

Mayor
John K. Handeland
Manager
Glenn Steckman
Clerk
Bryant Hammond



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

**NOME COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2021 at 6:00 / 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

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

WORK SESSION 6:00 PM

- A. Alaska Redistricting Board Presentation,

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ALASKA LEGISLATIVE CITATION

- A. Presentation of Alaska Legislative Citation to Josephine Tatuq Bourdon,

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- B. R-21-06-01 A Resolution Approving a Labor Agreement Between the City of Nome and the City of Nome Employees' Association (CNEA) Through December 31, 2021,
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CITIZEN'S COMMENTSCOUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTSMAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

- A. Activity Report: May 26 - June 11, 2021,

VERBALEXECUTIVE SESSIONADJOURNMENT

Mayor
John K. Handeland
Manager
Glenn Steckman
Clerk
Bryant Hammond



Nome City Council
Jerald Brown
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WORK SESSION

- A. Alaska Redistricting Board Presentation.

ALASKA LEGISLATIVE CITATION

- A. Presentation of Alaska Legislative Citation to Josephine Tatuq Bourdon.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Jerald Brown; Mark Johnson; Adam Martinson; Jennifer Reader; Sigvanna Topkok (telephonic)

Members Absent: Doug Johnson (excused)

Also Present: John K. Handeland, Mayor; Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Bryant Hammond, Clerk; Nickie Crowe, Finance Director (telephonic); Mike Heintzelman, NPD Chief; Bob Pruckner, NPD Deputy Chief; Ken Morton, Assistant Utility Manager; Joy Baker, Port Director,

In the audience: Diana Haecker, Nome Nugget; Davis Hovey, KNOM; Mary David; Jay David; Josie Bourdon; Rolland Trowbridge; Kayla Bourdon; Wilson Bourdon; Katie Bourdon; Jim Adams; Jessica Farley

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Brown to postpone O-21-05-03 to the June 28, 2021 Regular Meeting.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:
Abstain:

The motion to amend **CARRIED**.

Returning to the main motion

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. May 25, 2021 Nome Common Council Rescheduled Regular Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Brown to approve the May 25, 2021 minutes.

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

The motion **CARRIED**.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Letter of May 6, 2021 from Bering Sea Humane Society to City of Nome re: Grant Request.

- Mayor Handeland referred the matter to the City Manager.

B. Memorandum of May 27, 2021 from Clerk Hammond to Nome Common Council re: Disposition of Untimely Filed Sales Tax Exemptions.

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

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

The motion **CARRIED**.

- C. Letter of June 10, 2021 from Krysta & Gray Harrison to City of Nome re: Valuation of Lots Currently for Bid.
- Manager Handeland summarized the letter.
 - Council Member Reader asked if the City could take less for the lot or fill the ditch.
 - Manager Handeland explained the creek drained a large area on the east side of town by the hospital and elementary school. He suggested a culvert would be needed to maintain the drainage if fill were placed.
 - Clerk Hammond explained the City couldn't change the assessed value, but could offer the parcels for sale at a lower price by ordinance.
- D. Memo of June 11, 2021 from Clerk Hammond to the Common Council re: Prioritization and Scheduling of Work Sessions.
- After discussion, the Council suggested the following prioritization:
 - Beautification tax credits and incentives
 - International Property Management Code, building codes, and permits that qualify for tax exemption
 - Plastic bag ban
 - Election code updates
 - Discharge of firearms at the Port
 - Revenue ideas
 - Public inebriation
 - The Council discussed work session regularity and scheduling and agreed it was preferable to have fewer longer meetings than more shorter meetings when scheduling work sessions.
- E. FY 2022 City of Nome Budget Calendar.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

1. Jim Adams asked the City to open the Sauna soon as it was cold outside.
2. Rolland Trowbridge thanked the Council for navigating COVID-19. He noted Manager Steckman was taking a lot of flack and that there were lots of angry people at Council meetings, but noted his staff was not expendable. He discussed how his business handled the pandemic and thanked the City for all the things that didn't happen.
3. Jessica Farley discussed beautification incentives, giving examples from Pennsylvania and offering to bring information back to the Council. She requested the dump being open all the time so residents can just drop stuff off. She discussed travel restrictions, the Nome vaccination rates, village policies, and a general dissatisfaction of Nome's travel restrictions. She compared the Nome airport tent unfavorably as compared to the Hawaii airport tent. She alleged one NSHC staff member was making money off the

pandemic through his/her staffing agency. She requested the City of Nome get a second opinion with regard to travel restrictions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. O-21-05-03 An Ordinance Authorizing the Disposal of Municipal Property by Lease to GCI Communication Corporation.

Postponed to June 28, 2021 Regular Meeting.

- B. O-21-06-01 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2022 City of Nome General Fund Municipal Budget and Exercising the Power to Assess and Authorize the Levy of a General Property Tax.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:58 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:58 PM.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Reader to adopt O-21-06-01.

Discussion:

- Council Member Brown asked about the carry forward discussion from the last work session. He asked if someone had been consulted on the matter.
- Manager Steckman explained the solution he and Finance Director Crowe came up with. Steckman explained the Council could assign surpluses to whichever fund or project they would like.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. M. Johnson to lower the stated mill rate to 12, as it was lowered by Resolution at the previous meeting.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion to amend **CARRIED**.

Returning to the main motion

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Martinson to amend O-21-06-01 per Finance Director Crowe's Crowe's memo increasing total revenue by

\$270,657.36 making the total revenue \$13,542,220.39 and increasing expenses by \$270,657.36 making the total expense \$13,542,220.39.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion to amend **CARRIED**.

Returning to the main motion

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

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

- C. O-21-06-02 An Ordinance to Establish Approve, and Adopt the FY 2022 City of Nome School Debt Service Fund Budget.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 8:14 PM.

The Council reconvened at 8:14 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-21-06-02.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- D. O-21-06-03 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2022 City of Nome Special Revenue Fund Budget.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 8:16 PM.

The Council reconvened at 8:16 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-21-06-03.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to amend O-21-06-03 per Finance Director Crowe's memo decreasing revenue by \$335,906.01 making total revenue \$1,091,744.68 and decreasing expenses by \$335,906.01 for total expenses of \$1,091,744.68.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion to amend **CARRIED**.

Returning to the main motion:

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

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

- E. O-21-06-04 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2022 City of Nome Capital Projects Fund Budget.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 8:18 PM.

The Council reconvened at 8:18 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-21-06-04.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- F. O-21-06-05 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2022 City of Nome Construction Capital Projects Fund Budget.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 8:19 PM.

The Council reconvened at 8:19 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-21-06-05.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- G. O-21-06-06 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2022 City of Nome Port of Nome Fund Budget.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 8:20 PM.

The Council reconvened at 8:21 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-21-06-06.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to amend O-21-06-06 per Finance Director Crowe's memo by decreasing revenue by \$3,051.08 for total revenue of \$2,837,811.29 and decreasing expenses by \$3,051.08 for total expenses of \$2,837,811.29.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion to amend **CARRIED**.

Returning to the main motion

At the roll call:

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

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

- H. O-21-06-07 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2022 City of Nome Port of Nome Capital Projects Fund Budget.

For the purpose of holding public hearing, the Council recessed at 8:22 PM.

The Council reconvened at 8:22 PM.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-21-06-07.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to amend O-21-06-07 per Finance Director Crowe's memo decreasing the revenue by \$1,494.00 for total revenue of \$4,829,353.08 and decreasing the expenses by \$1,494.00 making total expenses \$4,829,353.08.

At the roll call:

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

The motion to amend **CARRIED**.

Returning to the main motion

At the roll call:

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

- A. O-21-06-08 An Extension of a Local Emergency Authorizing the Nome Common Council to Direct the City Manager Take Necessary Actions to Reduce the Impact and Spread of COVID-19 Throughout the City of Nome, **FIRST READING/DISCUSSION**.

A motion was made by C. Topkok and seconded by C. Brown to advance O-21-06-08.

At the roll call:

Aye: Topkok; Brown; M. Johnson; Reader

Nay: Martinson

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- B. R-21-06-01 A Resolution Approving a Labor Agreement Between the City of Nome and the City of Nome Employees' Association (CNEA) Through December 31, 2021.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt R-21-06-01.

Discussion:

- Manager Steckman requested the Council approve the agreement.
- Council Member Reader asked why the agreement was only for one year.
- Manager Steckman explained there were some difficulties encountered while negotiating through zoom.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- C. R-21-06-02 A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into an Agreement with PND Engineers, Inc., to Attend a Design Charrette Hosted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Alaska District (USACE) to Facilitate Effective Coordination in the Design of the Local Service Facilities Within the Port of Nome Modifications Project and Arctic Port Expansion.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt R-21-06-02.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT**A. Activity Report: May 26 - June 11, 2021.**

- Assistant Utility Manager Morton discussed summer projects, beginning with Bering St, noting water / sewer crew correcting a number of leaks, working five 10-hour days to catch up. The line crew completed pole relocations and just finished up a line extension. Assistant Manager Morton explained that interviews for the apprentice lineman started next week. Regarding the power plant, the oil discharge prevention plan public comment period will begin shortly and will last one month. He finished with an update on the tank farm project.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**A. Activity Report: May 26 - June 11, 2021.**

- Manager Steckman presented his written report, discussing the meeting earlier in the day regarding alcohol and alcoholism. He explained the group was seeking a holistic solution from treatment to housing to changing the culture of drinking in Nome. He discussed the YTD police statistics, newly started patrols on West Beach and the issue of camping in Nome City Limits. Manager Steckman noted Ms. Farley's suggestion of PA example beautification strategies and suggested a fund balance policy and discussion of such in October. He noted the City was still waiting on final guidance on the ARPA funding. He noted the AML would be providing guidance for cost (as opposed to the previous year's example).
- Council Member Reader asked about the goals for the organization discussion and Manager Steckman presented his vision for the conversation.
- Council Member Reader asked about phase 7 of CARES funding and asked when it would come out and Manager Steckman discussed the general plans for the release of funds.
- Manager Steckman announced the four port calls of cruise ships have cancelled for the next year.
- Council Member Mark Johnson expressed appreciation for all the work the City has done for COVID, but relayed comments from others who have had bad experiences arriving in Nome. He criticized the dispatch of police officers to the airport saying it didn't welcome people to Nome. He suggested Glenn delegate airport duty to other staff.
- Manager Steckman discussed airport tent operations and the range of passenger behavior he encounters. He noted a pattern of aggressive individuals coming in on the evening flight. He noted the low hospitalization rate and lack of deaths in Nome as indicative of a successful strategy to contain COVID. He discussed staffing changes coming and reminded the Council these operations were ARPA funded.
- Council Member Mark Johnson described Nome as a welcoming sort of place and expressed the desire to get back to that atmosphere.
- Council Member Reader described an experience friends had and asked how the process could be improved to avoid similar experiences.

- Mayor Handeland and Council Member Mark Johnson shared experiences passing through the airport. Glenn noted he'd speak to the Chief. Mayor Handeland noted smiling and welcoming faces.
- B. DHSS Fact & Figures: 1918 Pandemic Influenza Mortality in Alaska.
- C. NPD Statistics January 1 to June 7, 2021.
- D. June 2021 Port Capital Projects Report.
- Port Director Baker spoke about current Port operations, including difficulty in recruiting a dock watch person. She asked the Council to spread the word. She noted the USACE dredgee was nearly ready, intending to start at 12:01 tonight. The USACE was looking to put out a bid to fix the causeway bridge, coming out in September. She discussed timelines to the launch ramp replacement project, the port road improvements project, and the anode replacement project.
- E. March 18, 2021 Nome Port Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.
- F. April 15, 2021 Nome Port Commission Meeting Minutes.
- G. Alaska Lemonade Day Flyer.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

None given

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

1. Council Member Mark Johnson discussed his dollar for dollar tax credit idea and asked Finance Director Crowe and Manager Steckman to look into the land fill replacement fund as means of funding it.
2. Council Member Martinson – no comments.
3. Council Member Reader wished congrats to Josie Bourdon, wished the public had good midnight sun, plugged the chicken feed, raft race and expressed hope for sun.
4. Council Member Topkok said quyanna and congrats to Tuatuk on language preservation, noting this is how we heal from generations of trauma. She noted the conversations around alcoholism and homelessness were difficult because of the sum of generations of trauma, she asked for compassion and empathy in taking care of them. She discussed a recent meeting of the AML Board of Directors and plugged the conference of young Alaskans, noting 6 youth from Nome applied. She expressed pride over the level of Nome youth participation.

5. Council Member Brown – no comments.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

A. Activity Report: May 26 - June 11, 2021.

- Mayor Handeland discussed the State of Alaska looking at EMS operations within the State looking to put forth recommendations to the state, he thanked Cheryl, Glenn and Public works for spring clean up. He touched upon the ongoing discussions on homelessness and alcoholism again. He expressed hope of resolution of the project through small steps and emphasized the positive direction the conversation was moving in. He plugged lemonade day and the Midnight Sun Festival. He noted that chicken sales would start on Wednesday.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session was held.

ADJOURNMENT

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

APPROVED and SIGNED this 28th day of June, 2021


JOHN K. HANDELAND
Mayor

ATTEST:


BRYANT HAMMOND
Clerk