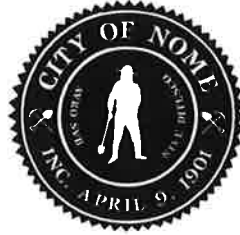


Mayor
Richard Beneville
Interim Manager
John K. Handeland
Clerk
Bryant Hammond



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

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**NOME COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
MONDAY JUNE 24, 2019 @ 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

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 - D. 0-19-06-02 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2020 City of Nome School Debt Service Fund Budget,
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X. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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XII. COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS

XIII. MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

A. Activity Report: June 11 – June 21, 2019

VERBAL

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XV. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES
NOME CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
June 24, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Nome City Council was called to order at 7:02 PM by Acting Mayor Brown in Council Chambers of City Hall, located at 102 Division Street.

ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: Doug Johnson (excused)

Also Present: Richard Beneville, Mayor (late); John Handeland, Interim City Manager; Bryant Hammond City Clerk; Ken Morton, Assistant Utility Manager; Julie Liew, Finance Director

In the audience: Emily Hofstaedter (KNOM); Sandra Medearis (Arctic News); Ralph Ray; Ken Hughes; Dani Smithhisler; Andrew Lee; Paul G. Kosto;

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. June 10, 2019 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Topkok to approve the June 10, 2019 minutes.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Press Release of June 14, 2019 re: Carrie M. McLain Museum Awarded Grant from Museums Alaska.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- 1) Paul Kosto, President of the Nome Chamber of Commerce, spoke regarding R-19-06-01 and the contract to run the Visitor's Center. He noted the City's fiscal situation but explained that at \$175,000 per year, the operation of the Visitors' Center was still being subsidized by the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Kosto noted current projects and challenges and requested the Council consider fully funding the Visitors' Center operations.
 - Council Member Brown suggested increasing the budget and negotiating the contract.
 - Manager Handeland requested time to negotiate with Mr. Kosto.
 - Mr. Kosto noted the next board meeting of the Chamber was July 10.
- 2) Ken Hughes thanked the City and State for their efforts on controlling dust in Nome, explaining he can see the difference. However, there's still work to be done, he contended.
 - Manager Handeland asked the citizenry to drive a little slower, noting the substantial difference in kicked up dust when the hospital put in speed bumps in its parking lot.

PLANNING & ZONING

- A. 19-05-07 Nome Planning Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. 0-19-03-01 An Ordinance Amending Section 17.20.020 Exemptions, **SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE.**

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:25 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:25 PM.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. Topkok to adopt 0-19-03-01.

Discussion:

- Council Member Brown explained that the City of Nome is a gold rush culture within the context of a culture thousands of years old and contended that subsistence activity should be recognized as important – this exemption is one small way of doing so.
- Council Member Reader didn't disagree but stated she didn't like the verbiage of the ordinance and didn't want to take a piecemeal approach to revising tax policy.
- Council Member Mark Johnson suggested the Council could do away with the business personal property tax altogether and accomplish the revenue through other means.
- Manager Handeland complicated conversation by asking how the ordinance should define subsistence use and what percentage of subsistence use of the property would allow for the exemption.

- Council Member Topkok agreed with Council Member Brown, stating this would be a small break to those that rely on subsistence. She expressed concern that further postponement of the ordinance would cause it to get lost in the shuffle.
- Council Member Mark Johnson noted the Council had agreed to push the ordinance a future agenda and not get too focused on it.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. M. Johnson to postpone **SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE** of O-19-03-01 to the August 26, 2019 Regular Meeting.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- B. Memos of May 23, 2019 and May 29, 2019 from Finance Director Liew to Mayor Beneville and Common Council re: Proposed 2020 City of Nome Budgets.
- C. O-19-06-01 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2020 City of Nome General Fund Municipal Budget and Exercising the Power to Assess and Authorize the Levy of a General Property Tax, **SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE**.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:43 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:43 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-19-06-01.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. M. Johnson to amend O-19-06-01 to increase the City of Nome's contribution to the Nome Preschool Association from \$65,000 to \$75,000.

Discussion:

- Council Member Reader asked if the increase was sustainable, given the likelihood of the preschool asking for the same allocation next year.

At the roll call:

Aye: Brown; M. Johnson; Topkok

Nay: Martinson; Reader

Abstain:

The motion to amend **FAILED**.

Returning to the main motion:

At the roll call:

Aye: Topkok; Brown; M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader
Nay:
Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- D. O-19-06-02 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2020 City of Nome School Debt Service Fund Budget, **SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE**.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:47 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:47 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-19-06-02.

At the roll call:
Aye: M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown
Nay:
Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- E. O-19-06-03 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2020 City of Nome Special Revenue Fund Budget, **SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE**.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:48 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:48 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-19-06-03.

At the roll call:
Aye: M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown
Nay:
Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- F. O-19-06-04 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2020 City of Nome Capital Projects Fund Budget, **SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE**.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:49 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:49 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-19-06-04.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- G. O-19-06-05 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2020 City of Nome Construction Capital Projects Fund Budget, **SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE**.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:50 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:50 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-19-06-05.

Discussion:

- Council Member Brown asked if \$270,000 was sufficient for the ACSA bathroom remodel project.
- Manager Handeland noted the project would likely cost \$300,000 plus, though would probably come back as a budget amendment and occur next summer break.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- H. O-19-06-06 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, Adopt the FY 2020 City of Nome Port of Nome Fund Budget, **SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE**.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:52 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:52 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-19-06-06.

Discussion:

- Manager Handeland alerted the Council to staff reports detailing needed emergency repairs with budget implications.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- I. O-19-06-07 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2020 City of Nome Port of Nome Capital Projects Fund Budget, **SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE**.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at: 7:54 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:54 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-19-06-07.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- J. O-19-06-08 An Ordinance Amending Section 2.15.070 of the Nome Code of Ordinances, Changing "Councilmen" to "Council Members," **SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE**.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:55 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:55 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Topkok to adopt O-19-06-08.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. R-19-06-01 A Resolution Approving a Contract Between the Nome Chamber of Commerce and the City of Nome for Operation of the Nome Convention and Visitors' Bureau.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to postpone R-19-06-01 to the July 8, 2019 Regular Meeting.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion to postpone **CARRIED**.

- B. R-19-06-02 A Resolution Approving a Contract with Legislative Consultants in Alaska (LCIA) for State Lobbying Services for the Fiscal Year 2020.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt R-19-06-02.

Discussion:

- Manager Handeland explained that Wendy Chamberlain had been a strong proponent for Nome for at least a decade and recommended continuing the same contractual terms for another year. He explained the expenses were split by the City and Port 25 / 75 respectively. He recommended the same for Jay Sterne of Windward Strategies.
- Council Member Mark Johnson agreed and expressed his support for contract renewal; he requested that contracts in question also be provided with their respective resolutions.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- C. R-19-06-03 A Resolution Approving a Contract with Windward Strategies for Federal Lobbying Services for the Fiscal Year 2020.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Topkok to adopt R-19-06-03.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- D. R-19-06-04 A Resolution Approving the City of Nome's FY 2020 Schedule of Rental and Use Fees and Fines.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt R-19-06-04.

Discussion:

- Manager Handeland noted that changes were limited to specifying a price for weekend burials.
- Council Member Reader noted transient merchant sales tax licenses were \$250 a day in February and March and asked why.

- Manager Handeland explained the reasoning behind the “fox hat” policy.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Activity Report: June 11 – June 21, 2019.
 - Assistant Utility Manager Morton presented his written report.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Activity Report: June 11 – June 21, 2019.
 - Manager Handeland presented his verbal report noting Midnight Sun Festival and Richard Beneville Day highlights, a Police Officer offer of employment tendered, an update on the cemetery and the great job Paul Kudla has been doing, and congratulations to Barb Amarok, the new director of UAF – Northwest Campus. He finished by detailing the emergency repairs needed at the Westgold Dock at the Port.
 - Port Director Baker further explained the split discovered in the sheet pile and the expense and logistics the Port was facing to address the situation.
 - Council Member Mark Johnson asked where the funds would come from.
 - Finance Director Liew explained the expenses were not yet in the budget and would show up as a mid-year amendment. She gave an overview on the fund balances of both the general fund and the port budget.
 - Manager Handeland explained that the sheet pile docks were reaching the end of their life expectancy and that the City could expect larger repairs in the future.
 - Council Member Mark Johnson requested that balance sheets for the general fund and port fund be presented to the Council on a quarterly basis, explaining the information will be needed for the Council to take a deep dive into the budget.
 - Council Member Brown requested the NPD body camera policy be presented in a council packet. He also requested follow up on the over-the-counter property sales ordinance.
 - Manager Handeland explained there were no property disposals scheduled for the next fiscal year and that the current ordinance draft was different than what Council Member Brown was requesting.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- 1) Sandra Medearis asked what was going on with the City Manager search.
 - Mayor Beneville explained the City was still moving forward.
 - Ms. Medearis characterized the matter as a broken record without sound.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- 1) Council Member Brown – no comments.

- 2) Council Member M. Johnson – no comments.
- 3) Council Member Martinson – no comments.
- 4) Council Member Reader asked what City Planner Faix meant when she mentioned adding a section about equitable leadership in her staff report at the May 7 Planning Commission meeting. She thanked Manager Handeland for all his hard work and stated she was sorry she missed Richard Beneville Day.
- 5) Council Member Topkok complimented the packet cover artwork and noted that she already missed the calendar tracking the budget process, saying it was helpful for planning purposes. She thanked those that attended the First Alaskans' Institute luncheon. Council Member Topkok finished by reiterating her desire to see more civic engagement among the youth and noted that only Anchorage has a youth commission.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

A. Activity Report: June 11 – June 21, 2019.

- Mayor Beneville praised the Bering Sea Lions Club for their chicken BBQ, noting he loves the coleslaw. He congratulated Barb Amarok on being named the new director of Northwest Campus. Mayor Beneville attributed the discount on sheet pile for the Westgold Dock repair to a phone call to Anchorage Mayor Berkowitz and noted the first cruise ship of the season was due in on July 9th. He finished by asking why the City forwent a grant for equipment for NPD.
- Manager Handeland explained that the grant was put together by a different entity and the City would be responsible for maintaining the grants equipment inventory for the entire region. He explained the City shouldn't take on such a responsibility.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Hearing no objections, the Nome Common Council adjourned at 9:08 PM

APPROVED and SIGNED this 8th day of July 2019.


RICHARD BENEVILLE
Mayor

ATTEST:


BRYANT HAMMOND
City Clerk