

Mayor
John K. Handeland
Manager
Glenn Steckman
Clerk
Bryant Hammond



Nome Common Council
Jerald Brown
Scot Henderson
Doug Johnson
Mark Johnson
Adam Martinson
M. Sigvanna Tapqaq

**NOME COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 27, 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; Doug Johnson; Mark Johnson; Adam Martinson
Members Absent: Sigvanna Tapqaq (excused); Paris Hebel (excused)
Also Present: John Handeland, Mayor; Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Bryant Hammond, City Clerk; Nickie Crowe, Finance Director (telephonic)
In the audience: Peter Loewi (Nome Nugget); Rhonda Schneider; Paul G. Kosto; Greg Smith

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Discussion:

- Mayor Handeland pulled New Business D from the Agenda as there were not enough Council Members without conflicts of interest to vote.

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

The motion **CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. June 13, 2022 Nome Common Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Brown to approve the minutes as presented.

Aye: M. Johnson; Martinson; Brown; D. Johnson; M. Johnson
Nay:
Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

COMMUNICATIONS

None

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

None given

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Community Development Block Grant for HomePlate, LLC, a Permanent Supportive Housing Project, **PUBLIC HEARING.**
- Rhonda Schneider introduced the project and discussion the timelines of construction and further public hearings. She discussed two slides displayed for the public: an elevation drawing of the 15 unit project as well as a floor plan. She discussed the location and reasoning behind situated it there. She discussed the current status of contracting the project and the current expected finish date.
 - Mayor Handeland asked how the CDBG grant would play into the project.
 - Ms. Schneider discussed water & sewer work that is usually well-viewed by the granting agency.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:13 PM.

Discussion:

- Mayor Handeland asked if there were any other proposed projects for the grant funding.

nobody came forward.

The Council reconvened at 7:13 PM.

Discussion:

- Manager Steckman suggested the Council passing a motion in support of the project.
- Mayor Handeland requested a resolution be brought forward at the next meeting.
- Council Member Mark Johnson asked about the structure of the LLC.
- Ms. Schneider explained the protections given and the ability for another entity to take it over if desired.
- Council Member Henderson asked if that's the intention and about CDBG grant details.
- Ms. Schneider explained it wasn't the intention necessarily, but the ease by which NCC was able to spin off Munaqsri in past was encouraging and it was recommended by their attorney.

- B. R-22-06-03 A Resolution Approving the City of Nome's FY 2023 Schedule of Rental and Use Fees and Fines.

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

Discussion:

- Manager Steckman noted there were no rate increases other than the Port fees that are covered by the CPI. He alerted them to potential discussions in the coming months.
 - Council Member Henderson asked how often this document was updated and what the approach was for increasing fees.
 - Manager Steckman explained the annual update and how it differed from Port fees. He noted that fees were a small part of the City's revenue.
 - The Council discussed the failure to signal for dog teams fine and decided to leave it alone as it was a piece of history.
 - Council Member Henderson asked about the rates listed to rent heavy equipment, as the City is not in the heavy equipment leasing business.
 - Manager Steckman explained it was for emergency use.
 - Council Member Brown suggested waiving the building demolition, remodel and building permit fees up to \$500,000.
 - The Council requested an ordinance for such be brought forth at the next meeting.
 - Council Member Doug Johnson asked about the transient merchant license.
- C. R-22-06-04 A Resolution Approving a Contract with Windward Strategies for Federal Lobbying Services for the Fiscal Year 2023.
- Manager Steckman noted no increase in the contract.
 - Mayor Handeland opined he's worth every penny and more
- D. R-22-06-05 A Resolution Approving a Contract Between the Nome Chamber of Commerce and the City of Nome for Operation of the Nome Convention and Visitors' Bureau.
- Postponed until July 11, 2022 regular meeting.

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Activity Report: June 14 - 24, 2022.
- Assistant Utility Manager Morten discussed a capacitor overheating early in the morning that triggered an alarm. There were no flames. NVFD came and left. Everything worked the way it was supposed to.
 - He noted the annual cathodic protection survey came and went smoothly.
 - Mr. Morten discussed a planned power outage. He gave the reasoning and discussed the locations.
 - He discussed a trip by two board members and a couple staffers to look at Kotzebue Electric Association battery storage system.
 - He noted the water & sewer crew was continuing with the jetting of drains and repairing leaks. He discussed the mobilization of sediment caused by the increased flow of water and suggested removing the aerator and running water to pass the sediment.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Activity Report: June 14 - 24, 2022.
- Manager Steckman discussed the reasons why the Governor couldn't make it into town earlier in the day. He noted potential future challenges related to travel due to the runway construction.
 - He discussed the application process for the construction incentives and working with the attorney to hammer out the details.

- He summarized the AMCO meeting earlier in the day, calling it a positive discussion among a diverse group of stakeholders. He discussed a proposal by AC that was submitted late last week. He handed something to Council Member Brown who distributed it to the rest of the Council. He noted the board suggesting AC and Hanson's developing an MOA as to how they can work together to address the problem before an ordinance is adopted. He discussed recent challenges addressed by NPD and talked about getting inpatient treatment back into Nome.
- Council Member Henderson asked about the posting of the Assistant City Manager position.
- Manager Steckman noted he was developing the job description.
- Council Member Henderson suggested the Council sit in on the interviews for the position.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

None given

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

1. Council Member Henderson observed a couple of NPD guys doing a walking tour down front street. He asked for more of such, saying well done.
2. Council Member Doug Johnson – no comments.
3. Council Member Mark Johnson discussed potential basketball courts. He asked if the City could put up hoops without pavement to get the kids somewhere to play.
 - Manager Steckman said he would discuss with Parks & Rec Director Leeper. He noted the desire for a smooth surface and discussed hoops of the past. He noted that he directed Mr. Leeper to develop a plan to centralize everything over by the rec center so that the Council and community are on the same page and funding can be sought.Council Member Mark Johnson opined it didn't matter what the surface was. He discussed the closure of the rec center on weekends during the summer and asked if it was a staffing issue.
 - Manager Steckman discussed putting out a better schedule further in advance. He discussed the changes in sports and activities over the years and opined a comprehensive actionable plan would be useful. He noted the frustration over the sauna repairs.
4. Council Member Martinson – Welcomed Clerk Hammond back.
5. Council Member Brown – no comments.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

- A. Activity Report: June 14 - 24, 2022.
- Mayor Handeland discussed the AMCO board meeting that occurred in Council Chambers earlier in the day and some of the discussion that followed with respect to licensees following the rules and helping NPD enforce the rules. He discussed the AMCO Board scrambling with the rewrite of Title 4, some requirements of which go into affect on July 1, some next year. He discussed the back and forth over the suggestions by the City of Nome and the suggestion by the board to get together with the City of Nome and hammer out an MOA.
 - He discussed the Governor's visit that didn't occur today. He discussed the purpose of the visit and Ken's prepwork. He framed this as an opportunity to tidy up the language for the next time.

- Mayor Handeland stated it was nice to see Charles "Buzz" Fagerstrom over the weekend and discussed a productive meeting earlier in the day discussing land issues and the revitalization of Front St.
- He mentioned saunas, saying he received three calls today.
- He discussed dropping in on that Nome Winter Sports Association and the ensuing discussions over the relocation of the Ice Hockey Rink. He noted increased interest by another group in town.
- He suggested members of the Council go check out the Mini, that they will be amazed what the building maintenance crew has done.

B. Reappointment of Carol Piscoya to Seat D of the Nome Planning Commission.

Mayor Handeland Reappointed Carol Piscoya to the Nome Planning Commission.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to confirm Mayor Handeland's appointment.

At the roll call:

Aye: Henderson; D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson; Brown

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Discussion of Contractual Matters the Immediate Knowledge of Which May Have Adverse Impacts on City Finances.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Brown to enter into executive session to discuss contractual matters the immediate knowledge of which may have adverse impacts on City finances.

The Council entered into executive session at 8:07 PM.

The Council came out of executive session at 8:18 PM

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objections, the Council adjourned at 8:18 PM.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 11th day of July 2022



JERALD BROWN
Presiding Council Member

ATTEST:



BRYANT HAMMOND
Clerk