Mayor Richard Beneville

Manager Glenn Steckman

ClerkBryant Hammond



Nome City Council

Jerald Brown

Doug Johnson

Mark Johnson

Adam Martinson

Jennifer Reader

Meghan Sigvanna Topkok

102 Division St. • P.O. Box 281 Nome, Alaska 99762 Phone (907) 443-6663 Fax (907) 443-5345

NOME COMMON COUNCIL WORK SESSION & REGULAR MEETING AGENDA MONDAY JANUARY 27 2020 @ 5:30 / 7:00 PM COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL

WORK SESSION - 5:30PM (Separate Packet)

5:30 - FY 2019 Audit Results

6:30 - Excise Taxes and Revenue

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MINUTES NOME CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 27, 2020

The regular meeting of the Nome City Council was called to order at 7:04 PM by Acting Mayor Jerald Brown in Council Chambers of City Hall, located at 102 Division Street.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Jerald Brown; Doug Johnson (Telephonic); Mark Johnson (Telephonic);

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; Mike Heintzleman, NPD Chief

In the audience:

Emily Hofstaedter (KNOM); Diana Haecker (Nome Nugget); Molly

Kenick; Ken Hughes; Derek McLarty; Charlene Saclamana; Lisa Ellanna;

Maya Brandt; Samantha Longo

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Acting Mayor Brown asked if there were any changes to the agenda.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok 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. January 13, 2020 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok to approve the January 13, 2020 Minutes.

At the roll call:

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

Johnson

Nay: Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Letter of December 30, 2019 from Nome Eskimo Community to Manager Steckman re: Road Maintenance Funds.
- B. Letter of January 20, 2020 from Nome Animal House to Nome City Council re: NSEDC Community Benefits Share Funding.
- C. Letter of January 20, 2020 from Manager Steckman to Regulatory Commission of Alaska re: Tariff Filing TA42-655.
 - Council Members Reader and Topkok asked if administration expected a reply and when.
 - Manager Steckman explained the RCA acknowledged receipt and that he would be following the issue.
- D. Letter of January 21, 2020 from Manager Steckman to Director Martinson re: Appreciation of Partnership between City and NEC.
 - Council Member Brown stated his appreciation for the opportunity to collaborate with NEC.
- E. Letter of January 23, 2020 from Charlene Saclamana to Nome Common Council re: LEPC Funding.
- F. Letter of January 24, 2020 from AK DOT&PF to Mayor Beneville re: Northern Region ADA Improvements.
 - Council Member Reader asked if NJUS would be upgrading utilities concurrently with the proposed project and if the City needed to address the comments regarding the Nome Historic District map.
 - Council Member Brown requested the matter be referred to the Planning Commission.
- G. City of Nome Budget Calendar.
 - Manager Steckman requested and the Council agreed to reschedule the February 10 Regular Meeting to February 17.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- 1) Derek McLarty spoke to the upcoming Port Tariff Ordinance whereby Port fees would be increased by 10%. He noted there was a good deal of debate and the commission compromised by agreeing to designate 100% of the increase for repair and maintenance of the facility, with the money staying at the Port. He contended that the Port was a major driver of taxable goods and services and that the tariff did not provide a full picture of revenue to the City of Nome.
 - Manager Steckman explained what an enterprise fund was and that all tariff funds stay at the Port. He noted taxes contributed to the general fund.
- 2) Lisa Ellanna read a letter mourning the passing of LaVerne Ashenfelter, highlighting her service to the community of Nome and the greater Bering Strait Region.

- 3) Samantha Longo introduced herself as Nome Youth Court Director and Law Clerk for the Alaska Courts in Nome.
- 4) Charlene Saclamana requested the Council's support for the LEPC. She explained the history of the organization, the plans it had produced and the funding from the State. She invited the Council to an upcoming table top exercise to see the LEPC in action.
- 5) Ken Hughes spoke to one of Mr. McLarty's comments, saying the Port doesn't directly benefit from sales tax. He went on to recommend that the Council adopt R-20-01-06 as presented, explaining Nome's youth appeared well cared for.

NEW BUSINESS

A. O-20-01-01 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2020 General Fund Municipal Budget, **FIRST READING / DISCUSSION.**

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok to advance 0-20-01-01.

At the roll call:

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

Nay: Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.

B. O-20-01-02 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2020 School Debt Service Fund Budget, **FIRST READING / DISCUSSION**.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok to advance 0-20-01-02.

At the roll call:

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

Nay: Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

C. O-20-01-03 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2020 Special Revenue Fund Budget, FIRST READING / DISCUSSION.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok to advance 0-20-01-03.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

D. O-20-01-04 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2020 Capital Projects Fund Budget, FIRST READING / DISCUSSION.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok to advance 0-20-01-04.

At the roll call:

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

Nay: Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.

E. O-20-01-05 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2020 Port of Nome Fund Budget, FIRST READING / DISCUSSION.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok to advance 0-20-01-05.

At the roll call:

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

Nay: Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.

F. O-20-01-06 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2020 Port of Nome Capital Projects Fund Budget, **FIRST READING / DISCUSSION.**

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok to advance 0-20-01-06.

At the roll call:

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

Nay: Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

G. R-20-01-06 A Resolution Allocating the 2019 NSEDC End-Year Community Benefit Share Funds.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok to adopt R-20-01-06.

A motion was made by C. Reader to amend R-20-01-06 by changing the allocation to Iron Dog to \$10,000, Paws of Nome to \$8,487, Bering Sea Lions Club to \$5,000, LEPC to \$0.00, Bering Wellness to \$10,000, Nome Eskimo Community to \$0.00, Checkpoint Youth Center to \$13,500, the Nome Northstar Swim Team to \$10,000, and add the Library at \$2,919 and the Bering Sea Women's Group at \$13,000.

The motion to amend **FAILED** for lack of a second.

Discussion:

- Council Member Mark Johnson declared a potential conflict of interest, explaining the resolution named several clients of his.
- Presiding Council Member Brown ruled the potential conflict was not significant enough to preclude Council Member Mark Johnson from voting and asked him to vote on the question.
- Council Member Reader opined that it wasn't appropriate for the City to be providing funding for a service that competes with cab companies' provision of the same service. She noted that she was saddened to see the Bering Sea Women's Group was not included in the presented resolution.
- Council Member Topkok explained that BSWG had an avenue through grant funding to replace their computers.
- Council Member Brown opined that a denial for the specific request to replace computer doesn't preclude allocating funding in general through the budgetary process.

A motion was made by C. Reader to amend R-20-01-06 by increasing the allocation to Iron Dog to \$10,000, Paws of Nome to \$8,487, Bering Sea Lions Club to \$5,000, Bering Wellness to \$10,000, Checkpoint Youth Center to \$13,500, Nome Northstar Swim Team to \$10,000, Library to \$2,919, LEPC to \$17,819, and decreasing NEC to \$0.00 and NPS Outdoor Activities to \$6,525.

The motion to amend **FAILED** for lack of a second.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. M. Johnson to amend R-20-01-06 by increasing the allocation to Iron Dog by \$5,000 and decreasing the allocation to NEC by the same.

Discussion:

- Council Member Reader argued the Iron Dog was a morale booster, a tradition and good for kids.
- Council Member Brown recalled the funding used to be hard coded into the budget.

At the roll call:

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

Nay: Martinson; Topkok

Abstain:

The motion to amend CARRIED.

A motion was made by C. Reader to amend R-20-01-06 by increasing the allocation to Paws of Nome by \$4,487 and decreasing the allocation to NEC by the same.

The motion to amend **FAILED** for lack of a second.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. M. Johnson to amend R-20-01-06 by increasing the allocation to the Bering Sea Lions Club by \$2,000 and decreasing the allocation to NEC by the same.

Discussion:

- Council Member Mark Johnson and Reader agreed the Nome-Golovin race was positive for youth.

At the roll call:

Aye: M. Johnson; Reader

Nay: Martinson; Topkok; Brown; D. Johnson

Abstain:

The motion to amend FAILED.

A motion was made by C. Reader to amend R-20-01-06 by increasing the allocation to Bering Wellness by \$2,137.78 and decreasing the allocation to NEC by the same.

The motion **FAILED** for lack of a second.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. M. Johnson to amend R-20-01-06 by increasing the allocation to Checkpoint Youth Center by \$3,000 and decreasing the allocation to NEC by the same.

Discussion:

- Council Member Mark Johnson opined that he supports NEC, but in terms of dividing the NSEDC funds, he felt NEC had greater access to grant funding.
- Council Member Brown noted they could fund the bus out of the road maintenance funds offered to the City.

At the roll call:

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

Nay: Abstain:

The motion to amend CARRIED.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. M. Johnson to amend R-20-01-06 by increasing the allocation to Nome Northstar Swim Team by \$5,000 and decreasing the allocation to NEC by the same.

Discussion:

- Council Member Martinson suggested decreasing the pool fees through the budget.
- Manager Steckman noted the funds would come out of the legislative donations line or the Council could make an amendment at second reading.

The motion to amend was withdrawn.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. M. Johnson to amend R-20-01-06 by increasing the allocation to the Library by \$2,919 and decreasing the allocation to NSEDC by the same.

Discussion:

- Council Member Martinson suggested the Library be funded through the City budget process.
- Manager Steckman explained the Library Director withdrew the funding request.

The motion to amend was withdrawn.

Returning to the main motion:

At the roll call:

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

Nay: Reader Abstain:

The motion, as amended, CARRIED.

H. R-20-01-07 A Resolution Approving the Labor Agreement Between Nome Joint Utility System and the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 302 Through December 31, 2022.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok to adopt R-20-01-07.

Discussion:

- Utility Manager Handeland explained the history of union agreements at NJUS, the unions currently active at the Utility and referred the Council to the appendices as areas of revision. He noted changes to salary, health insurance caps, retirement, sick leave and a small change with converting sick leave to personal leave. He recommended Council approval.

At the roll call:

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

Nay: Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.

I. R-20-01-08 A Resolution Approving the Labor Agreement Between Nome Joint Utility System and the Alaska Public Employees Association (APEA/AFT) Through December 31, 2022.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok to adopt R-20-01-08.

At the roll call:

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

Nay: Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.

J. R-20-01-09 A Resolution Awarding the Engineering & Contract Administration Services for the Nome Inner Harbor Launch Ramp Replacement Project to Bristol Engineering Services Company, LLC.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok to adopt R-20-01-09.

Discussion:

 Port Director Baker explained the funding breakdown, bid process and the schedule moving forward.

At the roll call:

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

Nay: Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.

K. R-20-01-10 A Resolution Approving the Transfer of Three Taxi Licenses from Peters LLC to Kateel Enterprises, LLC.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Topkok to adopt R-20-01-10.

At the roll call:

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

Nay: Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

L. R-20-01-11 A Resolution Adopting the Results of the Fiscal Year 2019 Audit Performed by Altman, Rogers & Co.

A motion was made by C. Topkok and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt R-20-01-11.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.

M. R-20-01-12 A Resolution Authorizing the City of Nome to Apply for and Participate in the FY 2020 Alaska Homeland Security and Emergency Management State Homeland Security Program Grant.

A motion was made by C. Topkok and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt R-20-01-12.

Discussion:

- Council Member Mark Johnson explained he fully supported the resolution, that it was good or Nome and the region.
- Council Member Reader asked if it was the same grant that was declined the previous year.
- Manager Steckman explained it was the same funding source but that there were differences with the current submission.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Topkok to amend R-20-01-12 by replacing "\$315,327.35" with "not to exceed \$320,000" in the final sentence.

At the roll call:

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

Brown Nay: Abstain:

The motion to amend CARRIED.

Returning to the main motion

- Council Member Brown asked if the City needed every item requested.
- Manager Steckman explained the items were requested by NPD and NVFD and that he did not see an issue.

At the roll call:

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

Topkok Nay: Abstain:

The motion, as amended, CARRIED.

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Activity Report: January 14 January 24, 2020.
 - Manager Handeland presented his verbal report, noting that the Utility Board adopted a budget and that it would be forwarded for the next Council Meeting, along with the recently adopted audit.

- Assistant Manager Morton highlighted Utility response to three water leaks, discussions with the United States Air Force regarding the conveyance of Airport Block 20, and working with contractors to extend services.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Activity Report: January 14 January 24, 2020.
 - Manager Steckman presented his written report. He noted ongoing discussion with Nome Public Schools concerning operations management of the pool, explaining the goal sought was an agreement or MOA on paper. Manager Steckman announced nomeanimalcontrol@gmail.com as a way to contact the Animal Control Officer. He finished by explaining Port finances vis-à-vis revenue, rates and grants, noting that there might be other options at first reading to allocate the 10 percent to the Port fund.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- 1) Samantha Longo expressed gratitude for the City supporting Youth Court and youth programs.
- 2) Molly Kenick presented a calculation in which the City could levy an excise tax on alcohol and provided an example.
- 3) Ken Hughes spoke in support of a potential incinerator project at the Port of Nome, saying it was well worth pursuing if it could extend the life of the sanitary landfill, whereby funds being saved for a new landfill could be designated to other projects.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- 1) Council Member Mark Johnson thanked John Handeland and Glenn Steckman for their efforts in keeping the City safe, explaining that he thanked the officers at the last meeting, but was remiss in thanking the former and current managers.
- 2) Council Member Martinson no comments.
- 3) Council Member Reader hope that Mayor Beneville was doing ok and said that Nickie Crowe deserved a pat on the back for all her work in the budget and audit over the past few months.
- 4) Council Member Topkok explained she was excited to see the youth representative to the Council get started. She noted that some communities funded their LEPCs through hazardous material storage and movement fees.
- 5) Council Member Brown suggested a suggestion box for the City Manager.
 - Manager Steckman explained his door was always open and that he would like to hear citizen and staff suggestions.
- 6) Council Member Doug Johnson no comments.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

A. Activity Report: January 14 – January 24, 2020.

- Council Member Brown read a statement sent from Richard via email, explaining that he was recovering well, but not fast enough for his liking.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Hearing no objections, the Nome Common Council adjourned at 8:58 PM

APPROVED and SIGNED this 17th day of February 2020.

JERALD BROWN Acting Mayor

ATTEST:

BRYANT HAMMOND

City Clerk