

**MINUTES
NOME COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
December 12, 2005**

The Regular Meeting of the Nome Common Council was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Mayor Denise Michels in the City Council Chambers of Nome City Hall located at 102 Division St.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Stan Andersen, Mary Knodel, Randy Pomeranz, Jon Larson, Jerald Brown, Mary Bourdon.

Members Absent:

Also Present: City Manager Randy Romenesko; City Clerk Leslee Wessel.

In the audience: James Lyman, GCI; Paul Korchin, KNOM.

INVOCATION

Paul Korchin

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

11-28-05 Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by C. Knodel and seconded by C. Larson to approve the Minutes of the November 28, 2005 Regular Meeting.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Brown, Bourdon, Knodel, Larson, Pomeranz, Andersen
Nays:

The motion CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Michels read the communications by title.

CITIZENS GRIEVANCES AND REQUESTS

PLANNING AND ZONING

SPECIAL ORDERS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. O-05-11-03 An Ordinance to Authorize the Execution of a Common Investment Agreement Among Political Subdivisions of the State of Alaska and to Authorize Becoming a Member of the Alaska Municipal League Investment Pool, Inc.
~Second Reading, Public Hearing and Final Passage

Hearing no objection the Mayor asked the Clerk for the second reading of O-05-11-03.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing the Council recessed at 7:32 p.m. Hearing no public comments, the Council reconvened at 7:32 p.m.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. Andersen to approve O-05-11-03.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Bourdon, Knodel, Larson, Pomeranz, Andersen, Brown
Nays:

The motion CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Facility Fee Waiver Request.

Nome Boys Basketball - Nome Recreation Center - Event Date 12/9/05.

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Bourdon to approve the Facility Fee Waiver Request.

C. Knodel asked if anyone knew how much they raised that night. City Manager Romenesko stated he did not. It was standing room only and they also ran the concessions. They did clean up afterwards. The fee that would be waived is \$425.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Larson, Pomeranz, Andersen, Brown, Bourdon
Nays: Knodel

The motion CARRIED.

**B. O-05-12-01 An Ordinance of the Nome City Council, Nome, Alaska, Providing for a Temporary Sales Tax Exception for Certain Grocery Items Intended for Human Consumption.
~First Reading**

**C. O-05-12-02 An Ordinance of the Nome City Council, Nome, Alaska, Providing for a Temporary Property Tax Exemption for Business Inventory to be Reported and Paid in 2006.
~First Reading**

Hearing no objection the Mayor asked the Clerk for the first reading of O-05-12-01 and O-05-12-02.

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Pomeranz to put O-05-12-01 and O-05-12-02 into second reading, public hearing and final passage.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Larson, Pomeranz, Andersen, Brown, Bourdon, Knodel
Nays:

The motion CARRIED.

**D. O-05-12-03 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 15.70 of the Nome City Code to Add a New Section Prohibiting Plastic Bags Used for Carry Out in Retail Business.
~First Reading**

Hearing no objection the Mayor asked the Clerk for the first reading of O-05-12-03.

A motion was made by C. Larson and seconded by C. Knodel to put O-05-12-03 into second reading, public hearing and final passage.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Pomeranz, Brown, Bourdon, Knodel, Larson

Nays: Andersen

The motion CARRIED.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

UTILITY MANAGER REPORT

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Romenesko stated he provided a written report to the Council but he would like to point out a few items.

- Congratulations to the Nome Volunteer Ambulance Department on 26 years of service to the community of Nome. The Ambulance Department was created by Norton Sound Health Corporation and evolved into the Nome Volunteer Ambulance Service in the mid 1980's as an independent group and then the City of Nome took the group on as a department in 1996.
- He has heard back from the insurance services offices regarding Nome's fire rating. They will review the fire rating again in May after the City submits additional information particularly in regard to the training of volunteers. He has done some research and talked to some independent insurance agents in regard to the effect of going from a five to a six rating which is a decrease in their service level. His understanding is that their rates generally would not be impacted, but that being said they are still going to strive to keep the five rating.
- The Planning Commission met twice last week. They talked about the Coastal Management Plan revision which the Council will see next month so they can get it to the State by mid March for their approval. They also worked on land use code. That will take more time and more public meetings to get into shape for implementation. He encouraged anyone interested in this land use code to try to make the next meeting on January 10.
- On December 13 at noon representatives from the Alaska Department of Transportation will be at City Hall to talk about the STIP program which is their rating of different road projects and if folks have interest or resolutions of organizations they should bring that information to the meeting. The city will be going on record on their projects.
- The Christmas Extravaganza is Tuesday evening, December 13, at 5:30 at Old St. Joes.
- Wednesday, December 14, at 7:00 p.m. the City Council will meet with the NJUS Board, School Board and State and Federal Lobbyist to discuss legislative priorities for the upcoming state and federal legislative sessions.
- He would like to see if the Council might be interested in rescheduling the meeting for December 26 to Wednesday, December 28, at noon for the purpose of enacting some of the ordinances that went out of first reading tonight. The Council agreed to meet on December 28 at noon.
- He discussed the ordinances and stated when the city attorney drafted these ordinances they had to make certain assumptions that may or may not be correct. He asked the Council to please get with him and let him know if any assumptions are incorrect. The temporary sales tax exemption is driving at items that are listed under federal food stamp programs and is definitely not geared toward carry out type food. Most of the vendors they spoke with didn't seem to have much difficulty in making the necessary changes needed at their registers to make those changes. Now they have the ordinance available, it would be good if the local merchants would take a look at it and let them know if there is a problem with it. The ordinance on property tax exemption is set up as temporary for this year. The ordinance does terminate on December 31 2006 and they

are asking folks to provide inventory data to the City as if they were going to implement the personal property tax on inventory. He has talked to the State Assessor, Steve Van Sant, about the impact of this exemption on the city. It is an optional exemption the city can choose to do. The State will still determine the full value determination for educational funding. If the city does not provide them with numbers then the state has a model they run through and they will determine the value based on a community the size of Nome with a predictable amount of inventory which would equal x number of millions of dollars of inventory which they then will assign a value to.

Mayor Michels asked if the City Manager would contact the transportation committee members and let them know about the ADOT STIP meeting.

COUNCILMEN COMMENTS

C. Andersen stated his no vote on the plastic bag ordinance was because he thought they were going to discuss it for a while before jumping in with an Ordinance. He would have liked more information before it went to public hearing and passage.

C. Brown thanked everyone who approached him over the last few weeks and gave him their opinion on sales tax and other issues. He is brand new but he would like to encourage citizens to continue to give him their opinions.

C. Bourdon thanked the Nome Volunteer Firemen for doing a great job in hosting the Firemen's Carnival. It was a lot of fun and she also thanked them for giving many of the organizations the opportunity to do some fund raising at this event. She stated on Saturday the four tribes in Nome hosted a community feast and it was a wonderful evening. She thanked them for hosting this.

C. Larson congratulated the boys wrestling team. They did very well at regions in Unalakleet. He knows the young men did a lot of preparation and he hopes they will do well in the state.

C. Pomeranz reminded everyone that the snow season is here and to get their vehicles off the sides of the streets so the crews can get in and keep things cleared. The wrestling squad went to the state wrestling tournament this weekend and congratulations go to Jeremy Luce and Kohren Green who are State Champs. And congratulations to the girl's volleyball team for their good showing at the State Tournament also.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

~ Negotiation/Discussion Regarding the Alaska Public Employees Association/AFT (AFL-CIO) Contract Renewal Which May Have an Adverse Affect on City Finances.

~ Financial and Legal Strategies Which May Have an Adverse Affect on City Finances, RE: Reindeer Plant.

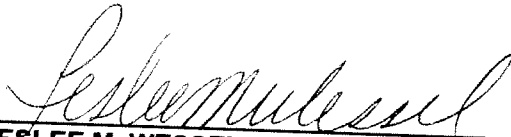
A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Knodel to enter into executive session at 7:46 p.m.

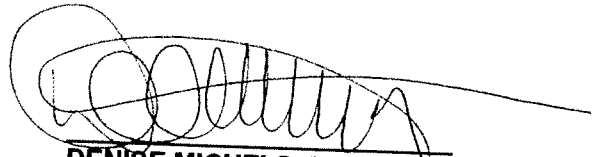
The Council reconvened the regular meeting at 9:13 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

SIGNED AND DATED this 28th day of December, 2005.


LESLEE M. WESSEL, City Clerk


DENISE MICHELS, Mayor