

**MINUTES
NOME CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
December 3, 2008**

A special meeting of the Nome City Council was called to order at 12:05 P.M. by Mayor Denise Michels in the City of Nome's Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum located at 223 Front St.

ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: Neal Foster

Also Present: City Manager, Josie Bahnke; City Clerk, Sandy Babcock

In the audience: Jim West Jr., Utility Board Chairman; John Handeland,
Utility Manager; Laurie McNicholas, Nome Nugget; Laura
Samuelson, Museum Director; Bev Gelzer, Museum Assistant;
Reggie Bright, Lani Bright.

CITIZENS REQUESTS AND GRIEVANCES

Reggie Bright addressed the Council with a concern relating to continuing problems with an animal at large in his neighborhood. Despite repeated contact with the Animal Control Officer and the Police Department over a three year period, the problem persists and he believes an ordinance revision is necessary to provide additional tools to ACO and NPD to resolve the matter. The Mayor stated a draft ordinance has been prepared and encouraged Mr. and Mrs. Bright to contact the City Manager to receive a copy and provide additional information on their concerns, and that the ordinance change would be considered at a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. R-08-12-01 A Resolution of the City of Nome, Alaska, Disposing of its Right of Reverter and Reversionary Interest in Lot 11A, Block 74A

A motion was made by C. Pomeranz and seconded by C. Andersen to approve R-08-12-01.

Discussion

C. Pomeranz stated that he thought the City had removed all of the right of reverters.

C. Larson explained that they were waiting for zoning to pass and now that it has the right of reverter should be removed. Mayor Michels requested that the City Manager and City Clerk proceed with the removal of these reverter clauses.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Brown, Knodel, Larson, Pomeranz, Andersen

Nays:

The motion CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARING – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

The Mayor recessed the meeting at 12:05pm and convened a public hearing on the FFY 2008 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

The Utility Manager explained the State of Alaska, Department of Commerce Community and Economic Development, Division of Community and Regional Affairs, announced in September the availability of CDBG funds, and the deadline to apply is December 5, 2008. The City of Nome as an incorporated city and a community with a majority of low and moderate income persons is an eligible applicant. The maximum grant amount is \$850,000 and may be used for public facilities or planning activities to address issues detrimental to the health and safety of local residents and to reduce the cost of essential community services. A 25% match is required, which can be cash or in-kind. The City has adopted a Comprehensive Plan, and in this process, the Planning Commission has reviewed community development and housing needs. The City has been the recipient of previous CDBGs for small boat harbor development, power plant design, and is currently completing design work on the new Public Safety Building. A CDBG cannot be used to purchase equipment that is not attached to a building, with the exception of fire trucks.

The Utility Manager stated an application had been submitted last cycle to relocate power lines, but the application was returned as the Public Safety Building design was still in progress, so the City was not eligible. He stated the Utility was now pursuing FEMA mitigation funding for the relocation, and that in the ensuing time, there has been movement on the relocation of the Snake River Bridge. DOT has identified a new corridor for the bridge, and this may provide an additional alternate to address the power line issue.

So, the proposal is to apply for a CDBG this cycle to do site investigation and design a new facility to house utility response equipment and offices. Currently the Utility has two old Butler

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buildings that house line and water-sewer equipment, but as the community has grown, additional and larger equipment has become necessary and much of it must be stored outside. This causes premature deterioration and also delays response time during winter periods when the equipment must be thawed out before it can be used. The existing buildings are not well insulated and are expensive to heat. The Utility has been using a portion of the Port Garco Building, but this facility was needed back for port purposes, so equipment stored there has been moved outside. Additionally, with the new bridge routing going through City/Utility property, the Utility will need to rearrange buildings and storage yards to fit into a smaller footprint. A conceptual rendering of a new facility was circulated to the Council, media and citizens in attendance.

The Mayor called for any additional proposals from the community. Reggie Bright brought up a concern with drainage in his neighborhood and asked if the City had plans to construct aqueducts to alleviate the ponds. Upon further exchange, it was determined the drainage issue is a result of driveways constructed without culverts and it was suggested Mr. Bright should contact DOT. The Utility Manager clarified that the facility envisioned would be located somewhere in the area the Utility occupies now along Port Road. No other proposals were advanced by the public.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 12:20 pm.

- B. R-08-12-2 A Resolution authorizing the City of Nome through its component unit, Nome Joint Utility System, to participate in the FFY 2008 Community Development Block Grant Program for Site Investigation/Design Engineering for a Utility Maintenance & Response Equipment Storage and Office Facility for the Community of Nome.

C. Knodel inquired as to the source of matching funds. The Utility Manager stated \$50,000 had been included in a prior Utility capital budget, and additional match funds would be included in the new capital budget with some of the match being in-kind.

A motion was made by C. Pomeranz and seconded by C. Brown to approve R-08-12-02.

At the roll call:

Ayes: Brown, Andersen, Pomeranz, Knodel, Larson

Nays:

The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

~Labor Contract Negotiations

The Executive Session on labor contracts was withdrawn from the agenda pending additional information.

ADJOURNMENT

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

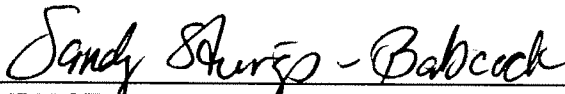
Hearing no objections the Nome City Council adjourned at 12:25 P.M.

SIGNED AND DATED the 8th day of December, 2008.



PRESIDING COUNCILMAN ANDERSEN

ATTEST:



SANDY STURGIS-BABCOCK, City Clerk/Treasurer