

**Mayor**  
Richard Beneville  
**Manager**  
Tom Moran  
**Clerk**  
Bryant Hammond



**Nome City Council**  
Stan Andersen  
Jerald Brown  
Doug Johnson  
Mark Johnson  
Adam Martinson  
Lew Tobin

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, JUNE 11, 2018 @ 5:30/7:00 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

**WORK SESSION, 5:30 PM:**

Presentation of Funding Proposals for NSEDC's 2018 Mid-Year Community Benefit Share (CBS),  
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**REGULAR MEETING, 7:00 PM:**

- I. ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- III. ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF OFFICE
  - A. Community Service Officer Bryan Piercy,  
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  - A. May 29, 2018 City Council Rescheduled Regular Meeting Minutes,  
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- V. COMMUNICATIONS
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  - C. Alaska Communications Press Release re: 2018 Summer of Heroes,  
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- VI. CITIZENS' COMMENTS
- VII. PLANNING AND ZONING
  - A. May 1, 2018 Planning Commission Regular Meeting Minutes,  
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  - B. R-2018-1: A Resolution Recommending the Development of a Pathways and Parks Plan for the City of Nome,  
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- A. Memorandum of May 24, 2018 from Finance Director Liew to City Council,  
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- B. O-18-06-01 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2019 City of Nome General Fund Municipal Budget and Exercising the Power to Assess and Authorizing the Levy of a General Property Tax,  
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- F. O-18-06-05 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2019 City of Nome Construction Capital Projects Fund Budget,  
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IX. NEW BUSINESSX. UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Activity Report: May 30 – June 8,  
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XI. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Activity Report: May 30 – June 8,  
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XII. CITIZENS' COMMENTSXIII. COUNCILMEN'S COMMENTSXIV. MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

- A. Activity Report: May 30 – June 8,

**VERBAL**

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Discussion of Personnel Matters,

**VERBAL**

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES  
NOME CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 11, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Nome City Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Richard Beneville in Council Chambers of City Hall, located at 102 Division Street.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Stan Andersen; Jerald Brown; Doug Johnson; Adam Martinson; Lew Tobin

Members Absent: Mark Johnson (excused)

Also Present: Richard Beneville, Mayor; Tom Moran, City Manager; Bryant Hammond, City Clerk; John Handeland, Utility Manager; Ken Morton, Assistant Utility Manager; Joy Baker, Port Director; Julie Liew, Finance Director; Joe Horton, Public Works Director

In the audience: Sandra Medearis, *Arctic News*; Davis Hovey, KNOM; Rhonda Schneider; Diana Sturgis; Mackenzie Cabrera; Jake Kenick; Paul Kosto; Jennifer Reader

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. D. Johnson to approve the agenda as presented.

At the roll call:

Aye: Brown; D. Johnson; Martinson; Tobin; Andersen

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF OFFICE**

City Clerk Hammond administered the Oath of Office for Community Service Officer Bryan Piercy.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. May 29, 2018 City Council Rescheduled Regular Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by C. Tobin and seconded by C. D. Johnson to approve the minutes.

At the roll call:

Aye: D. Johnson; Martinson; Tobin; Andersen; Brown

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. ADN Article of May 26, 2018 re: Testing Alaska's Languishing Rape Kits is Key to Long-overdue Justice.
  - Councilman Tobin asked if the City of Nome had any rape kits held up.
  - Manager Moran replied affirmatively.
- B. Letter of May 28, 2018 from Elizabeth Benson to Manager Moran re: FY19 Contract.
  - Councilman Tobin asked if Ms. Benson was the planner that replaced Eileen Bechtol.
  - Manager Moran replied affirmatively and gave details on the contract planner position and presented the résumé of Monica Faix, who will be stepping into the role.
- C. Alaska Communications Press Release re: 2018 Summer of Heroes.

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

- 1) Paul Kosto, Executive Director of the Nome Chamber of Commerce, discussed the importance of the Visitors Center to Nome's tourism sector and contended that, with a trend of increasing cruise ships and other vessels, now is the time to focus on the services the Visitors Center provides. He cited visitor statistics, planned vessel landings, and increasing pressure from his board to focus on tourism. Mr. Kosto reiterated his request that the City fully fund his \$214,000 contract request, explaining a full time position at the Visitor Center is needed to maintain such focus.

### **PLANNING AND ZONING**

- A. May 1, 2018 Planning Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.
- B. R-2018-1: A Resolution Recommending the Development of a Pathways and Parks Plan for the City of Nome.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Memorandum of May 24, 2018 from Finance Director Liew to City Council.
- B. O-18-06-01 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2019 City of Nome General Fund Municipal Budget and Exercising the Power to Assess and Authorizing 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 7:18 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:18 PM.

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. D. Johnson to adopt O-18-06-01.

Discussion:

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Brown to amend O-18-06-01 by adding \$120,000 to the total revenue by appropriating from the self-insurance/equipment replacement fund and adding \$120,000 for the tractor-trailer/side-dump to the total operating expenditure.

Discussion on the amendment:

- Councilman Brown asked if the total amount of the self-insurance/equipment replacement fund would drop below the \$1,000,000 threshold the City was required to maintain or backfill.
- Finance Director Liew explained that \$110,000 from FY18 Health Insurance Premium Holiday could be used to cover any backfilling from the General Fund.
- Councilman Brown expressed some concern over moving funds from one fund to another in such fashion. It seemed like the City was splurging because there was an extra pot of funding. He explained that if something is worth doing, the City should do it, rather than justifying the action through complicated shuffling of funds.
- Councilman Andersen opined it all came out of the same place in the long run, and the resolution setting the threshold policy could be changed if the Council wished.

At the roll call on the amendment:

Aye: Martinson; Tobin; Andersen; Brown; D. Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion to amend **CARRIED**.

Returning to the main motion:

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Brown to amend O-18-06-01 by removing \$5,000 for the self-contained sink unit for the morgue from the total operating expenditure.

Discussion on the amendment:

- Councilman Andersen contended the sink was a liability to the City, explaining that the only bodies that are washed at the morgue are those that were not permitted to be washed at the hospital due to advanced decomposition. He opined the City was not following proper protocol and didn't want to see the maintenance crew getting saddled with cleaning up afterwards. Councilman Andersen explained he didn't want to see the City get hit with a lawsuit over this.
- Councilman D. Johnson asked how the morgue is currently being cleaned.
- Councilman Andersen explained that people had to haul water, but opined that draining was an issue due to permitting.
- Councilman Brown asked if the unit could be locked so that only authorized people could use it.
- Manager Moran explained that staff was dealing with biohazards already due to cleaning bodies with advanced levels of decomposition. He contended the morgue needed washing facilities. He noted the cost of running sewer and water up the morgue was not tenable at present and the proposed solution was a relatively low cost. He explained how the unit would function and that the City had already entered into discussions with Bob Madden to haul water to and grey water from the unit.

- Councilman Andersen argued that if people weren't cleaning bodies in the morgue then it wouldn't get so dirty. He asked where the unit would fit.
- Councilman Tobin asked how the Ambulance and Fire Departments dealt with biohazards.
- Manager Moran explained that waste went into the red biohazard bags and crew members showered. He explained that the hospital's gray water went into the sewer and was processed by NJUS.
- Mayor Beneville asked if not having the sink at the morgue would be a lawsuit liability for the City of Nome.
- Manager Moran explained that communities off the road system were held to different standards than cities such as Anchorage, especially those with water and sewer challenges still present.
- Councilman Doug Johnson asked if the morgue had a sanitation policy.
- Manager Moran explained there was one and the appropriate chemicals are stocked at the morgue.

At the roll call on the amendment:

Aye: Tobin; Andersen

Nay: Brown; D. Johnson; Martinson

Abstain:

The motion to amend **FAILED**.

Returning to the main motion:

- Councilman Andersen explained he was against the creation of a dog park and other plans noted in the packet, such as the Pathways and Parks Plan recommended by the Planning Commission. He argued that these would require future maintenance by the City, driving up future budget expenditures. He closed by saying that he would like to see Public Works be able to acquire the belly-dump.

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Martinson to amend O-18-06-01 by increasing the total expenditure of the General Fund Budget to \$13,247,278.

At the roll call on the amendment:

Aye: Andersen; Brown; D. Johnson; Martinson; Tobin

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion to amend **CARRIED**.

Returning to the main motion:

At the roll call on the main motion:

Aye: Martinson; Tobin; Andersen; Brown; D. Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion, as amended, **CARRIED**.

- C. O-18-06-02 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2019 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 7:41 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:41 PM.

A motion was made by C. Tobin and seconded by C. Brown to adopt O-18-06-02.

Discussion:

- Manager Moran explained the transfer out for the Anvil City Science Academy (ACSA) bathroom project.
- Councilman Brown asked where the transfer in was reflected.
- Councilman Tobin noted the transfer in was in the capital projects fund.

At the roll call:

Aye: Brown; D. Johnson; Martinson; Tobin; Andersen

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- D. O-18-06-03 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2019 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 7:44 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:44 PM.

A motion was made by C. Tobin and seconded by C. Brown to adopt O-18-06-03.

Discussion:

- Manager Moran explained the mid-year NSEDC Community Benefits Share would have to be added into the Special Revenue Fund at mid-year, if not now.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. Andersen to amend O-18-06-03 by adding \$133,333 to the NSEDC Community Benefits Share revenue line and \$133,333 to expenditures.

At the roll call on the amendment:

Aye: Martinson; Tobin; Andersen; Brown; D. Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion to amend **CARRIED**.

Returning to the main motion:

- Councilman Brown asked what happened to the E-911 surcharge expenditure line.
- Finance Director Liew explained that it went towards Dispatch salaries and benefits.



At the roll call:

Aye: D. Johnson; Martinson; Tobin; Andersen; Brown

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion, as amended, **CARRIED**.

- E. O-18-06-04 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2019 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 7:48 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:48 PM.

A motion was made by C. Tobin and seconded by C. D. Johnson to adopt O-18-06-04.

Discussion:

- Manager Moran noted expenditures for a boiler upgrade at the Mini Convention Center and construction documents for a boiler upgrade at the Rec Center.

At the roll call:

Aye: Martinson; Tobin; Andersen; Brown; D. Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- F. O-18-06-05 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2019 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 7:49 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:50.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. D. Johnson to adopt O-18-06-05.

Discussion:

- Manager Moran noted the ACSA bathroom project was reflected in the budget.

At the roll call:

Aye: Tobin; Andersen; Brown; D. Johnson; Martinson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- G. O-18-06-06 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2019 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 7:51 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:51 PM.

A motion was made by C. Tobin and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-18-06-06.

Discussion:

- Manager Moran deferred to Port Director Baker's deft knowledge for any questions.

At the roll call:

Aye: Andersen; Brown; D. Johnson; Martinson; Tobin

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

- H. O-18-06-07 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2019 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 7:52 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:52 PM.

A motion was made by C. Tobin and seconded by C. Brown to adopt O-18-06-07.

Discussion:

- Manager Moran deferred to Port Director Baker's deft knowledge for any questions.

At the roll call:

Aye: Brown; D. Johnson; Martinson; Tobin; Andersen

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

**UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Utility Manager Handeland presented his verbal report highlighting maintenance activities on the water/sewer side, repairing leaks and jetting sewer mains and the recent power outage caused by an engine control slated to be replaced.
  - Mayor Beneville asked about the status of a potential vessel waste disposal facility at the Port of Nome.
  - Manager Handeland explained the project was in the master plan and noted some challenges with its development.

- Councilman Andersen asked for a status update on the main pump station on River Street and the Bering Street project.
- Manager Handeland explained there is a plan for replacement on River Street and the Utility was currently seeking funds to do so. He explained that the Bering Street project was scheduled for 2020.
- Councilman Brown asked if fluoride was being placed in the water yet.
- Manager Handeland explained the project was nearing completion, as the new vats were in place and the ducting was almost finished. He estimated completion and resuming the addition of fluoride between 30 and 60 days hence.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Manager Moran presented his written report. He thanked the Council for passing the budgets, putting to rest a several-month process. He highlight May's employee of the month, Roy Walluk, who saved a drowning motorist on May 17<sup>th</sup>. He noted 15 vehicles and 60 dump trucks were taken to the monofill and landfill during spring cleanup. Manager Moran explained administration would be seeking to put a rental vehicle tax and increased bed tax on the ballot during this fall's municipal election, during which Nome's NSEDC Board Representative seat would also be decided.
  - Councilman Brown asked if NSEDC contributed funds toward election expenses.
  - Manager Moran explained that NSEDC split the costs of the election with the City.
  - Councilman Andersen asked if all local businesses were actively submitting sales tax and requested staff investigate. He also requested that staff investigate the possibility of using a two-year budget, rather than an annual one. Councilman Andersen finished by asking if the City had hired a new Emergency Services Chief yet.
  - Manager Moran said that he had a teleconference the next day regarding the position and that he felt the City had found a good candidate if the candidate accepted the offer.
  - Mayor Beneville asked if any of the top candidates were local.
  - Manager Moran explained that unfortunately, no local applicants met the minimum qualifications.

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

- 1) Scot Henderson commented on the budget, the deficit, and an increased mill rate, contending the City should look into possibly raising their rate of pay for equipment contractors rather than purchasing equipment for themselves. He applauded Public Works for trying to be more efficient, but thought it cheaper to raise rates than purchase new equipment.
  - Manager Moran noted the side-dump trailer will be procured locally.
  - Councilman Andersen opined that supporting local businesses might reduce the deficit.
- 2) Joe Horton thanked the Council for allocating funds to the side-dump tractor-trailer. He described the various uses for the piece of equipment in different seasons and noted that Alaska DOT was considering acquiring one of their own as well.

### **COUNCILMEN'S COMMENTS**

- 1) Councilman Doug Johnson expressed his appreciation for Roy Walluk and said he deserved a pat on the back.
- 2) Councilman Martinson also thanked Mr. Walluk, explaining that what he did was quite a feat and he saw it with his own eyes.

- 3) Councilman Tobin asked if the City had a current Comprehensive Plan and expressed his hopes for a successful Midnight Sun Festival.
- Manager Moran explained the current comprehensive plan expired in 2020 and the Planning Commission would be starting the revision process in the fall.
- 4) Councilman Andersen followed up on the NSEDC Community Benefits Share work session.

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. D. Johnson to award the Mid-Year Community Benefits Share Funds as follows: \$10,000 to Bering Sea Women's Group, \$34,000 to Nome-Beltz Activities, \$12,605.96 to Nome Preschool Association, \$5,000 to Nome-Beltz NYO, \$10,000 to Nome Community Center, \$1,000 to NEST, \$3,000 to the Leonhard Seppala House Project, and \$57,727.04 to the City of Nome Hockey Rink project.

At the roll call:

Aye: D. Johnson; Martinson; Tobin; Andersen; Brown

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Martinson to direct staff to open up the platted right-of-way of Tobuk Alley from Spokane Street to Steadman Street.

Discussion:

- Councilman Brown asked if opening the ROW would require a lot of gravel.
- Councilman Andersen stated that the ROW existed, it just need to be cleared of the adjoining property owners' stuff.
- Paul Kosto noted the south part of his and Louis Green, Sr.'s lots turned into a pond each year.
- Councilman Tobin asked if there was a reason why Councilman Andersen was interested in opening the Alley.
- Councilman Andersen stated that the Fire Department has wanted the alley open for a while and that the City should be looking at the rest of the alleys that are blocked.
- Manager Moran explained how the Planning Commission looked at the issue last summer and wanted to use Tobuk as their test case for opening up ROWs in town.

At the roll call:

Aye: Martinson; Tobin; Andersen; Brown; D. Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- 5) Councilman Brown requested that staff make prudent haste on the ACSA bathroom project so that the project could be completed prior to the beginning of the next school year.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT**

- Mayor Beneville explained he would be traveling to Anchorage to attend an Iditarod sponsors' meeting. He requested that City staff put out a Public Service Announcement noting the summer events calendar was available at City Hall and the Visitors' Center. He explained that there would be a parade at the Midnight Sun Festival this year and that the route would be the same as last year.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Tobin to enter into executive session to discuss a confidential personnel issue.

The Council recessed at 8:30 PM.

The Council reconvened at 9:06 PM.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Hearing no objections, the Nome Common Council adjourned at 9:06 PM.

**APPROVED** and **SIGNED** this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June 2018.



**RICHARD BENEVILLE**  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**



**BRYANT HAMMOND**  
City Clerk