

**Mayor**  
Richard Beneville

**Interim Manager**  
John K. Handeland

**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  
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA  
MONDAY OCTOBER 7, 2019 @ 5:30 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

- I. ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- III. CITIZENS' COMMENTS
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. Executive Session on Police Department Issues that Immediate Knowledge of Which Could Have an Adverse Effect on City Finances,  
**VERBAL**
- XIV. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES  
NOME CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
OCTOBER 7, 2019**

The special meeting of the Nome City Council was called to order at 5:31 PM by Mayor Beneville in Council Chambers of City Hall located at 102 Division St.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Jerald Brown; Mark Johnson; Jennifer Reader; Meghan Topkok

Members Absent:

Also Present: Richard Beneville, Mayor; John Handeland, City Manager; Bryant Hammond, City Clerk; Bob Estes, Police Chief

In the audience: Sandra Medearis (Arctic News); Tehya Tucker; Andrew Miller; Henrik Brandt; Lisa Ellanna; Jake Kenick; Molly Kenick; Anna Ashenfelter

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

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

At the roll call:

Aye: M. Johnson; Reader; Topkok; Brown

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

- 1) Lisa Ellanna expressed hope that NPD receives the attention and staffing it needs to do their jobs.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Executive Session on Police Department Issues that Immediate Knowledge of Which Could Have an Adverse Effect on City Finances.
  - Chief Estes and Manager Handeland reviewed the packet of NPD statistics with the Common Council.
  - Council Member Reader expressed concern over the two on / two off schedule, opining that police who don't live in the town are less invested in its well being.
  - Council Member Brown expressed concern that an audit by the insurance company's police professional consultant would affect the City's insurance premium.

- Council Member Mark Johnson expressed concern over the hiring of family members in the Police Department.

Mayor Beneville solicited additional comments from Citizens present:

- 1) Henrik Brandt commented on sexual assault case statistics, comparing the period 2005- 2008 and 2008 – 2018.
- 2) Lisa Ellanna stated that the statistics were helpful and that NPD needs more staff to do their jobs. She opined that two on / two off schedules were not good for the community. She argued that when people behave badly there needs to be accountability. Ignoring discipline sets a bad precedent. Ms. Ellanna discussed examples of the Department of Justice taking over municipal police departments and suggested the City contact Tom Tremblay, who worked with Missoula, MT on similar issues.
- 3) Molly Kenick asked if she could start a school club assisting the City Council with a youth perspective. She explained that the youth's perspective is important because the youth will be alive longer. She expressed appreciation for the NPD officers talking with students at school.
  - Mayor Beneville requested a one page proposal detailing her request.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. M. Johnson to enter into executive session to discuss police department issues that immediate knowledge of which could have an adverse effect on City finances.

The Council went into executive session at 7:13 PM.

The Council came out of executive session at 10:50 PM.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Brown that the meeting be adjourned.

Hearing no objections, the Nome Common Council adjourned at 10:51 PM.

**APPROVED and SIGNED** this 14<sup>th</sup> Day of October, 2019

  
**RICHARD BENEVILLE**  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**



**BRYANT HAMMOND**  
City Clerk