

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



**Nome City Council**  
Stan Andersen  
Jerald Brown  
Matt Culley  
Louie Green, Sr.  
Tom Sparks  
Lew Tobin

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**NOME COMMON COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION & REGULAR MEETING AGENDA  
MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2016 @ 5:30/7:00 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

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

- Presentation of NSEDC Community Benefit Share Proposals,  
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**REGULAR MEETING, 7:00 PM:**

**I. ROLL CALL**

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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**IV. COMMUNICATIONS**

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- B. Letter of December 11, 2015 from ABC Board to Clerk Hammond re: 2016/2017 Liquor License Renewals,  
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- C. Letter of December 11, 2015 from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to Manager Moran re: StormReady Designation for the City of Nome,  
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- D. Letter of December 16, 2015 from the Alaska Congressional Delegation to President Obama re: Nome Deep Draft Port,  
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- E. Letter of December 18, 2015 from Manager Moran to US Army Corps of Engineers re: Comments in Support of Quintillion's Fiber Optic Project,  
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- F. Letter of December 22, 2015 from Ben Esch to Nome City Council re: Support for Paul Roetman as an Alaska Supreme Court Justice,  
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- G. Letter of December 30, 2015 from ABC Board to Clerk Hammond re: 2016/2017 Liquor License Renewals,  
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- H. Article of January 1, 2016 from KUAC Entitled "Legislation Could Promote Development of Deep-draft Harbor at Alaska's Port Clarence,"  
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- I. Article of January 2, 2016 from Alaska Dispatch News Entitled "What DC Has in Store for Alaska,"  
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- J. Memorandum of January 5, 2016 from Finance Director Liew to Manager Moran re: FY17 Budget Calendar,  
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- L. Memorandum of January 5, 2016 from Governor Walker to All Alaska Commissioners re: Non-Essential Travel Restrictions,  
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VIII. NEW BUSINESS

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- B. O-16-01-02 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3.40 and 1.20 of the Nome Code of Ordinances to Provide for the Regulation of the Commercial Marijuana Trade Within City Limits,  
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- C. Awarding of Surplus NSEDC Community Benefit Share Funds,  
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- D. R-16-01-01 A Resolution Approving the Port of Nome Strategic Development Plan 2016,  
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IX. CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

X. UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

XI. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Written Activity Report: December 15, 2015 – January 8, 2016,

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XII. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

XIII. COUNCILMEN'S COMMENTS

XIV. MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Status Update on 2014 Sales Tax Audit,

**VERBAL**

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES  
NOME CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
January 11, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Nome City Council was called to order at 7:08 PM by Mayor Beneville in Council Chambers of City Hall, located at 102 Division Street.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Stan Andersen; Louie Green; Lew Tobin; Matt Culley; Tom Sparks; Jerald Brown (excused at 7:34pm, prior to adjournment)

Members Absent:

Also Present: Richard Beneville, Mayor; Tom Moran, City Manager; Bryant Hammond, City Clerk; Amy Chan, Museum Director; Julie Liew Finance Director; Marguerite LaRiviere, Museum Director; Janet Bloodgood, Library Assistant; John Handeland, NJUS Manager;

In the audience: Laura Kraegel, KNOM; Sandra Medearis; Shawn Arnold, Nome Public Schools; Kenny Hughes; Bob Hafner; Shauntel Bruner, Brandy Arrington, Nome Preschool Association

**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. Sparks to approve the agenda as presented.

At the roll call:

Aye: Green; Andersen; Culley; Tobin; Sparks; Brown

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. December 14, 2015 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

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

Discussion:

- Councilman Tobin asked whether or not the reason for an executive session needed to be stated in the minutes.

- Manager Moran explained the reason is stated on the agenda, which is attached to the minutes in permanent records.
- Councilman Sparks thought the issue was with using the term as a placeholder on the agenda.
- Manager Moran stated that just because it is listed as a placeholder on the agenda, doesn't mean the Council will have one.
- Councilman Andersen clarified that if the Council makes a decision, they will need to come out of executive session to do so.

At the roll call:

Aye: Green; Andersen; Culley; Tobin; Brown

Nay: Sparks

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Letter of December 8, 2015 from Lisa Ellanna to Nome City Council and Manager Moran re: Thank You for Supporting Kaatiluta 2015.
- B. Letter of December 11, 2015 from ABC Board to Clerk Hammond re: 2016/2017 Liquor License Renewals.
  - Councilman Tobin asked why the letter was on the agenda again and if the Council intended to take action on it.
  - Manager Moran stated that Councilman Green requested the letter be re-run.
  - Councilman Andersen explained that, in the past, the City of Nome would send a letter stating it did not have any comments on the Liquor License Renewal. He reiterated his wish to not respond, thereby leaving an option to protest should the need arise.
  - Councilman Tobin clarified the Council would take no action.
  - Councilman Sparks stated that the Council's inaction meant tacit approval.
- C. Letter of December 11, 2015 from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to Manager Moran re: StormReady Designation for the City of Nome.
  - Councilman Tobin stated it was nice to see that the City passed.
- D. Letter of December 16, 2015 from the Alaska Congressional Delegation to President Obama re: Nome Deep Draft Port.
  - Councilman Sparks wondered if the City would get a response from the President.
  - Mayor Beneville stated he would be in DC the following week.
- E. Letter of December 18, 2015 from Manager Moran to US Army Corps of Engineers re: Comments in Support of Quintillion's Fiber Optic Project.
  - Councilman Sparks asked if the project would be complete by 2017.
  - Manager Moran stated the hubs were scheduled to be online by 2017.
- F. Letter of December 22, 2015 from Ben Esch to Nome City Council re: Support for Paul Roetman as an Alaska Supreme Court Justice.
  - Councilman Tobin asked if the Council was supposed to take action.

- Councilman Culley stated the Council shouldn't support one candidate over another, especially without having a prior working relationship.
  - Councilman Sparks asked if the City had supported a candidate before.
  - Manager Moran replied in the negative.
  - Mayor Beneville expressed concern about setting a precedent.
- G. Letter of December 30, 2015 from ABC Board to Clerk Hammond re: 2016/2017 Liquor License Renewals.
- H. Article of January 1, 2016 from KUAC Entitled "Legislation Could Promote Development of Deep-draft Harbor at Alaska's Port Clarence."
- I. Article of January 2, 2016 from Alaska Dispatch News Entitled "What DC Has in Store for Alaska."
- J. Memorandum of January 5, 2016 from Finance Director Liew to Manager Moran re: FY17 Budget Calendar.
- Councilman Tobin stated that it was nice to see the schedule in writing.
- K. Notice of January 5, 2016 from Alaska Municipal League re: Winter Legislative Conference.
- Councilman Culley asked if the communication was soliciting Council interest in attending.
  - Manager Moran advised Council members to speak with Clerk Hammond if they were interested.
  - Councilman Andersen clarified this conference was meant to coincide with the legislative session in Juneau.
  - Manager Moran stated that was correct.
- L. Memorandum of January 5, 2016 from Governor Walker to All Alaska Commissioners re: Non-Essential Travel Restrictions.
- Manager Moran stated this was an FYI concerning the State budget, with potential consideration vis-à-vis the City's budget
- M. Letter of January 8, 2015 from Marine Mammal Commission to Mayor Beneville re: Community Listening Sessions.

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

- 1) Library Director Marguerite LaRiviere and Library Assistant Janet Bloodgood, presented a video they developed to showcase activities at the library. Director LaRiviere explained the video was a gesture of appreciation to the Common Council, as well as a goodbye to the old facility as they prepare to move into the Richard Foster Building. Director LaRiviere also discussed the Library closure over the previous four days due to grant-funded work being performed on the rare book collection with assistance from Sandy Johnson from the State of Alaska Historical Collections.
- Councilman Sparks stated it was nice to see Director LaRiviere so plugged in.
  - Councilman Tobin asked if the Library and Museum Grand Openings would be held at the same time or separately.
  - Mayor Beneville stated those details were not yet available.

- 2) Ken Hughes expressed a concern that the reason the Council entered into executive session was not clearly stated in the minutes.
- Manager Moran explained the reason was stated on the agenda, which was filed with the minutes in permanent records; however, for future clarity, the reason for executive session will be stated in the minutes.
- Ken Hughes thanked Clerk Hammond for announcing the meeting packet had been uploaded to the City's website. He was able to download it and read it over the weekend. He pointed out the agenda was missing from the online packet.

### **PLANNING AND ZONING**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. O-16-01-01 An Ordinance Approving the 2016 Operations and Maintenance Budget for Nome Joint Utility System, **FIRST READING.**

A motion was made by C. Tobin and seconded by C. Green to advance O-16-01-01.

At the roll call:

Aye: Green; Culley; Andersen; Tobin; Andersen

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**

- B. O-16-01-02 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3.40 and 1.20 of the Nome Code of Ordinances to Provide for the Regulation of the Commercial Marijuana Trade Within City Limits, **FIRST READING.**

A motion was made by C. Sparks and seconded by C. Tobin to advance O-16-01-02.

At the roll call:

Aye: Green; Culley; Andersen; Tobin; Andersen

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**

- Councilman Andersen called a Point of Order, stating that Robert's Rules of Order require specific language from the presiding officer in regards to the City Clerk reading proposed council business, such as "Without objection, I'll ask the City Clerk to read . . ."

- C. Awarding of Surplus NSEDC Community Benefit Share Funds, **VERBAL.**

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Tobin to table the awarding of funds until after a work session on the matter could be held.

Discussion:

- Councilman Andersen suggested January 13<sup>th</sup> at noon, reasoning this would allow Councilman Brown to submit recommendations, as he will be out of town.
- Councilman Sparks asked if an hour would be enough time to complete the task, as there was a lot of need demonstrated by the proposals.
- Councilman Andersen suggested a 7:00 PM work session on January 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Councilman Sparks stated he would like see a ranking system.
- Councilman Andersen suggested Councilman Sparks put something in writing.
- Councilman Tobin suggested a standardized application or letter for applicants to use.
- Councilman Andersen noted that the City of Nome usually donates to the Iditarod Trail Committee, but that wasn't on the list before the Council. He asked whether those funds should come out of taxpayer money or NSEDC Community Benefits Share money.
- Councilman Tobin clarified that \$150,000 was the amount the Council was able to commit to proposed projects.
- Manager Moran affirmed \$150,000 was the maximum amount the Council could commit, though it could commit less to the proposed projects and use remaining funds for another project of community-wide benefit.

At the roll call:

Aye: Green; Culley; Andersen; Tobin; Andersen

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**

D. R-16-01-01 A Resolution Approving the Port of Nome Strategic Development Plan 2016.

A motion was made by C. Tobin and seconded by C. Sparks to approve R-16-01-01.

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Tobin to amend R-16-01-01 to alter the Plan per two memos from Port Director Baker to: 1) include language clarifying the intent to pursue Public-Private-Partnerships for the funding of the Deep Draft Port; and 2) include language identifying Bonanza Fuel's operations at the Port of Nome and the surrounding area.

Discussion:

- Councilman Andersen requested, and Clerk Hammond complied, that the inserted language be read aloud into the record.
- Councilman Culley asked if the City Council could amend the McDowell document without clearly noting additions made after McDowell completed the report.



- Manager Moran stated the City can and has made such amendments, but could add asterisks per Councilman Culley's concerns.
- Councilman Sparks clarified that the document and amendments before the Council had been vetted by the Port Commission.
- Manager Moran referred the Council to the motion to amend in the agenda packet.

At the roll call:

Aye: Green; Culley; Andersen; Tobin; Andersen

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

Returning to discussion on the main motion:

- Councilman Tobin noted Denise Michels was incorrectly listed as Mayor on the Port Commission's motion to amend in the agenda packet.
- Port Director Baker apologized for her oversight, stating she was in a rush leaving Nome on the morning she prepared them.

At the roll call:

Aye: Green; Culley; Andersen; Tobin; Sparks

Nay:

Abstain:

The main motion **CARRIED**

- E. R-16-01-02 A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement with Bristol Engineering Services Corporation (BESC) as Acting City Engineer.

A motion was made by C. Sparks and seconded by C. Culley to approve R-16-01-02.

Discussion:

- Councilman Culley asked how much the City paid Bristol Engineering in the previous year.
- Finance Director Liew stated for FY2015 the City paid Bristol \$368,868.26 and for calendar year 2015 the City paid Bristol \$323,372.43.
- Councilman Andersen asked if the figures included the Richard Foster Building.
- Manager Moran stated they did, as well as the middle dock project and the seawall repair project among others.
- Councilman Sparks asked if the City would be in a position to hire its own in-house engineer, given the amount the City spends on engineering services.
- Manager Moran explained that discounting the wealth of Nome-specific historical knowledge Bristol offers would do the City of Nome a disservice.
- Councilman Andersen pointed out that project money would be drying up over the next few years as well.

At the roll call:

Aye: Green; Culley; Andersen; Tobin; Sparks

Nay:  
Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**

- F. R-16-01-03 A Resolution Awarding the Port of Nome Seawall Repair Project, as a Contract Amendment, to Orion Marine Contractors, Inc.

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Sparks to approve R-16-01-03.

Discussion:

- Councilman Tobin asked for clarification on the physical extent of the seawall.
- Port Director Baker stated the original section of the seawall extended from behind the Mini Convention Center to behind Wiley Scott's house. The new section built by the Corps of Engineers in 2004 – 2005, extended the seawall westward to the present port breakwater. There was some additional work performed by the Department of Transportation (DOT) east of Wiley Scott's house that is not part of the seawall. The current project will focus on the eastern end of the seawall, where the most damage is.
- Mayor Beneville asked if the damage near Wiley Scott's house was due to the work performed by DOT.
- Port Director Baker explained the present damage is a result of the loss of beach in front of the seawall. Middle beach has largely protected the seawall's western end.

At the roll call:  
Aye: Green; Culley; Andersen; Tobin; Sparks  
Nay:  
Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**

#### **CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

N/A

#### **UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- Utility Manager Handeland highlighted several points in his written report:
- The Utility is finishing out their fiscal year and is projected to end the year with more revenue than expenses.
  - Councilman Culley asked for clarification on the language in Manager Handeland's report.
  - Manager Handeland stated the Utility had budgeted revenues to exceed expenses by \$600,000. Current projections indicate revenues will exceed expenses by \$800,000.
- The payment processor will begin charging the 2.75% convenience fee on credit card payments received on January 16<sup>th</sup> and after. The Utility sent change of payment forms to customers, allowing them to switch over to ACH payments to avoid the convenience fee while remaining on autopay.

- Councilman Culley stated he tried to pay his bill over the past week, but found it was closed.
- Manager Handeland explained a short closure did occur due to an employee's child requiring hospitalization over an injury.
- Manager Handeland thanked the line crew for addressing wind related issues in the recent wind storm.
- A wind technician was in town, addressing what was assumed to be a transformer failure at the wind farm. However, the issue stemmed from a software glitch.
- A mechanic from NC Machinery was in town over the previous week address governor control issues with one of the standby CAT generators. After testing, the CAT units will be used while the turbo chargers from the second Wartsilla unit will be sent to NC Machinery in Anchorage for a necessary overhaul.
- The Utility narrowed down the equipment needed to incorporate into the SCADA system to provide continuous monitoring of fluoride injection.
  - Councilman Tobin asked what the SCADA system was.
  - Manager Handeland stated it was the control and monitoring system for the utilities and offered a tour, should Councilman Tobin desire one.
  - Councilman Andersen asked how extensive the Utilities capital budget was this year.
  - Manager Handeland stated the capital budget only included minor projects, including the equipment for fluoride monitoring and generator maintenance.
  - Councilman Andersen asked about maintenance for the wind farm over the next few years and the possibility of incorporating batteries to better incorporate the excess during windy days.
  - Manager Handeland explained that battery technology was an evolving field and that the Utility hoped to put some of the excess into district heating or the pool.
  - Councilman Andersen stated that has been talked about for years.
  - Manager Handeland stated there were other priorities over the past several years.

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

- Manager Moran referred the Council to his written report. He highlighted:
- The Richard Foster Building should be commissioned on January 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> and move in ready on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Project contingency is almost entirely used up.
- An amendment to the Formations exhibit contract, expanding the scope of work and project costs, will be on the January 25<sup>th</sup> agenda.
- Manager Moran congratulated Museum Director Chan on being appointed to the Alaska State Anthropological Board.
  - Councilman Culley clarified the RFB project contingency fund was depleted and stated he would not support a single penny from the general fund to make up for cost overruns.
  - Councilman Culley noted the liquidated damages attached to the February 1<sup>st</sup> completion date and asked for details, as they had not been included in the initial contract.
  - Manager Moran stated the liquidated damages were \$500 per day and negotiated when the contractor asked for an extension of substantial completion from December 31<sup>st</sup> to January 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - Councilman Tobin asked how landscaping fit into the budget.
  - Manager Moran stated the current budget, on paper, is balanced and did not include landscaping. However, the Museum and Library Commission has an in-house plan to address the issue.

- Councilman Andersen asked when Dowl and the Architect are traveling to Nome.
- Manager Moran expected the architect over the next few days. He expected Dowl to be present for building commissioning and final completion.
- Mayor Beneville asked if we have tentatively set a date for the building's grand opening.
- Manager Moran referred him to the written Manager's report noting October 14, 2016 as the tentative date for the building grand opening.
- Councilman Andersen noted that the date is subject to change per the will of the Council.
- Councilman Tobin asked about progress on forming a Cemetery committee.
- Manager Moran summarized progress, stating the Mayor will likely be able to appoint an ad hoc committee at the January 25 Council meeting.
- Councilman Andersen emphasized that a lot of work and money have already gone into the Cemetery and should be considered in moving forward.
- Councilman Tobin asked about the vacant building registration under consideration by the Planning Commission.
- Manager Moran clarified the new registration would not duplicate any existing taxation ordinances, but, using the recently abated Wien Building as an example, would disincentivize property owners from allowing buildings to go vacant and fall into disrepair.
- Councilman Andersen noted the public does not generally pay attention to issues until they reach the City Council; the registration under consideration will be a major change for some longtime residents and will come as a shock. He acknowledged the issue needed to be addressed.
- Manager Moran stated there were a number of ways to address the issue, either through fees or different mill rates. Regardless, the Council will have final say in how the matter is addressed.
- Councilman Andersen asked how abatement fit into the vacant building registration.
- Manager Moran stated the two were related but not the same, adding that the City would soon be pursuing the 2016 abatement per the City's abatement policy currently on the books.

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

N/A

### **COUNCILMEN'S COMMENTS**

- 1) Councilman Sparks stated that he understood, from his experience in sitting on the Planning Commission, that it can be frustrating working on projects that ultimately get voted down by the Council. He noted there were good minds on the Planning Commission and wanted to make sure their work was acknowledged and not wasted. He suggested finding a way to expand communication between the Council and the Planning Commission, either through joint work sessions or a "litmus test" that allowed for feedback from the Council as the Commission was doing its work, rather than all or nothing and after the fact. He reiterated his desire for a formal ranking method for the NSEDC CBS funds, noting the demonstration of need and the difficulty of saying no to deserving projects.
- 2) Councilman Tobin stated that he was amazed and proud of all the people that volunteer time, money and efforts to make Nome a better place. There are not a lot of Western

Alaska communities where such commitment is present. It's one of the big selling points of Nome.

- 3) Councilman Culley didn't disagree that a formal ranking procedure would make the awarding of funding easier; however, he stated that the Councilmen sitting at that table were elected by the voters and asked by NSEDC to make the decision as to which projects would best benefit the community. If the voters disagreed, it was their job to vote in different decision makers. The decision is a subjective one and will always be difficult. A formal ranking system wouldn't change this. He suggested a standardized letter or application so that applicants better understood the process by which they could request money from the Community Benefits Share. Councilman Culley agreed with Councilman Tobin that there was a great turn out for the work session; he had hoped that some applicants asking for significant funding awards had asked in person, though understood that sometimes life gets in the way.
- 4) Councilman Andersen emphasized that Community Benefits Share funds, from his perspective, are best spent on the youth. Other projects such as snow machine and dogsled races should come after youth-related projects are addressed. He emphasized the urgent need for a new fire truck and asked that staff not delay the acquisition
  - Manager Moran stated that the City just submitted a grant application in this regard, but agreed that a fire truck should be on the first barge this summer.Councilman Andersen acknowledged the Planning and the Port Commission work on a plethora of issues over the past year.

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Tobin to use \$150 per month from the Council's budget to provide for a TV camera operator during Council and some Commission meetings.

#### Discussion:

- Councilman Culley asked if the present wide angle camera covered those present in the Council Chambers, then why should the City spent money on an operator.
- Councilman Andersen stated that the camera does not work all the time.
- Councilman Culley stated he does not support spending extra money if the current situation broadcasts meetings.
- Councilman Andersen stated if the City can put on a fireworks show, the City can afford an operator.
- Councilman Tobin noted the pay would be about \$20 an hour.
- Councilman Andersen noted that the radio station broadcasts what they choose to broadcast and the newspaper writes about the issues they choose; many issues are not presented fully to the public.
- Manager Moran stated the camera was not presently working.
- Councilman Culley asked if it could be fixed.
- Manager Moran stated it could and would be fixed by the next Council meeting.
- Councilman Andersen stated the technology was not reliable.
- Councilman Sparks acknowledged constituents calling during the period broadcasting was not available and stating they missed the meetings on TV. He admitted he didn't understand the current technical difficulties, but that it was a cheap way of getting information out to the public.

- Councilman Culley reminded the Council that it was taxpayer money they were speaking about.
- Councilman Andersen stated he was responding to requests from his constituents in making this motion.

At the roll call:

Aye: Green; Andersen; Tobin

Nay: Culley; Sparks

Abstain:

The motion **FAILED**

Councilman Andersen asked if there was an increase in police calls for service due to the tourist liquor license allowing the operation of a bar attached to a hotel.

- Chief Papasodora stated that particular question could not be answered due to the number of licensed premises within the Front St neighborhood. He explained the number of calls for service in the bar were relatively low, while the number of calls to the hotels is relatively high. The calls for service in the hotel cannot be directly attributed to the availability of alcohol in the hotel because hotel patrons can just as easily purchase alcohol at a package store, a restaurant or a different bar down the street. Likewise, people off the street can stumble into a hotel they have no business being after purchasing alcohol elsewhere.

Councilman Andersen suggested the City host an appreciation dinner for the Nome Volunteer Ambulance Department. He requested the addition of "personnel" to the executive session agenda.

- Manager Moran stated the agenda had already been approved at the beginning of the meeting.
- 5) Councilman Green noted that the State Troopers were paying rent to the Alaska National Guard, yet the building was owned by the City of Nome.
- Manager Moran stated the National Guard rents the building from the City of Nome, with the rental agreement states they will not sublet. However, they do sublet to the Alaska State Troopers. A conversation was had with the previous City Manager, though the issue has not been revisited recently. Manager Moran stated he would address the issue in his City Manager's report at the January 25 meeting.

Councilman Green stated there will be changes coming to the Alaska National Guard, noting that the Armories in the Bethel area were not being abandoned, yet those in the Bering Strait were.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Beneville stated that the Murkowski visit went well and highlighted recent developments in regards to the development of a deep draft port in the region. Recently, Congress passed a bill authorizing the transfer of land at Pt. Spencer on Port Clarence to Bering Straits Native Corporation. Conversations with Gail Schubert, President of BSNC, indicate a unified message of the need for a Bering Strait port system consisting of Nome and Port Clarence.
- Mayor Beneville congratulated Marguerite on her video and the work she is doing at the Library.

- Mayor Beneville noted that Nome's own Santa Paul recently won a Santa contest, garnering \$100,000 for himself and \$10,000 for the Make a Wish Foundation.
- The Mayor also noted that Nome resident Diana Haecker, was in Bethel for the K300 race and would be talking up mushing in Nome. Mayor Beneville stated that Nome was the birthplace of long distance mushing.
- Mayor Beneville discussed correspondence he recently received notifying him of a play in the San Diego area that was set in Nome. He went on to highlight the name recognition that Nome has as an asset.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by C. Andersen and seconded by C. Sparks to enter into executive session for an update on the 2014 sales tax audit.

The Council recessed at 8:47 PM


The Council reconvened at 9:11 PM

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Hearing no objections, the Nome Common Council adjourned at 9:12 PM.

**APPROVED and SIGNED** this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016.

  
**RICHARD BENEVILLE,**  
 Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
**BRYANT HAMMOND**  
 City Clerk