NOME COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2022 at 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

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Jerald Brown; Scot Henderson; Mark Johnson (telephonic); Adam Martinson

Members Absent: Doug Johnson (excused); Sigvanna Tapqaq (excused)

Also Present: John Handeland, Mayor; Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Brad Soske, Clerk’s Office Administrative Assistant; Bryant Hammond, City Clerk (telephonic); Nickie Crowe, Finance Director (telephonic)

In the audience: Diana Haecker (Nome Nugget); Rhonda Schneider; Keith Comstock (telephonic); Erik O’Brien (Denali Commission; telephonic)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Henderson to approve the agenda.

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

The motion CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES


A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. Henderson to approve the May 23, 2022 minutes.

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

The motion CARRIED.
COMMUNICATIONS

A. City of Nome FY 2023 Budget Calendar.

CITIZEN’S COMMENTS

None given

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. O-22-06-01 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2023 City of Nome General Fund Municipal Budget and Exercising the Power to Assess and Authorize 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 7:04 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:04 PM.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-22-06-01.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to amend O-22-06-01 per Finance Director Crowe’s memo included in the packet.

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

The motion to amend CARRIED.

Returning to the main motion

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

The motion, as amended, CARRIED.

B. O-22-06-02 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2023 City Nome School Debt Service Fund Budget, SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:09 PM.
The Council reconvened at 7:09 PM.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-22-06-02.

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

The motion CARRIED.

C. O-22-06-03 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2023 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 7:10 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:10 PM.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-22-06-03.

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

The motion CARRIED.

D. O-22-06-04 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 223 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 7:12 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:12 PM

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-22-06-04.

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

The motion CARRIED.
E. O-22-06-05 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2023 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 7:14 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:14 PM.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-22-06-05

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

The motion CARRIED.

F. O-22-06-06 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2023 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 7:16 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:16 PM.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-22-06-06.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C Martinson to amend O-22-06-06 per Finance Director Crowe’s memo in the packet.

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

The motion to amend CARRIED.

Returning to the main motion

At the roll call:
Aye: M. Johnson; Henderson; Brown; Martinson
Nay:
Abstain:
The motion, as amended, CARRIED.

G. O-22-06-07 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve and Adopt the FY 2023 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 7:18 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:19 PM.

A motion was made C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-22-06-07

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. Henderson to amend O-22-06-07 per Finance Director Crowe's memo included in the packet.

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

The motion to amend CARRIED.

Returning to the main motion

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

The motion, as amended, CARRIED.


For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:21 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:21 PM.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-22-06-08.

Discussion:
- Council Member Brown noted the budgets covered 2022.

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

The motion CARRIED.

I. O-22-06-09 An Ordinance Approving the 2022 Capital Investments Budget for Nome Joint Utility System, SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:23 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:23 PM.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and Martinson to adopt O-22-06-09.

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

The motion CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

A. R-22-06-01 A Resolution Designating Charles "Chip" Leeper as Acting City Manager for June 29 to July 9, 2022.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Henderson to adopt R-22-06-01.

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

The motion CARRIED.

B. R-22-06-02 A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter Into a Collaborative Agreement with Pennsylvania State University and Extreme Habitats Institute to Develop a 3D Concrete Printing Demonstration Project in Nome and Submit Applications for its Funding.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Brown to adopt R-22-06-02.

Discussion:
- Manager Steckman introduced Keith Comstock, the CEO of Extreme Habitats Institute and gave an overview of the project, partnerships, and its goals. He noted that different sites
would be used, selected for different soil stability characteristics. He noted the City intended to work with tribes and that it would hopefully be a demonstration project for the entire region. He noted a general positive attitudes towards the project and that hopefully the technology could be transferred into the private sector.
- Mayor Handeland summarized a previous work session on the subject, noting passing the present resolution and signing the resolution wouldn't obligate any city funds yet.
- Council Member Henderson asked if further steps would be brought back to the Council.
- Council Member Brown asked if the collaborative relationship would extend to funding applications.
- Mayor Handeland thanked Mr. Comstock for coming to Nome to go over the partnership with the City of Nome.
- Mr. Comstock noted the desire to move forward and said he was looking forward to working with the City.

At the roll call:
Aye: Martinson; Brown; Henderson; M. Jonhson
Nay:
Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.

**UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

   - Assistant Utility Manager Morten discussed the current work on City Feeder 1, requiring periodic power outages to reattach lines to the tops of poles. He gave advance notice of power outages next week 9 - 11.
   - He announced Marty Silvernail’s retirement as of the coming Friday.
   - He noted the Utility was working with DEC on the tank farm relocation project. He noted he would return to the Council when it was time to submit loan applications.
   - With respect to the water & sewer crew, they are continuing to jet drains, saying it was a goal to jet all of town this summer.
   - Council Member Brown asked how the Utility determines how and when to lock in a price on fuel.
   - Assistant Manager Morten discussed the option to advance for an agreed upon volume at an agreed upon price. If not, it is the average of the month of loading on the Singapore spot index. He noted that NJUS did not lock in a price yet.
   - Manager Steckman discussed pricing.
   - Mayor Handeland noted the markets are quite volatile now. He discussed the lift window would be in August and they are looking for possible gluts or downward spikes.
   - Council Member Henderson discussed trends and the lack of ability to rely on them this year.

**CITY MANAGER’S REPORT**

   - Manager Steckman discussed the Community Development Block Grant hearing at the next meeting. He noted the Homeplate, LLC project would break ground this summer, with a man camp being built for the construction workers. He discussed the busy Monday - public
hearing, Council meeting, the Governor’s visit, and the AMCO Board meeting. He gave an overview of the schedule that day.
- He noted that the ball fields are 90% completed and Parks and Rec are putting together a league.
- He discussed upcoming repairs and maintenance to the visitor center and the upgrades done at the mini.
- Major Handeland discussed the upcoming election ordinance review work session.

B. Port Capital Projects Update June 2022.

C. March 17, 2022 Nome Port Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

D. April 21, 2022 Nome Port Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

E. Demolition Permit - Revised May 2022 to Meet DEC Requirements.
- Manager Steckman discussed the updated requirements for demo permits as explained by John Blees.
- Council Member Brown noted rules pertaining to asbestos demolition have been in place for decades. He asked which of City Staff was tasked with checking to see if asbestos is present.
- Manager Steckman noted that staff would handle it up until needing to hire a third party contractor that would have to come to Nome. He discussed the possibility of certifying the building inspectors or keeping it outsourced.
- Council Member Brown asked if the permit distinguished between commercial space and residential.
- Manager Steckman noted the City would probably have to update the permit in some ways.
- Council Member Brown discussed the importance of delineating when an inspection needs to occur. He didn't want someone have to pay a bunch of money for demoing a container van when it's obvious the container doesn't contain asbestos.

CITIZEN’S COMMENTS

1. Rhonda Scheider thanked the City for taking on the 3d printing project. She encouraged those present to stop by the community garden to check it out. She noticed that some beds will be distributed to the food bank and the 8 beds along seppala are available first come frist serve for those that don't have back yards.

2. Brad Soske thanked Mayor Handeland and the water & sewer crew for blocking the stream of water that was assaulting his front door the other day.

COUNCIL MEMBER’S COMMENTS

1. Council Member Martinson thanked Nickie and Glenn for all their work on the budget process and expressed excitement for the 3d projec

2. Council Member Brown – no comments.

3. Council Member Henderson congratulated Nome Community Center on the community garden. He noted being able to see the progress made each time he drives by. He discussed
the new ordinances and asked questions about the incentives. He echoed Council Member Brown’s comments on the demo procedures, asking the process to be made clear. He discussed bringing up the plastic bag ban again, as it was on the agenda right before Covid.

4. Council Member Mark Johnson discussed seeing the birders being back in town and asked people to welcome them and make them feel welcome.

**MAYOR’S COMMENTS AND REPORT**

   - Mayor Handeland discussed reinvigorating the Museum and Library Commission. He discussed the present application for a full service bank in Nome for Northrim, with a 30 day public comment period being open.
   - He discussed various recent visitors to Nome and said there would be more info forthcoming on the Governor’s visit.
   - Mayor Handeland finished by wishing the clerk a speedy recovery so he could get back to work soon.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Hearing no objections, the Council adjourned at 8:08 PM.

**APPROVED and SIGNED** this 27th day of June, 2022

[Signature]

JOHN K. HANDELAND
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

[Signature]

BRYANT HAMMOND
Clerk