our protection around here.

Rep.

Binkley: So you're saying the police has to get out...

Aningayou: They are suppose to patrol all around the city limit every couple hours or so. Why can't the

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government see about that. They spend a lot of money to feed them every month for nothing. So, I'm kind of protesting, but they hear me. So, I been go out to the workshop about his alcohol Anchorage, Nome, Savoonga, Gambell.

Rep.

Binkley:

John, what do you think about the option for communities to ban possession of alcohol. If they had another option in addition to what you have now that would allow to ban possession. What do you think about that?

Aningayou:

We never had another...

(End of side A of Tape 8, conclusion of Tape 8 on side B).

Aningayou:

This is option number 4?

Laurie

Otto:

Option number 5.

Aningayou:

Oh, five. I don't say by with the first one I want it to be on, but we need to work on it so everybody can understand what it can bring - the alcohol. It's pretty hard for them counselors to give management, but this is state. I think if the state would go to help each village from because of - save about - alcohol being used in each village is other way. I don't want to quit the (?). It wouldn't good for those who don't have no children at that time of the year will be gone if the alcohol goes on. (Not eligible enough to type)...So, while they still try to grow up we're not going to do that we're trying to come. We are not really rich around in the village. We're going trying to get the barrel of oil, but this is going on right now. So, I wish this will be something that you going there for I guess and give some talk about it socially. We do have a representative Mr. Ford.

Rep.

Binkley:

Chuck Board.

Aningayou:

One thing that I don't like he always be on the phone talking so I call him, but it may be like ghost not really any body just voice. When they are real true he should walk around here and see what we need. That's what we wish for him as our representative district. So, something that's busy talk. It was real job in the long time, but it's coming like a poor night couldn't cut any

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more.

Unidentified
man:

Joe, Joe. Yupik Speaking man begins to talk.

Aningayou:

I hope this something you will give it. I'm hoping it's something we'll be hearing about it. I'm still on a member of alcoholic anonymous, but we really need some one. We really need (?) hours for support to let it go up some way already my self because I want something to help. Thank you.

Rep.

Binkley:

Thank you John. I understand there's a beluga or whale out there.

unidentified

Man:

They just got one down there.

Rep.

Binkley:

Oh, we'd like to go see it.

Rep.

Hurley:

What? What? It just got landed?

Unidentified

Man:

Yes, they just got it.

Rep.

Binkley:

Oh, we need to get down there. We'd like to see that. Ok. We won't recess, but we'll hurry. Willis?

Willis

Walunga:

My name is Willis Walunga. I support that bill the one to ban the traditional alcohol.

Rep.

Binkley:

Well, our committee will.

W. Walunga:

I support that also that home brew of no alcohol. I think most of the village will support that because you will see. We know that we have alcohol problem for a long time. The problem is all over Alaska and the United States. I think in our villages we have the worse. We have no facilities to take care of it. I think one of the good reasons that some of the speakers feel about the alternative program. I think we need that alcohol alternative program I think we need that here, but we need funding to carry it out. I work for Norton Sound Health Corporation for about 3 years

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earlier. I managed to get a little fund to start to change (?) going to really care for the people who need help who really have the alcohol problem. Right now we have volunteer counselors for they were Norton Sound Health Corporation come in to do something with them, but I don't think that's going to work. Since the alcohol money is in Nome we don't have anything but volunteers. I think I believe if the money is acquired here to do something about the program like Roger Silook said the elders would be good people to counsel these youngsters. That's how it used to me in my younger days. These elders were the govern body of the village. They were everything. They were like these agencies we have now in Nome they were those people. They controlled everything. They did it pretty well in those days. In my observations elders were forced back when the governing body was introduced by the teachers in the earlier days when the councils were poor. That's when the elders were forced out gradually.

Rep.

Binkley: From statehood?

W. Walunga: No. They formed the council in the village and they were the authorities that's going to control the village. That's the beginning time when the elders were forced out of the village gradually. I heard them and they felt pretty bad at first, but now they are out. I don't know it's going to be hard to get them back in it.

Laurie

Otto: Is it once you started having elected officials so that the elected officials became the leaders of the community?

W. Walunga: From my observations that was the time.

Rep.

Hurley: Instead of the traditional counsels.

W. Walunga: They were the authorities in those days.

Laurie

Otto: I've heard it said that one of the things that's happened. This is actually in the book I read about Canadian Eskimos it's not about the United States. I wondered if it's true here. When the leadership shifted over to the people who could speak English and therefore could get government grants and away from the elders and the people

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who were the traditional bringers of knowledge that that was another thing that created problems. Instead of the traditional leaders people became they could interact with the government better?

W. Walunga: The younger people that were educated by the school teachers. Now they're relying on the young people now who are educated better. It's not working to well. The teaching is different from the traditional ways that's what I think is hard for the young people to change. That's all I have.

Rep.
Hurley: Did you go to the B.I.A. school here?

W. Walunga: Yes. I went to B.I.A. school.

Rep.
Binkley: Thank you Willis.

Rep.
Hurley: Before you get off. Roger got away. He said something about the coast guard cutter.

Rep.
Binkley: You mean the early days were their coast guard cutters?

W. Walunga: Let me explain that...

(Rep. Hurley and two other people started talking words not able to define)

Nancy
Walunga: I'm Nancy Walunga. Mother of twelve. So I'm very strongly against alcohol. Grandmother of twelve. So I have to speak up something that I could involve. Mostly the people who spoke took all the words, but I'm going to say some of them. A few things I want to mention some of the young people I talk with they talk about they need help. They cry for help. Some said they cry for more. For alcohol, drugs, marijuana, whatever they are using, but some young people are children they're scared seeing the people going on like this. When we the adults, council, the police couldn't stop them or help them they joined them because they didn't do nothing because we didn't do something about this. Often they end up in jail, in trouble because they don't stop it's still coming. No matter what we try, but to me the one that's behind somewhere

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because the people here in island they don't get any from themselves even if they make their own, but still they won't make any farther than that. They will run out of something that makes it. I want the one who was behind them. You know what I mean? The one that we fight that will help completely to the other villages too. It will keep on going who knows how long? My concern not only like other peoples said not only my children other young people especially those who are using it is very very dangerous because around here when they find out who was using it or make violence they end up in jail, but now I learn something about they taking it to the camp, boating that's dangerous because they don't want to be show up in the village. That really make me worried so I think we have to work together. The one that you pick from other villages. Mostly I think that will work. Mostly the people here I agreed with.

Rep.

Binkley: Thank you Nancy.

Raymond

Oozevaseuk: I'm Raymond Oozevaseuk. (?)...materials for bi-lingual bi-cultural program and I have a few questions I would like to ask you about how the local option law will be put on the ballot this time. Last time it was put on the ballot it was just put in as wet or dry. There was no option there.

Rep.

Binkley: I'm not sure. We haven't drafted the legislation yet and presented it to the legislature. So why don't you tell us what you think is the best way?

R.

Oozevaseuk: I think it would be best if we were to put it in as a whole ballot where it shows all the options with the tool of bond on the end of end because if the people were to ban the whole alcohol consumption out there they would just vote for that total ban and that way the people, the police would know that the use of an alcoholic beverage out there would be outlawed. With that thing the police would have something to work there to go to work by. Another thing that I wanted to bring up now is the city ordinances. Back in 1968, 1969 and all the way to the 1972 I was with the city councils then and I was the one who drafted those ordinances. Ever since that time I look back on it they still haven't been

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revised and brought up to date. I think it would be best if those ordinances were brought up to date now. The police or whoever is there to enforce our ordinances would have a working ordinance there instead of the ones that have been out dated for so long. Which is about 15-18 years that I was with the city councils. Ever since that time ordinances have not been revised and brought up to date. That's all I wanted to say.

Rep.
Binkley: Ok. Thank you Raymond.

Shirley
Antogham: My name is Shirley Antogham. I'm the city clerk. Those ordinances have been revised.

Rep.
Binkley: Thank you very much for those snacks. We really appreciate it

Shirley
Antogham: A lot of the people here gave good testimonies. I am in favor of the ban of the possession of alcohol and also I wish there would be some kind of laws too about possession of drugs or even importing drugs into Gambell. I think that is another major problem that we have here.

Laurie
Otto: That's illegal right now. It's illegal you can't bring drugs in. That's illegal.

Antogham: They should enforcement on that one too. Not only on alcohol. The last couple of weeks ago we had a meeting with one of the state troopers from Nome over here. We requested for one of them to come over here to do some training locally for our V.P.S.O. and our other patrolmen. They didn't have enough monies or funding for state trooper to come out here.

Laurie
Otto: Who was it that you talked to?

Antogham: I forgot the name.

Unidentified
man: Corporal ^{Kitchenmaster} ~~Teachinmaster?~~ (Not clear enough to be sure of name what I typed is only a guess I sounded the name out.)

Antogham: ^{Kitchen} ~~Teachin~~master, hey.

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Unidentified

man: He's in charge of V.P.S.O.'s.

Antoghame: He said that they didn't have enough funding or there was a shortage of funding to come out here. It would be helpful too if they were funded a little more this year for them to come out into the villages in rural Alaska. I believe in order to strengthen importation of alcohol and drugs. Not only alcohol, but drugs too. We do have like Nancy or Estelle was saying we have a local group that are on the alcohol committee. I guess their not motivated enough to or there's no motivation there in that group to get all the people together. I haven't been to any of those meetings, but I asked her about that one time and she said nobody came.

Rep.

Hurley: Is that local?

Antoghame: Yes.

Rep.

Hurley: From the council?

Antoghame: No. There's only village counselors.

Rep.

Hurley: Oh, from the Norton Sound Health .

Estelle: Mr. chairman, we are under the city council we can't do nothing with out them.

Antoghame: There's another group out of Jack Fullers office I believe, Natural Helpers. We were looking into that this year. It's concerning drugs, alcohol to be taught at the schools or counseling the schools. We wanted to make this stronger so they could pass it. Then someone from some where could come over here and train someone to do the counseling to the students. That would be another good way of approaching these other kids. I have four children myself and I am concerned about this one here. That's all I have to say.

Rep.

Binkley: Shirley thank you very much.

Laurie

Otto: I have a question. Why are you in favor of a ban on possession? How do you think it would help?

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Antoghame: It would. I think it would stop a lot of alcohol that is coming into Gambell.

Laurie

Otto: Would it make it easier for the police to enforce the laws? You still would have to have police enforce the laws. It's not a matter of passing a law and ...

Antoghame: I don't think it would make it easier for the V.P.S.O. or the police. So that would be another thing to look into.

Rep.

Hurley: When was the last time a trooper was here? You said that...

Winfred

James, Sr.: Let me answer that. The troopers can come if you request it. Somebody call and says yes, sure.

Antoghame: But they won't come until it's a very emergency case.

Rep.

Hurley: We were told that the over sight officer makes a regular visit to all of the villages in his area about once every 3 months. Trooper Carlson.

James, Sr.: Well, I've seen visiting done by the troopers once a month here especially come to brief the V.P.S.O. they are looking at all these. From the city point of view we try not to have them come over to often because they want to enforce the state laws. Until we get our own magistrate here we have them come over with Savoonga's magistrate to fine some of the misdemeanors charges.

Laurie

Otto: Since Leonard has quit nobody has taken his place?

James,
Sr.:

We are trying to get our own magistrate. We've had some applicants, but we still have to talk to one of them yet.

Rep.

Hurley: The magistrate is he hired by the city council or the state?

James,
Sr.:

It's hired by the district court in Nome.

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Rep.

Binkley: They probably get a recommendation from the councilmen.

James, Sr.: We (the city government) recommend someone. We had some applicants one of them was turned down because he was involved with importation once.

Antoghame: On top of all of this I've thought about - we've seen with all of this there seems to be a lot more criminals with consumption only. They're innocent people normally.

Laurie

Otto: So if there's a law passed then which would allow communities to ban possession you think it would be better to have it punishable only by a fine and confiscation of the liquor so it's a civil offense rather than give people a criminal record for possession of alcohol. Is that the problem you're talking about?

Antoghame: Yes.

Rep.

Binkley: Shirley thank you very much.

Winfred

James, Sr.: I'm with closing arguments. I'll be speaking for the city because I'm on the city council. When the troopers, we try not to let him come to often because they also insist that they have trained V.P.S.O.'s you know. They actually work for them through Kawerak in Nome. The state troopers fund the V.P.S.O.'s. It's awful hard for us to have policemen to be a policeman for a year. We have policeman once their brother or cousin or uncle or someone get arrested they have no more. They want to resign, they want to run. See we are almost out of police. Then we have to request for some more guys. The last ones last a couple months. I hope they last longer. They're working all right, we don't have a chief of police on our local police dept. We're using a V.P.S.O. as their chief because she knows how to make charges. So, we hope it's going to work with 4 policemen we have now. We had 5, four local and their paid by the city. We get the fund from the state and V.P.S.O. is paid from Nome. The city pays our local policemen. Our fund is kind of limited, but we hire four. Each policemen \$1,000.00 a piece, so \$4,000.00 a month we spend on the policemen. Everybody seems to want the home brew to be banned completely. It

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started with just maybe one person and pretty soon now I here four or five other young people who are home brewing in their own homes not by little bit, but I heard their brewing in five gallon containers. They don't drink it alone, they share it with other people too. We're trying to get magistrate for our city. We're going to talk to Lucy again and see if we can get her interested. She was interested, but her old man-her husband didn't want her to be magistrate I guess. She's the only applicant that we have. We have two other applicants one from Fairbanks and one from Anchorage. Jack Tomely didn't want those people to come out and be a judge because you guys will have to introduce more money to pay them to live out there. Where we pay \$3.00 a gallon for gas, and \$8.00 for a can of coffee. So, he will be very expensive that's what he said to have an outside magistrate to come here and be a magistrate. We think it would be great because he wouldn't be related to anyone you know. Then the coast guard that was mentioned long time ago in the late 1800's and early 1900 they had a famine here that happened that killed a lot of people because of Yankee whalers at that time were trading alcohol whiskey not by the bottle, but by the 40 gallon barrels for baleen and ivory. So, I heard that good hunters get as many as 40 barrels of whiskey-each barrel held 40 gallons. You know those old wood barrels. Forty barrels will last them for the winter. That's a lot of whiskey.

Laurie

Otto:

It was whiskey that they were trying...

James,

Sr.:

Then once spring was...they come as early as March and April and tie up here. Our hunting time is in June for walrus and April for whaling. They got everybody drunk one spring and people forgot to go out and hunt; therefore, that summer they didn't have anything to eat. That Yankee whalers depleted the walrus and the whales.

Rep.

Binkley:

How did they get here in March and April?

James Sr.:

They go through the ice. They've been coming up here so often they even wintered up in there Hurshal island on the Canadian side. They want to get up here so they can catch whales you know. They were going after the baleen.

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They get as many as 600 walrus. They depleted all the walrus and whale. We suffer for it now. Their trying to come back you know and that's why we only have two strikes a year in Gambell because the Yankee whalers kill them all off a long time ago. We used to have no limit on whale hunting we weren't bothering their population by killing 5 whales a year. So the coast guard, Dr. Sheldon Jackson heard about people starving here so he introduced reindeer on the island here, about 40 heads from Siberia. Eventually they died out now and there's a few left. The enforcement part was done by U.S. marshals going with the U.S. coast guard.

Rep.

Binkley:

They came out to get rid of the alcohol? The revenue cutters?

James Sr.:

The revenue cutters with U.S. marshals you know. The marshals come in and totally ban home brew and importation of alcohol. Some of those U.S. marshals even stay here when the whalers, those people that were trading alcohol for the Eskimos were here. When they come in they let them pour all the alcohol out and dump it in the ocean. The U.S. marshals did, so that stopped them. A couple years the whaling ships don't bring it any more, that stuff. Then home brew for a while and then they stopped that one too. People used to make home brew right on their seal oil lamps. They tell us how they run that copper tubing and up again...I don't know how to make it, but they were making it. They stopped that one too. The last one is the city of Gambell has requested from our area, you are going to listen to me now you probably will help Rep. Board and Sen Ferguson. We're trying to get funds for teen center, fire hall...

Estelle

Oozevaseuk:

That teen center the city promised me to have alternative building for the young people and it turned out to be the teen center and we do nothing here. I learned that their smoking in there marijuana and taking drugs and nobody is over seeing them.

James, Sr.:

We're trying to get a bigger teen center. The teen center we have now is really small and old building. Fire hall and clinic. Our first priority is water and sewer for the city of Gambell. Then comes fire hall, we were poorly prepared for that big fire last summer. That's

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why we lost the power house and fuel. If it comes to your attention, you support Rep. Board and Sen. Ferguson and Hal Adams.

Rep.
Binkley: We'll remember.

James, Sr.: That's about all I have.

Rep.
Binkley: Winfred maybe you could give your name for the record I think. Just say it in the speaker then we'll have it. Just your name and your position. Just say it in the microphone.

James, Sr.: My name is Winfred James, Sr.. Vice Mayor of the city of Gambell.

Rep.
Binkley: Perfect. Thank you Winfred. This will conclude the public hearing in Gambell thank you. It's 5:17p.m. in Gambell.