

Mayor
Richard Beneville
Manager
Tom Moran
Clerk
Bryant Hammond



Nome City Council
Stan Andersen
Jerald Brown
Louie Green
Mark Johnson
Tom Sparks
Lew Tobin

102 Division St. • P.O. Box 281
Nome, Alaska 99762
Phone (907) 443-6663
Fax (907) 443-5345

**NOME COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 @ 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

- I. ROLL CALL
- II. MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR THOSE LOST IN THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 TERRORIST ATTACKS
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- A. Activity Report: August 29 – September 8,
VERBAL

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES
NOME CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
September 11, 2017**

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: Louie Green; Mark Johnson; Tom Sparks; Stan Andersen

Members Absent: Jerald Brown (excused); Lew Tobin (excused)

Also Present: Richard Beneville, Mayor; Tom Moran, City Manager; Bryant Hammond, City Clerk; John Handeland, Utility Manager; Joy Baker, Port Director

In the audience: Sandra Medearis, *Arctic News*; Davis Hovey, KNOM; Rhonda Schneider; Scot Henderson

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR THOSE LOST IN SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 TERRORIST ATTACKS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

At the roll call:

Aye: Green; Johnson; Sparks; Andersen

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 28, 2017 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by C. Sparks and seconded by C. Johnson to approve the August 28, 2017 minutes.

At the roll call:

Aye: Green; Johnson; Sparks; Andersen;

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Alaska Journal of Commerce Article of May 22, 2017 entitled *Despite gov's signature on REAL ID bill, JBER issues July 10 deadline*.
- B. Letter of August 28, 2017 from Thomas Sparks to Manager Moran and Clerk Hammond re: Gravel and Junk at the North End of Steadman.
- Councilman Andersen referenced the recent junk vehicle discussion and asked what could be done to address the issue in Mr. Spark's letter.
 - Manager Moran assured the Council that applicable violations of the Nome Code of Ordinances would be addressed.
- C. Letter of August 30, 2017 from Wade Harrison to Nome City Council re: Speed Limit on Greg Kruschek Avenue.
- Councilman Andersen expressed appreciation for City employees expressing their opinions, noting such had not happened freely in the past. He went on to request a letter from the City of Nome to AK DOT&PF asking them to reduce the speed limit.
 - Manager Moran briefed the Council on the history of the issue between the State and City, explaining the City couldn't enforce the posted speed limit.
 - Councilman Andersen requested the letter be delivered to the Commissioner through Wendy Chamberlain. He also requested the Police Chief be present at the next meeting to give his perspective on the issue.
- D. Memorandum of September 6, 2017 from Clerk Hammond to Nome City Council re: Late Filer for Municipal Tax Exemption.

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Sparks to authorize the Clerk to accept the application as if timely filed.

At the roll call:

Aye: Johnson; Sparks; Brown; Green

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- E. Public Notice of August 31, 2017 re: Application for Permit for Production of Gold.
- Councilman Andersen noted the public comment period closed on October 2 and that the proposed activities could create significant vehicle traffic. He requested City Staff approach the gold company and request a donation of fill material for the cemetery.
- F. Public Notice re: Alcohol and Marijuana Control Board Meeting in Nome September 13 – 15, 2017.
- G. Flyer re: Fall Cleanup from October 9 – October 13.
- Councilman Andersen asked how the City was removing vehicles from ROWs.
 - Manager Moran explained the process, though noted the Building Inspector had significantly reduced hours due to paternity leave.

- Councilman Andersen noted the Director of Public Works used to request vehicles get moved or have the Roads Crew move them.
- H. Public Notice re: "Town Hall Meeting" with DOC, AMCC, and Geo Group at Old St. Joe's on October 11.
- Councilman Andersen requested the notice be run in the next packet as well.
 - Manager Moran noted that Representative Foster had been invited as well.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

- 1) Rhonda Schneider, Nome Community Center Executive Director, handed out a letter opposing O-17-07-03 and citing studies that have shown excise taxes reduce overconsumption of alcohol, especially among youth. She noted eight cities in Alaska add additional taxes to alcohol, but also noted an increased price might lead to an increase in homebrewing.
 - Councilman Green asked what would happen if someone opened a liquor store outside of city limits.
 - Councilman Andersen stated a tax ordinance was not on the agenda and the Council should hold off discussion of it until it is.
 - Councilman Johnson noted the letter's reference to the ordinance that was on the agenda and agreed with Ms. Schneider that it would not increase quality of life in Nome.
- 2) Panganga Pungowiyi explained the correlation between density of alcohol purveying establishments and overconsumption of alcohol and conjectured a liquor store outside of city limits wouldn't raise the same issues another alcohol establishment on Front St would. Ms. Pungowiyi expressed regret at not being able to attend the last work session on alcohol related issues.
 - Councilman Andersen noted excise taxes typically didn't garner enthusiasm and suggested Ms. Pungowiyi run for Council if she wanted to advance her platform.
 - Ms. Pungowiyi noted she was already seeking a different seat.
 - Mayor Beneville noted the conversation needed to happen.
- 3) Port Director Baker, on behalf of Alaska Marine Lines, presented the Council with a painting of the Port of Nome.
 - Councilman Andersen noted he had an idea of where to place it.

PLANNING AND ZONING

- A. August 1, 2017 Planning Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. O-17-07-03 An Ordinance Establishing Chapter 10.70 of the Nome Code of Ordinances to Prohibit Intoxication in a Public Right of Way, **First Reading/Discussion.**

A motion was made by C. Sparks and seconded by C. Andersen to advance O-17-07-03.

Discussion:

- Councilman Andersen explained the original idea behind the ordinance was to assist NPD in moving inebriates off the seawall, but noted the ordinance seemed to be heading in a different direction. Nevertheless, he noted members of the public would want it advanced to second reading.
- Councilman Sparks stated the ordinance was currently too broadly worded and that he had concerns it could target responsible bar patrons who had parked their vehicles and were walking on Front St.
- Councilman Johnson noted Councilman's Sparks' concerns and added that he had not heard a single praise of the proposed ordinance. He asked why the Council was still devoting energy to it.
- Councilman Green stated there were other methods to address public inebriation.

At the roll call:

Aye: Andersen; Sparks

Nay: Green; Johnson

Abstain:

The motion **FAILED**.

- B. O-17-09-01 An Ordinance Authorizing the Purchase of Real Property by the City of Nome from Kenai Masonic Lodge #11 F. & A.M. of Alaska for the Fixed Price of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000), **First Reading/Discussion**.

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Sparks to advance O-17-09-01.

Discussion:

- Manager Moran gave background on the proposed purchase and added that the only covenant would be to save a small section for Masons that lived in Nome prior to the purchase. He noted that 10 plots would probably be sufficient.
- Councilman Andersen stated that presented map is deceiving and that the ground penetrating radar study was more representative. He requested that the corners be marked with rebar, that a plan be developed prior to using the new plot that includes walkways, adequate marking and burying back to front.
- Councilman Johnson asked how staff came up with the figure \$20,000.
- Manager Moran explained that the assessed value was used as a starting point and the used plots were taken into account.
- Councilman Andersen suggested the price was cheap.
- Councilman Sparks noted it was the right thing to do.

At the roll call:

Aye: Andersen; Green; Johnson; Sparks

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- Utility Manager Handeland presented his verbal report noting the Utility's fuel shipment was successfully delivered on Saturday. The amounts were verified earlier in the day and the escrow was released to the fuel company.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- Manager Moran presented his written report.
 - Councilman Andersen requested staff contact Arctic Gold Mining and ascertain plans for the T-Hangar. He noted it was a shame the City didn't acquire the property as it was one of the most historic structures in town.
 - Councilman Green noted the ground had already been mined.
 - Manager Moran conjectured AGM would use it for storage.
 - Councilman Johnson suggested staff contact Cecil Connor and relay the historical importance of the structure.
 - Councilman Andersen asked about the number of alcohol establishments in attachment in the City Manager's Report.
 - Manager Moran explained that restaurants report under a different category.
 - Councilman Andersen requested a port collections report and asked who would monitor the security camera feed.
 - Port Director Baker explained where the monitors would be located and that the cameras would be active year round.
 - Councilman Andersen requested an update on the deep draft port study.
 - Port Director Baker explained the Corps of Engineers has interpreted the language of the WIIN Act differently than expected and progress has been delayed.
 - Manager Moran explained that Senator Sullivan is making efforts to get the project back on track.
 - Councilman Johnson asked if the Port were hiring new staff to monitor the cameras.
 - Director Baker replied in the negative.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

N/A

COUNCILMEN'S COMMENTS

- 1) Councilman Andersen thanked Director Baker for attending in person. He noted the beach sand seems to be higher than normal and asked if would facilitate a greater storm surge. He suggested staff have someone inspect the conditions along the seawall and notify businesses as appropriate. He added that he hoped some of the younger generation would run for City Council.
- 2) Councilman Green suggested the Council might beat the clock this evening.
- 3) Councilman Johnson thanked Ms. Schneider and Director Baker for their participation in the meeting. He requested the Police Chief be present at the next meeting.

- 4) Councilman Sparks requested the younger generation run for Council and get involved in local government. He noted he'd still be involved despite the decision not to run for reelection.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

- Mayor Beneville requested more candidate involvement before briefing the Council on the Quintillion project, recent familiarization tours, an incoming cruise ship and the upcoming play at the Elementary School. He thanked Councilman Sparks for his long public service.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

N/A

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Green that the meeting be adjourned.

Hearing no objections, the Nome Common Council adjourned at 8:02 PM.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 25th day of September, 2017.


RICHARD BENEVILLE
Mayor

ATTEST:


BRYANT HAMMOND
Clerk