

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

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 SEPTEMBER 23, 2019 @ 5:30 / 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

WORK SESSION

Abatement
PAGE 1

I. **ROLL CALL**

II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. September 9, 2019 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes,
PAGE 21

IV. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Letter of September 7, 2019 from Mary Ann Morse to Mayor Beneville re: A Wonderful Experience,
PAGE 27
- B. Letter of September 16, 2019 from Bering Sea Women's Group to City of Nome re: Domestic Violence Awareness Month,
PAGE 29
- C. Flier re: The Child Behind the Eyes Performance September 27 at the Elementary School,
PAGE 31
- D. Flier re: Tahirih Talk and Dramatic Presentation September 28 at the Katirvik Cultural Center,
PAGE 35
- E. Flier re: Tribal Justice Summit September 30 – October 3 at the Mini Convention Center,
PAGE 37
- F. Flier re: Nome Planning Commission Open House October 9 at Old St. Joe's,
PAGE 39

V. **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

VI. **PLANNING & ZONING**

VII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

VIII. NEW BUSINESSIX. UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Activity Report: September 10 – September 20 , 2019
PAGE 41

X. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Activity Report: September 10 – September 20 , 2019,
VERBAL
- B. 19-08-15 Nome Port Commission Regular Meeting Minutes,
PAGE 43

XI. CITIZENS' COMMENTSXII. COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTSXIII. MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

- A. Activity Report: September 10 – September 20 , 2019,
VERBAL
- B. Planning Commission Seat C,
PAGE 47

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Discussion of Confidential Personnel Matters Relating to the City Manager Search,
VERBAL

XV. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES
NOME CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Nome City Council was called to order at 7:00 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 (7:27 PM)
Jennifer Reader; Meghan Topkok

Members Absent:

Also Present: John Handeland, Interim City Manager; Bryant Hammond City Clerk;
Ken Morton, Assistant Utility Manager; David Barron, Building Inspector

In the audience: Emily Hofstaedter (KNOM); Sandra Medearis (Arctic News); Andrew C.
Lee; Paul G. Kosto; Ivory Okleasik; Heidi Okleasik; Joe Fletcher; Austin
Ahmasuk; Jared Wiggins; Dani Smithhisler

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.
Topkok to approve the agenda.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. M.
Johnson to approve the September 9, 2019 Minutes.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Letter of September 7, 2019 from Mary Ann Morse to Mayor Beneville re: A Wonderful Experience.
- B. Letter of September 16, 2019 from Bering Sea Women's Group to City of Nome re: Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. D. Johnson to approve Bering Sea Women's Group's request.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- C. Flier re: The Child Behind the Eyes Performance September 27 at the Elementary School.
- D. Flier re: Tahirih Talk and Dramatic Presentation September 28 at the Katirvik Cultural Center.
- E. Flier re: Tribal Justice Summit September 30 – October 3 at the Mini Convention Center.
- F. Flier re: Nome Planning Commission Open House October 9 at Old St. Joe's.
 - Manager Handeland noted that information on the permitting process would be available.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- 1) Ivory Okleasik requested more port expansion information on the agenda and opined it should be put to a region-wide vote. She explained statistics portraying Western Alaska as the worst region in the country in terms of suicide and encouraged the Council to look into suicide prevention efforts as well as attend undoing racism training. Ms. Okleasik also raised an issue over the Two Eskimo Boys statue asking why school children had to raise the funds to pay for it.
- 2) Joseph Fletcher spoke out against fluoridation of the city's water supply claiming fluoride was produced through aluminum smelting, used by the Nazis and causes osteoporosis. He claimed the American Medical Association now endorses studies Mr. Fletcher himself had previously cited in speaking against fluoride.

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Activity Report: September 10 – September 20, 2019
 - Assistant Manager Morton presented his written report.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Activity Report: September 10 – September 20 , 2019

- Manager Handeland presented his report asking the Council to speak with the Clerk about going to AML and noting an upcoming work session on NPD statistics.
- Council Member Doug Johnson asked about the backlog of sexual assault cases.
- Manager Handeland explained the department currently had one investigator and was focusing on the current caseload before moving onto older cases.
- Chief Estes explained that NPD was preparing an assessment for the Council, noting they had uncovered issues. He noted that Nome was the first department that received all the sexual assault kits back through the SAKI program.
- Council Member Brown expressed interest in the Youth Facility building getting surplus by the State of Alaska and asked staff to look into digital packet distribution. He also requested staff bring forward the youth representative ordinance by the end of October as well as look into the Two Eskimo Boys statue issues Ms. Okleasik brought up.
- Council Member Reader encouraged other council members to attend AML as it was a good learning experience.
- Council Member Topkok asked staff to look into how native history is presented in Nome.
- Council Member Brown asked staff to put the most recent information on the port expansion onto the website.

B. 19-08-15 Nome Port Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- 1) Emily Hofstaedter suggested monuments as a way of celebrating history throughout town and suggested the City discuss youth civic involvement with social studies teacher Blankenship at the middle school.
- 2) Jared Wiggins asked if bartenders were ever held accountable for over-serving bar patrons. He related recent experiences involving a fight and sexual assault in which alcohol was involved.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- 1) Council Member Reader clarified the requests Ms. Okleasik made at the first Citizens' Comments. She asked Chief Estes how a citizen might report a TAM card or AS 4 violation.
 - The Chief asked citizens to contact NPD and relate specific details including behavior, appearance, and amount consumed etc.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. M. Johnson to hold an abatement hearing on October 8, 2019 at 5:30PM.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- 2) Council Member Topkok stated that she had heard stories of bartenders being forced to overserve by bar owners and to hold the owners accountable. She stated she was looking forward to seeing what the Public Safety Commission does.
- 3) Council Member Brown – no comments.
- 4) Council Member Doug Johnson – no comments.
- 5) Council Member Mark Johnson stated he was looking forward to a work session with the police department and thanked Ms. Okleasik for bringing issues to the Council. He reminded everyone to vote at the upcoming municipal election on October 1.
- 6) Council Member Martinson – no comments.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

A. Activity Report: September 10 – September 20, 2019.

B. Planning Commission Seat C.

- Mayor Beneville re-appointed John to Planning Commission Seat C.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. D. Johnson to confirm Mayor Beneville's appointment.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Topkok to enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters relating to the City Manager search.

The Council entered into executive session at 8:35 PM.

The Council reconvened at 10:07 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Hearing no objections, the Nome Common Council
adjourned at 10:07 PM

APPROVED and **SIGNED** this 14th day of October 2019.



RICHARD BENEVILLE
Mayor

ATTEST:



BRYANT HAMMOND
City Clerk