

Mayor
Richard Beneville
Manager
Glenn Steckman
Clerk
Bryant Hammond



Nome City Council
Jerald Brown
Doug Johnson
Mark Johnson
Adam Martinson
Jennifer Reader
Meghan Sigvanna Topkok

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**NOME COMMON COUNCIL
WORK SESSION & REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
MONDAY JANUARY 13 2020 @ 5:00 / 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

WORK SESSION – 5:00PM

NSEDC Community Benefits Shares

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**MINUTES
NOME CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Nome City Council was called to order at 7:06 PM by Mayor Beneville in Council Chambers of City Hall, located at 102 Division Street.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Jerald Brown; Doug Johnson; Mark Johnson; Adam Martinson; Jennifer Reader (Telephonic); Meghan Topkok

Members Absent:

Also Present: Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Bryant Hammond, City Clerk; Joy Baker, Port Director (telephonic); John Handeland, Utility Manager; Ken Morton, Assistant Utility Manager

In the audience: Emily Hofstaedter (KNOM); Sandra Medearis (Arctic News); Paul G. Kosto; James Ventress; Colleen Deighton; Ginny Emmons; Shane & Dani Smithhisler; Rhonda Schneider; Ken Hughes; Rob and Peggy Luce

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Beneville asked if there were any changes to the agenda.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. D. Johnson to approve the agenda.

At the roll call:

Aye: D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown;

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. December 9, 2019 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by C. D. Johnson and seconded by C. Martinson to approve the December 9, 2019 Minutes.

Discussion:

- Council Member Reader noted a small typo that should be corrected administratively.

At the roll call:

Aye: M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown; D. Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Letter of December 9, 2019 from AMCO to City of Nome re: Board of Trade Saloon Liquor License Renewal.
- B. Letter of December 9, 2019 from Roxanne Thurman and Keith Reddaway to Mayor Beneville & Common Council re: Support for Plastic Bag Ban.
 - Council Member Brown noted a work session was scheduled for the subject in February.
- C. Letter of December 11, 2019 from AMCO to City of Nome re: VFW Post 9569 Liquor License Renewal.
 - Council Member Brown requested input from the Chief of Police.
 - Chief Heintzelman noted that NPD did not have any issues with the establishments on the agenda seeking licensure.
- D. Letter of December 13, 2019 from Ariana Adams to Nome City Council re: Sexual Assault in Alaska.
- E. Letter of December 16, 2019 from Galen Gologergen to Council Member Topkok re: Increase NPD Funding.
- F. Letter of December 16, 2019 from Haley Osborne to Nome City Council re: Increase Support for NPD.
 - Council Member Brown expressed appreciation for the youth paying attention and being involved.
- G. Letter of December 27, 2019 from AMCO to City of Nome re: Mark's Soap & Suds Liquor License Renewal.
- H. Email of December 30, 2019 from Anna Ashenfelter to Clerk Hammond re: Wellness Conference February 19 – 21, 2020.
 - Council Member Reader asked if this communication had been forwarded to the Public Safety Advisory Commission.
 - Clerk Hammond explained it was queued up as a communication for the next commission meeting; though, he would email it if the commission doesn't meet before.
 - Mayor Beneville asked to be apprised of the meeting when it was scheduled.
- I. Army Corps of Engineers Press Release of December 31, 2019 re: Corps Seeking Public Comments on Draft Port of Nome Study.
- J. Letter of January 2, 2020 from Nome Public Schools to Nome City Council re: Consideration of Reallocating 2018 Community Benefits Share Award.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Brown to allow Nome Public Schools to use the \$1,350 identified for the 2019 Nome Mountain Summer Camp for Cross Country Expenses in 2019.

At the roll call:

Aye: Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown; D. Johnson; M. Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- K. Notice Received January 3, 2020 from Regulatory Commission of Alaska re: Notice of Utility Tariff Filing.
- Council Member Doug Johnson requested the City respond with comments. He compared the City of Nome's trash collection with practices in Anchorage, noting the service was cheaper and the trash cans were bigger.
 - Utility Manager Handeland explained the how Alaska Waste – Nome operated, how such a tariff filing typically worked and the contractual billing arrangement between NJUS and AWN.
- L. Letter of January 9, 2020 from AMCO to City of Nome re: Bering Sea Bar & Grill Liquor License Application.
- M. Letter of January 9, 2020 from Peters LLC to Nome Common Council re: Transfer of Taxicab Licenses.
- Council Member Brown requested the matter be brought forward in a resolution at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- N. Memo of January 9, 2019 from Clerk Hammond to Nome Common Council re: Late Filers.
- O. City of Nome FY 2021 Budget Calendar.
- Manager Steckman noted that he and the Mayor would not be present for the February 10 meeting.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- 1) Sandra Medearis commented on the tariff filing, noting that she took exception to Alaska Waste Nome wanting to charge an extra \$3.66 for bags that don't fit in the garbage can when the company sometimes doesn't pick up any garbage for several weeks. She requested the money back.
- 2) John Handeland thanked everyone involved in the fireworks display on January 4th, including the volunteer fire department, Randy Oles, Chris Williamson, Craig Teesateskie, Ken Morton, Bering Air, the Lion's Club, City of Nome, and NSEDC. Mr. Handeland noted that 8PM was a good start time and that the fireworks on New Year's Eve 2020 would likely start at 8PM.

PLANNING & ZONING

- A. September 10, 2019 Nome Planning Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.
- B. October 8, 2019 Nome Planning Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. R-20-01-01 A Resolution Authorizing the Amendment of the Axon Lease to Upgrade Taser Equipment.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Reader to adopt R-20-01-01.

Discussion:

- Manager Steckman explained the reasons for the upgrade and that the lease had already been acted upon.
- Council Member Brown asked if Axon was the same company that furnished NPD with body cams.
- Sergeant Harrison explained that it was; however, the equipment was handled under two separate contracts.
- Council Member Reader asked how we knew the current Tasers wouldn't work.
- Sergeant Harrison explained the current Tasers were not properly researched prior to purchase.

At the roll call:

Aye: Topkok; Brown; D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson;
Reader

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- B. R-20-01-02 Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a Wausau MP318 Loader Mount Snow Blower from Bob's Services, LLC.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. D. Johnson to adopt R-20-01-02.

Discussion:

- Council Member Mark Johnson asked if the amount on the resolution was the amount that was budgeted.
- Manager Steckman explained the purchase was budgeted in the FY20 budget and the current resolution is a housekeeping measure, ensuring the procurement policy is followed. He explained the equipment should arrive in Nome on the first barge.

At the roll call:

Aye: Brown; D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader;
Topkok

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- C. R-20-01-03 A Resolution Endorsing the Projects for the City of Nome's 2020 State Legislative Priorities.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok to adopt R-20-01-03.

Discussion:

- Council Member Reader expressed hesitation on including #6-Covered Multi-use Recreational Structure.
- Council Member Brown explained the City has been looking at this project for nearly a decade and will need to find a new rink location if the School's housing project progresses.
- Council Member Topkok expressed her appreciation for sexual assault and domestic violence issues being listed as the number one priority.

At the roll call:

Aye: D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader; Topkok;
Brown

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- D. R-20-01-04 A Resolution Endorsing Projects for the City of Nome's 2020 Federal Legislative Priorities.

A motion was made by C. Topkok and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt 20-01-04.

At the roll call:

Aye: M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown; D.
Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- E. R-20-01-05 A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement with GCSIT Solutions for Managed IT Services for the City of Nome.

A motion was made by C. Topkok and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt R-20-01-05.

Discussion:

- Manager Steckman explained the GCSIT was the organization that kept the City's computer system up and running.

At the roll call:

Aye: Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown; D. Johnson; M. Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Activity Report: December 10, 2019 – January 10, 2020.

- Assistant Manager Morton explained that the Airport Block 20 purchase had been completed at the end of 2019. He noted that NJUS was completing union agreements and that the Council should expect to see them either on the 27th or the 10th. Assistant Manager Morton discussed recent line crew activities, noted the lineman apprentice position was open and that Toby Shield had retired. He concluded that a recent test showed no PFAS traces in the City water supply.
- Manager Handeland noted that he was happy to be back in his own chair responding to Utility related phone calls again. He noted the Council made a good choice in hiring Mr. Steckman.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Activity Report: December 10, 2019 – January 10, 2020.

- Manager Steckman presented his written report. He thanked John Handeland for his assistance over the previous weeks and Chip Leeper for acting as City Manager in his absence over the holidays. He apprised the Council on recent preparedness meetings with the Division of Public Health and recognized NPD's professionalism in dealing with several recent dangerous situations. He finished by noted that departmental reports would be forthcoming monthly, starting in the 2nd quarter of 2020.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

1. Rhonda Schneider thanked the Council for considering the NSEDC Community Benefits Share requests from the community. She noted that, of the 16 applicant organizations, Nome Community Center partners with 10 of them. She didn't envy their difficult decision, but explained that the community worked together so well, that whatever the Council's decision, it would have a positive impact on the community.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- 1) Council Member Reader expressed appreciation for youth writing letters about Nome issues. She asked about the timelines for the hiring of a planner / grant writer, the Finance Director and the Police Chief. She followed up on the status of staff researching over the counter land sales and requested that the City put out a PSA of some sort concerning trapping in City Limits and the fox population increase this winter.
 - Manager Steckman explained the application periods for the Finance Director and Police Chief were soon ending and that he would focus on filling the planner position after the other two vacancies were addressed.

- 2) Council Member Topkok expressed her appreciation for youth getting engaged in local issues. She described mixed feelings over them responding to issues of sexual assault and domestic violence, hoping the topic doesn't scare people away. Council Member Topkok expressed appreciation for NPD.
- 3) Council Member Brown requested options presented to the Council on how the City might negotiate with Alaska Waste Nome. He noted that it was a big year for foxes across the state and described the compromise between the trapping and pet-walking communities enshrined in the City of Nome trapping ordinance. He noted the rules were available at City Hall. Council Member Brown ended by expressing his appreciation for NPD, acknowledging that it was a difficult job, and hoping that the budget cycle ahead would help.
- 4) Council Member Doug Johnson - no comments.
- 5) Council Member Mark Johnson thanked Chief Heintzleman and Sergeant Harrison for their hard work, noting that he had been receiving a lot of feedback regarding NPD lately. He welcomed the Luce's purchase of Mr. Kab and opined the beach walkway proposed for NSEDC was a good idea. He noted that he would not be in town for the January 27 meeting, but opined that youth programs should be the priority for NSEDC funds.
- 6) Council Member Martinson thanked all the applicants for their ideas on allocating the NSEDC Community Benefits Share.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

- A. Activity Report: December 10, 2019 – January 10, 2020.
 - Mayor Beneville thanked Rhonda Scheider and Chief Heintzleman for their hard work. He noted a positive change in the feel of the relationship between NPD and the community. Mayor Beneville noted that he would be traveling to DC with the Manager and the Port Director to discuss the City's federal legislative priorities.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. D. Johnson that the meeting be adjourned.

Hearing no objections, the Nome Common Council adjourned at 8:36 PM

APPROVED and SIGNED this 27th day of January 2020.



JERALD BROWN
Acting Mayor

ATTEST:



BRYANT HAMMOND
City Clerk