

**MINUTES
NOME CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
May 14, 2007**

The Regular Meeting of the Nome City Council was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Presiding Councilman Stan Andersen in the City Council Chambers of Nome City Hall located at 102 Division St.

ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: Mayor Denise Michels, Randy Pomeranz

Also Present: City Manager Randy Romenesko, Acting City Clerk Sandy Babcock, Leslee Wessel,

In the audience: Paul Korchin, KNOM; Donald Handeland, GCI; Matthew Cully, Mike Quinn, Louise Kuntz-Tadda, Candice Auliye, Todd Kunnuk, Mitch Erickson, Sandra Medearis

INVOCATION

Paul Korchin gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 23, 2007 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by C. Knodel and seconded by C. Brown to approve the minutes as presented.

At the roll call:

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

Nays:

The motion CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS

C. Andersen asked for comments on the communications. C. Brown mentioned there were a few requests for funding. City Manger Romenesko clarified there was only one request for funding from the Civil Air Patrol. C. Andersen stated the Civil Air Patrol was requesting \$5,000.

A motion was made by C. Knodel and seconded by C. Brown to approve the request for \$5,000 to the Civil Air Patrol.

Discussion

C. Andersen asked if this would be a yearly donation. C. Larson suggested they look at this with the Budget discussion. City Manager Romenesko stated it would be put in the FY 2008 budget.

The motion and second was withdrawn.

CITIZENS REQUESTS AND GRIEVANCES

Mike Quinn talked about the upcoming trapping proposal. He stated that an Ordinance for trapping would add a program that would incur costs. He suggested that the trapping proposal become a community or public recommendation rather than an Ordinance requiring enforcement.

Candace Auliye stated she is the Nome Preschool President and she wanted to say thank you for all the past contributions from the City Council and the City of Nome and she asked that they please consider their request for funding for the next year.

Mitch Erickson commented on the proposed trapping ordinance. He stated that the trapping ordinance has a positive result coming out of it because the City is trying to find all right of ways now which will be good for all mapping and future improvements to the town. If the Ordinance is dropped at least continue on with finding all the right of ways.

PLANNING AND ZONING

SPECIAL ORDERS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. O-07-04-01 An Ordinance Amending Section 17.10.020(c) of the Nome Code of Ordinances to Exempt Services Incorporated into a Construction Project for Which a Building Permit has been issued from Sales Tax.

~Second Reading, Public Hearing and Final Passage

Hearing no objection Councilman Andersen asked the Clerk for the second reading of O-07-04-01.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing the Council recessed at 7:40 P.M. The Council reconvened at 7:40 P.M.

A motion was made by C. Knodel and seconded by C. Larson to approve O-07-04-01.

Discussion

C. Andersen stated there was a request for an Amendment to Ordinance O-07-04-01. City Manager Romanesko explained that while reviewing the Code it was found there was an error in Section 17.10.050(a) Application for exception. This section of the code was overlooked and the date was not changed for the Senior Citizens/Disabled Veterans Exemption filing deadline from January 15, to February 1.

Recommendation:

Amend O-07-04-01 by motion to add **Section 2. Amendment of Section 17.10.050 (a). Section 17.10.050(a) of the Code of Ordinances of Nome, Alaska is hereby amended to change the date municipal tax exemption applications must be filed from January 15th to February 1st.**

A motion was made to by C. Larson and seconded by C. Bourdon to approve the Amendment to O-07-04-01.

At the roll call on the amendment:

Ayes: Knodel, Larson, Andersen, Brown, Bourdon

Nays:

The motion CARRIED.

C. Andersen stated there was a motion before them to approve O-07-04-01 and asked for discussion.

At the roll call on the motion:

Ayes: Bourdon, Knodel, Larson, Andersen, Brown

Nays:

The motion CARRIED.

B. O-07-04-02 An Ordinance Approving an Amendment to Nome Joint Utility System Water & Sewer Tariff (Tariff W&S – 3), Amending Schedule A, Trucked Water Rates.
~Second Reading, Public Hearing and Final Passage

Hearing no objection Councilman Andersen asked the Clerk for the second reading of O-07-04-02.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing the Council recessed at 7:43 P.M.

Discussion

Mr. Bob Madden stated he was there to answer any questions.

The Council reconvened at 7:44 P.M.

A motion was made by C. Larson and seconded by C. Knodel to approve O-07-04-02.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Larson, Andersen, Brown, Bourdon, Knodel

Nays:

The motion CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

A. O-07-05-01 An Ordinance Amending Section 3.05.040(c) of the Nome Code of Ordinances to Allow Extended Hours for Package Stores During Certain Events.
~First Reading

Hearing no objection Councilman Andersen asked the Clerk for the first reading of O-07-05-01.

A motion was made by C. Bourdon and seconded by C. Knodel to place this Ordinance into second reading, public hearing and final passage.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Andersen, Brown, Bourdon, Knodel

Nays: Larson

The motion CARRIED.

B. R-07-05-01 A Resolution Approving a Settlement Agreement Between the City of Nome and the Nome Eskimo Community.

Hearing no objection Councilman Andersen asked the Clerk to read R-07-05-01.

A motion was made by C. Larson and seconded by C. Knodel to approve R-07-05-01.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Andersen, Brown, Bourdon, Knodel, Larson

Nays:

The motion CARRIED.

C. R-07-05-02 A Resolution Approving the Agreement for Professional Services with Mr. Colby Carter and Authorizing the City Manager to sign the Agreement.

Hearing no objection Councilman Andersen asked the Clerk to read R-07-05-02.

A motion was made by C. Knodel and seconded by C. Brown to approve R-07-05-02.

Discussion

C. Larson asked what the scope of the services and financial burden would be. City Manager Romenesko replied that in the FY08 budget there is about \$7,000 and it should go down with time as the system and users get used to what is in place. C. Andersen asked why they needed to put him on the payroll when he was already part of the group that came up with suggestions to fix the problems. City Manager Romenesko replied that there were several issues and they are moving forward to implement the recommendations that were made. Mr. Carter will be able to provide support to fire and ambulance that has relied on volunteers that have less time available and provide some technical expertise to the City that they do not have on staff.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Brown, Bourdon, Knodel, Larson, Andersen

Nays:

The motion CARRIED

D. R-07-05-03 A Resolution Approving the Agreement for Professional Services with Ms. Judy Missal, Rural Alaska Mitigation Planning, and authorizing the City Manager to sign the Agreement.

Hearing no objection Councilman Andersen asked the Clerk to read R-07-05-03.

A motion was made by C. Knodel and seconded by C. Larson to approve R-07-05-03.

Discussion

City Manager Romenesko explained that the work will be paid by funds from the State of Alaska Local Emergency Planning Committee grant. C. Andersen asked if that would include the travel and miscellaneous expense. City Manager Romenesko stated the travel and miscellaneous is additional but there are funds available in that grant to cover the costs. C. Andersen asked if there were 14 applicants within the State. City Manager responded that many were from out of State and they were high dollar and not appropriate to their needs. Ms. Missal will update and rewrite the emergency plan which is used by all volunteers, staff or community members in response to a disaster either natural or man made.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Bourdon, Knodel, Larson, Andersen, Brown

Nays:

The motion CARRIED.

- E. R-07-05-04 A Resolution Approving the Memorandum of Agreement between Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation and the City of Nome for Fisheries Enhancement Project near Moonlight Springs and Authorizing the City Manager to sign the Agreement and License.

Hearing no objection Councilman Andersen asked the Clerk to read R-07-05-04.

A motion was made by C. Larson and seconded by C. Bourdon to approve R-07-05-04.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Knodel, Larson, Andersen, Brown, Bourdon

Nays:

The motion CARRIED.

- F. R-07-05-05 A Resolution Forgiving Delinquent Real Property Taxes for Specific Properties in the City of Nome.

Hearing no objection Councilman Andersen asked the Clerk to read R-07-05-05.

A motion was made by C. Knodel and seconded by C. Brown to approve R-07-05-05.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Larson, Andersen, Brown, Bourdon, Knodel

Nays:

The motion CARRIED.

- G. Nome Planning Commission Recommendations regarding trapping within the Nome City limits.

A motion was made by C. Knodel and seconded by C. Brown to accept the recommendations as presented by the Planning Commission and turn them into an Ordinance.

Discussion

C. Bourdon asked if there would be consequences when someone is in non-compliance with the Ordinance. City Manager Romenesko stated it would be drafted like some of the animal at large codes listing a penalty for violation clause. C. Anderson stated he would like to see how these recommendations work first before they go farther. C. Brown stated if it is not an Ordinance and does not carry the force of law then they are just flapping their lips. C. Larson asked if the NPC asked that an Ordinance be made. City Manager Romenesko stated it was the task of the Planning Commission to come up with recommendations. C. Larson asked Mr. Quinn and Mr. Culley if they were okay with this. Mr. Quinn replied that the point he was making was there would be added cost associated with enforcing an Ordinance. Mr. Culley said a lot of time was spent discussing this and he thinks they are fine but doesn't think they are necessary. It doesn't affect him directly since his area is remote. Mr. Quinn would like them to wait and see what happens with the recommendations first since only a few dogs are involved and there have been few complaints. C. Knodel stated she hears complaints every week. More discussion continued concerning costs and need.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Andersen, Brown, Bourdon, Knodel, Larson

Nays:

The motion CARRIED

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

UTILITY MANAGER REPORT

Utility Manager Handeland was in Juneau.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Romenesko stated he has a short verbal report. He mentioned the following:

- He has been working on the FY08 budget. He spent time last week on the Police Chief search and the selection committee interviewed Mr. Paul Burke who is a retired City Trooper. The Committee has directed him to enter into discussions with Mr. Burke for the possibility of serving as Police Chief.
- This morning he appointed Ms. Sandy Babcock as acting City Clerk/Treasurer and will request Council approval for her to take the position at the next meeting.
- A meeting is scheduled for May 16th at 7:00 P.M. to discuss the city budget which will be provided to them tonight or tomorrow morning and for public review.
- A meeting is scheduled for May 28th and they are asking that it be cancelled. They need to meet no later than May 30th to establish the school district appropriation.
- Mayor Michels and C. Bourdon were in Juneau for Mother's Day. Things are rapidly changing in Juneau as they are in the final days of the Legislative session and hopefully by Wednesday they should have a better idea how things progress down there.

COUNCILMEN COMMENTS

C. Anderson made a suggestion in a previous meeting that they have Council meetings at OSJ and he was wondering who objected and if the City Manager still had instructions to do something with the current Council Chambers. City Manager Romenesko answered yes. C. Knodel did not object but stated the Clerk and other City staff should figure out what they need and let them know. C. Brown stated a lot of groups use this room. C. Anderson explained he would like to take half of the Chambers room and give the City Clerk more office room. It was suggested that previous plans get looked at to come up with a plan. City Manager Romenesko will look into the plans.

C. Brown asked a question about the Liquor Store Ordinance as to why all needed to stay open when the event is at one location and affects one establishment. City Manager Romenesko explained that the amendment that is being proposed to the Ordinance is for package stores. This issue came up because the Council has been granting this request every year so it was suggested to make this a permanent part of the Code. The bar hours are already established as an Ordinance.

C. Bourdon stated that she was in Juneau for the Mother' Day weekend with Mayor Michels, John Handeland and Berda Willson. She stated they are fortunate to have Mayor Michels as a representative and she does a good job in Juneau. The Mother's Day brunch was a success again this year. All the legislators and their families seem to appreciate it and look forward to the City hosting it each year. Thanks to Wendy Chamberlain and to Kathy Foster they were very helpful with recognition of the Senators as they walked in. It was a good trip and she is glad to be home.

C. Knodel announced that the NSHC Board of Directors were meeting this week at the Pioneer Hall, tomorrow and Wednesday with a full agenda. It is open to the public. She stated they meet three times a year.

C. Larson stated he noticed in the NPC minutes there is talk about a City land sale. He would like to get a list of property that they feel they can market better and not needed for City purposes and get them on the tax rolls. Maybe the best way to do it is to submit the list to the Planning Commission and ask for their recommendations. When they get something back from them they can try and set up a City land sale. Secondly he wanted to comment about the school board and Common Council meeting where they worked on the school budget. They don't know what the school funding will be from the State Legislature yet and in looking at their historical budget from 2005 to 2007 the district had a 23% increase in funding. They are now requesting an additional 7.7% of which 92% would come from the City as additional funds. He hasn't had any feedback from people in the community yet and how they feel about the school budget so if they are interested they should let them know. Lastly, they aren't going to get indicted for providing this brunch to the legislatures are they? C. Andersen responded as long as they invite everyone they're okay.

City Manager Romenesko commented that the City has looked at the land issue and they have a list. C. Brown commented that the Planning Commission has looked at the properties and didn't have any concerns that he knew. City Manager Romenesko stated the list can be provided at the next Planning Commission meeting.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Mayor Michels was in Juneau.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

-NOAA Loan Negotiations: Financial and Legal Strategies which may have an Adverse Affect upon the City Finances.

A motion was made by C. Knodel and seconded by C. Andersen to enter into executive session. The Council recessed from regular meeting at 8:15 P.M.

The Council reconvened the regular meeting at 8:53 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Knodel that the meeting be adjourned.

Hearing no objections the Nome City Council adjourned at 8:53 P.M.

SIGNED AND DATED the 11th day of June, 2007.



DENISE MICHELS, Mayor

ATTEST:



SANDY STURGIS-BABCOCK, City Clerk/Treasurer