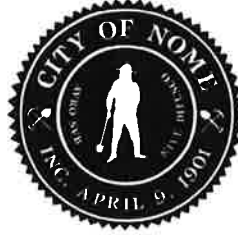


Mayor
Richard Beneville
Manager
Tom Moran
Clerk
Bryant Hammond



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

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**NOME CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2018 @ NOON
CITY HALL**

I. ROLL CALL

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

III. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. R-18-01-06 A Resolution Authorizing the City of Nome to Enter into a Cost-Share Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for the Completion of the Port of Nome Modification Feasibility Study

V. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES
NOME CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
January 26, 2018**

The special meeting of the Nome City Council was called to order at 12:03 PM by Councilman Andersen in Council Chambers of City Hall, located at 102 Division Street.

ROLL CALL

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

Members Absent: Mayor Beneville (excused)

Also Present: Tom Moran, City Manager; Julie Liew, Finance Director; Joy Baker, Port Director (telephonically)

In the audience: Senator Dan Sullivan (telephonically); Jay Sterne (telephonically); Denise Michels; Jim West, Jr.; Shane Smithhisler; Charlie Lean

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilman Andersen asked if there were any changes to the agenda.

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

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

Councilman M. Johnson joined the meeting at 12:05 PM.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

A. R-18-01-06 A Resolution Authorizing the City of Nome to Enter into a Cost-Share Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for the Completion of the Port of Nome Modification Feasibility Study.

A motion was made by C. Tobin and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt R-18-01-06.

Discussion:

- Councilman Andersen asked Ms. Baker to provide a synopsis of how the project had reached this point.
- Ms. Baker noted that in 2012, Nome had been selected as the most practical site in western Alaska for a deep water port by a joint review committee of AKDOT&PF and USACE personnel. Unfortunately, when Shell ceased operations in the Chukchi Sea in 2015, the aforementioned selection had been put on hold with no forward progress on a feasibility study to date. Ms. Baker lauded Senator Sullivan's efforts in changing federal law to allow for the study to be authorized despite reduced economic benefit. Ms. Baker said that Senator Sullivan had leveraged the USACE to finally agree to partner with the City on a cost-share agreement for the study so that everyone would finally know whether Nome was a realistic site. She happily added that the City's financial burden had already been contributed by the State of Alaska in the FY17 budget. Ms. Baker said that the study would commence with a charrette in Nome in late April. She added that the full study would be completed in three years or less and for \$3M or less.
- Councilman Andersen asked what the City's cost-share of the actual construction project would be if the study provided the USACE with a green light to proceed.
- Ms. Baker said that it would be around \$112M, but added that numerous public-private partnerships and investors would be sought to shoulder that cost.
- Manager Moran thanked Ms. Baker for her hard work. He said that lobbyist Jay Sterne had been a valuable asset in Washington. Finally, he thanked Senator Sullivan for getting the entire Alaska Federal Delegation on the same page to doggedly pursue the project.
- Councilman M. Johnson asked that Ms. Baker clarify for the record what the taxpayers' portion of the \$3M obligation would be.
- Ms. Baker said that it would be nothing, as the State of Alaska had paid \$1.6M and the USACE would be paying up to \$1.5M.

The Council recessed at 12:19 PM.

The Council reconvened at 12:20 PM.

- Senator Sullivan greeted those in attendance with an enthusiastic "Hello, Central!" He thanked everyone in attendance, especially the Nome Common Council and the Nome Port Commission, for working together to realize this milestone. Senator Sullivan noted that the City's boots-on-the-ground allowed him to back the USACE into a corner when they balked at what he considered their obligation to Alaska. He asked that his staff be alerted immediately if the USACE balked again.
- Councilman Tobin said that it had been a pleasure to watch his interactions with former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger on television the previous day.
- Senator Sullivan said that it had been an honor to be in the same room as such an influential historical figure.
- Commissioner Lean thanked the Senator for giving Nome's project a much-needed shot of life. He said that the newly authorized road to Cold Bay showed how much respect the junior Senator had already garnered.
- Senator Sullivan said that the road was a long time coming, and a byproduct of hard work from Senator Murkowski and Congressman Young. He remembered the negotiations from back when he was serving with DNR. He lauded Secretary Zinke and President Trump for finally making it happen. He noted that Nome and western Alaska had now become buzz

words with the Armed Services Committee, the Secretary of the Navy, and even Secretary Mattis.

- Commissioner Michels thanked the Senator for his work on this project, as well as all national defense efforts. She told him that she was serving on the JBER Community Advisory Committee and had been closely involved in NORTHCOM policy discussions.
- Senator Sullivan opined on how sad it was that the DOD had no Arctic Policy in place. He said that China, which wasn't an Arctic nation, had quickly and quietly made itself one of the biggest Arctic players. He said that he would send Commissioner Michels the unclassified copy of a report for dissemination at JBER.
- Manager Moran said that he and Mayor Beneville had inherited tall tasks on the project by following former Mayor Michels and former Manager Bahnke who had accomplished so much, so he was relieved that Senator Sullivan was able to lead them through.
- Councilman Andersen also thanked the Senator for his work on veterans' issues.
- Senator Sullivan said that it was his pleasure, as he had a seat on the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Hearing no objections, the Nome Common Council adjourned at 12:36 PM.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 12th day of February, 2018.



RICHARD BENEVILLE

Mayor

ATTEST:



BRYANT HAMMOND

Clerk