

Arguments Help Pt. Hope People To Understand Village Problems

The village of Point Hope is now an incorporated city. When it became a 4th class city, the residents elected a mayor and he was Daniel Lisbourne. Dan has served as a village council president for years in the past. He resigned for a time about three years ago.

Dan Lisbourne has been an able leader for his village and he has done a great deal in improvement of services. Un-

der his leadership, Point Hope has come to be known as one of the more progressive villages in Northern Alaska.

AVAILABLE RESOURCES
Dan tries to make use of available resources in the operation of the village government.

"I appointed the VISTA volunteer, Kenneth Pletter, to be our temporary city clerk until we can train our own," said Dan recently.

Asked how Pletter was getting along as a city clerk, Dan smiled and said:

"He's fine and he's a big help. He has given me some stiff arguments on some matters and as a result, the villagers are beginning to see the light as to what problems they are faced with. Although somewhat heated at times, these arguments have been constructive arguments."

LIGHT PLANTS

The village has acquired two 40 kw light plants. Dan has appointed a three-man board to be responsible for their maintenance.

"They are doing an excellent job. The chairman of the board is Alvin Capener with David Frankson and John Oktolik as the other members," Dan said. "They have revised the operating procedure and have set electrical rates with a minimum of \$10 per month. The average village user is now paying about \$14 to \$15 dollars per month."

The village has a medical clinic.

"Our clinic is probably the only one that is village owned. The people in charge of it buy medical supplies, drugs and so forth.

"I have transferred the village movie program to the health committee so that it would be able to buy medical supplies," Dan continued. "The clinic also buys its own fuel. I'm really pleased with the operation."

Dan said that two per cent city tax has been imposed on the newly incorporated city and the average income from this has been about \$200 to \$250 dollars per month.

The village policeman, Othneil Oomittuk, is being paid on a part time basis from the money realized out of the city tax.

"Othneil, our policeman, is really working hard at times, not necessarily at arresting people, but drawing up ordinances like dog control, sanitation, and the curfew at 9:30 p.m.," said Dan.

VILLAGE RADIO

The village bought a two-way radio about a year ago and it is being used steadily. It is in good operating condition and it can be used any time of the day.

"We also have landing lights on the airstrip," said Dan, smiling. "We're operating like Fairbanks now. We can land planes at night."