

**Committee of the Whole – 6:30 P.M.
Regular City Council Meeting – 7:00 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the North Pole City Council was held on January 3, 2011 in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 125 Snowman Lane, North Pole, Alaska.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Doug Isaacson called the regular City Council meeting of January 3, 2011 to order at 7:00 p.m.

There were present:

**Mr. McGhee
Ms. Arnold
Ms. Hunter
Mr. Jones
Mr. Holm
Mr. McCarthy
Mayor Isaacson**

Absent/Excused

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Led by Mayor Doug Isaacson

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Councilwoman Sharron Hunter

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McGhee moved to Approve the Agenda of January 3, 2011

Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion

None

Mr. McGhee moved to Amend the Agenda by putting the following items under consent agenda:

Old Business

- a. Ordinance 10-13, An Ordinance Of The City Of North Pole, Alaska, Amending Title 4, Chapter 4.08, Section 4.08.110, Exemptions, Exceptions And Refunds
- b. Ordinance 10-14, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska Amending Title 4, Chapter 4.08, Section 4.08.020, Imposition of Rate

New Business

- a. Request for Mayor Isaacson and Councilman Ron Jones to travel to Juneau to attend the Winter Legislative Meeting, February 8 – 10, 2011

b. Request from Councilman Ron Jones for Support by the City of North Pole to Commit Financial Support If Appointed to the AML Board of Directors, District 7 Seat

c. Ordinance 11-01, An Ordinance Of The City Of North Pole, Alaska To Amend Title 13, Public Services

Discussion

None

On the amendment

PASSED

YES – 7–Holm, Arnold, McGhee, Jones, McCarthy, Hunter, Isaacson

NO – 0

Abstained- 0

On the main motion as amended

PASSED

YES – 7–Holm, Arnold, McGhee, Jones, McCarthy, Hunter, Isaacson

NO – 0

Abstained- 0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McGhee *moved to* Approve the Minutes of December 20, 2010

Seconded *by* Mr. Jones

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES – 7–Holm, Arnold, McGhee, Jones, McCarthy, Hunter, Isaacson

NO – 0

Abstained- 0

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

**Communication Highlights from the Mayor for the period ending January 3, 2011
ISSUES:**

• The City of North Pole Welcomes the Worshipful Deputy Mayor of Waltham Forest



who is visiting friends in the North Pole area and has taken time to visit with us tonight. “Councillor Geoff Walker was born and bred in the City of London. On leaving school he trained as a draughtsman, before progressing on to engineer status in the copper mining industry. After 23 years, he moved into the lubrication industry, where he continues to work as a design engineer.

“In 1994, Cllr Walker was elected as a member for Hatch Lane ward, a position still occupied today. Over the past 16 years he has served on many committees, been the leader of the Conservative Group for nine years and held the chairmanship of the North Chingford Community Council. He was at one point his Group’s spokesman on Social Services and was also elected as the Council’s representative on the Reserve Forces and Cadets Association of Greater London.

“The Deputy Mayor has long been an active member of the Mayor’s Charity Committee and also a Trustee of the Charity Fund. His introduction of a Civic Carol Service to Waltham Forest in 2003 has involved hundreds of the Borough’s children in a high-profile and much anticipated Christmas celebration that has raised thousands of pounds for the Mayor’s charity.

“An accredited local preacher in the Methodist Church and an accomplished brass musician, Cllr Walker became a Freeman of the City of London and a member of The Guild of Freemen in 2004.

“As Deputy Mayor, Cllr Walker is looking forward to working with the Mayor to promote The London Borough of Waltham Forest as a place to be proud of and which its residents - by supporting the Mayor’s charities - will demonstrate that they care for the health and wellbeing of their fellow, less fortunate citizens.” (taken from www.walthamforest.gov.uk)

• The ZEBRA pens are available: Council approved a resolution naming Zebra Pens Sarasa Metallic Gel pens the official pen of the North Pole Holiday Season...And the pens are here! We’ve received about 2000 tri-packs, which are also on the Chamber seats tonight, which will be distributed to residents on a first come, first-serve basis. Please limit one tri-pack per resident .

• Holiday Events in the North Pole area were numerous and enjoyable. I represented the City at events in Fairbanks, Ft. Wainwright, Eielson, and North Pole. Probably the highlight was the New Year’s Eve Snowflake Drop at Christmas In Ice where attendance that night was estimated between 1000-1500.

• Meeting the new DNR Commissioner. DNR Commissioner Dan Sullivan was in Fairbanks discussing energy issues with elected officials and community leaders at FEDC’s conference room. The former State Attorney General emphasized that the State

will initiate a study ranking Alaska with global resources, for example, Alaska is number 2 in global ranking for coal reserves. However, control of our natural resources precedes debate on utilizing / developing them. I was encouraged that for the first time in a decade, this Administration, at least this commissioner, admitted that the Alaska Constitution's use of "maximum benefit" does not necessarily equate to maximum dollar to the State's coffers and is open to considering an alternative measurement of "maximum employment". It is my belief that we have been using a premise that will lead us to a bankrupt economy because money to the State coffers has not been applied to the creation of new infrastructure that lowers our cost of living and stimulates the diversification of an economy that is not dependent upon federal or oil money. The alternative interpretation is important for North Pole because we have seen the shut-down of FHR's tower 3 that produces jet fuel because it has been cheaper for the airlines to buy fuel from overseas than to buy it from North Pole refineries. The pricing of our royalty oil and associated fees should be such that it encourages expansion of employment in State, not the exporting of our jobs out of state.

- Senator Begich Teleconference. I participated on a teleconference with Senator Begich and other Alaskan mayors. His main points were
 1. no omnibus bill was passed which means that the current budget continues through March with limited increases.
 2. No earmarks were passed in the final bill and earmarks are unlikely to pass in the new Congress; however, he encouraged us to make our requests.
 3. The Post Office budget is not in the Senate's budgetary control; any issue with the post office is easier to assist if we can get the Postal Service to include it in their budget (e.g. new facilities, new postmarking equipment...)
- City Insurance Policies. David Hale briefed the Clerk, Accountant, and myself on the various policies covering the City. Alternate carriers, property values, coverage and costs were among the subjects discussed.
- DOT NP Bike Trail Rehab and Connections Open House will be held at the Council Chambers this Wednesday, January 5, from 4 pm to 7 pm. Come and review the options being discussed, ask questions of the DOT employees who are present and then let your voice be heard on this issue.
- Commissioner Update. The City of North Pole still needs two individuals to represent the city on the FNSB Planning Commission and the FNSB Recycling Commission. There is a lot of local interest in RECYCLING! If you are interested in either one of these positions, please contact Mayor Isaacson at 488-8584. Details of the commissions are online at www.fnsb.us.
- Meeting with ARRC President Chris Aadnessen. I

FNSB ASSEMBLY MEETING.

There was no Assembly meeting during this period. No agenda is yet posted for the January 13, 2011 meeting.

MEDIA:

Dec 4, Mayor Isaacson was on KJNP (1170 AM, 100.3 FM) 8 – 9 a.m. “Over the Coffee Cup.”

Multiple media outlets found their way to North Pole, including KRJC 95.3 FM, Elko NV; KOLD TV13 Tucson AZ; CBS TV, Anchorage, NBC TV, Anchorage, Today At 7, Sydney Australia, and Yesterday USA webcast.

UPCOMING (*see above and the attached fliers for other events, dates, and times*)

- **Jan 5, 4-7 pm**, ADOT NP Bike Trail Rehabilitation and Connections Open House @ Council Chambers.
- **Jan 11-13**, Arctic Winter Games site team will be in Fairbanks and North Pole at multiple venues. **THE PUBLIC IS URGED TO ATTEND THE COMMUNITY EVENT ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 4:30-7 pm** at the Big Dipper Ice Arena (see attached flier).

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR.

Mr. Jones asked if the Mayor had any contact with DOT concerning the right of way by Safeway.

Mayor Isaacson stated that he had not.

Mr. Jones stated that he and the City Clerk had called DOT and they re-iterated the fact that nothing is to be in the right of way or in the round a bouts or it will be confiscated.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Police Dept, Paul Lindhag

- None

Fire Dept, Bryan Lane

- None

Director of City Services, Bill Butler

January 3, 2011 Council Report

Bill Butler

Director of City Services

Building Department

- No new permits issued since the last council meeting

Public Works

- January 5 there will be a DOT open house at City Hall about the planned North Pole Bike Trail Rehabilitation & Construction Project.

- Project will repair deteriorating bike paths and construct connections to existing paths
- Due to state funding cycle, unlikely to go to construction until Summer 2012
- Cannot proceed until State FY 2012 budget passes in June 2011
- Project may be able to be bid late summer or early fall 2011
- Waiting on DOT recalculation of City required match (match will be less because Saint Nicholas Drive will not be part of project)

Utility Department

- New drinking water well project proceeding
 - Substantial completion inspection scheduled for January 6
 - Projected completion mid-January 2011
 - Realistic projection for City acceptance late January or early February 2011
 - Utility Department sought and received clarification of operational concerns that could affect when willing to recommend City Council accept project

Borough Representative, Mayor Isaacson

- There was no Assembly meeting during this period. No agenda is yet posted for the January 13, 2011 meeting.

City Clerk, Kathy Weber

January 3, 2011

Council Report by Kathy Weber, City Clerk

Here are some of the things that are coming up in the city. If you have any questions on any items below, please feel free to contact me at 488-8583 or email at Kathy@northpolealaska.com.

- Open House – North Pole Bike Trail Rehabilitation & Connections open house is scheduled for Wednesday, January 5, 2011 at 7pm in the North Pole City Hall Council Chambers. The deadline for submitting comments is Wednesday, January 26, 2011.
- City offices will be closed on Monday, January 17, 2011 for Martin Luther King Day. Our council meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 18, 2011.
- It looks as though the city council will receive i-pads for their use during their tenure. This will help to alleviate any problems that could arise from using personal computers for council business. I will schedule a time for training in the near future.

- Marilyn Zrucky is still on vacation and will return to the office on January 6, 2011.
- Attached is the travel itinerary for my year as AAMC president. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at any time. Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to representing Alaska as well as the City of North Pole this year.
- There are 362 days until Christmas.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Christmas In Ice

Keith Fye – reported that there was a 10% increase over last year. Over 10,000 people came through the ice park. On Christmas Day the park was open with free admission. Next year the park will be open from December 3 – January 9 to compensate for when school is out. At the last Board meeting they decided that they will not tear park down the ice park until after the Arctic Winter Games personnel come. There have been over 320 hits on the Facebook fan page in the past week. Some of the largest numbers of people came through the park on BP Picnic Day, Petro Star/Military Appreciation Day, and Christmas in Ice on “Christmas Day. The Snowflake drop had over 1100 people who came to celebrate the New Year. At least 3 video’s have been put on YouTube.

Americorp/Vista Representative

Lea Ann Hood reported that AmeriCorps and the North Pole Girl Scout Troops will be joined by various North Pole Community organizations and members to host the first, and hopeful, “annual”, North Pole community led day of service in honor of Dr Martin Luther King Jr. There will be a Community Service Knitting Circle from 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the Ben Franklin Crafts Classroom

CITIZENS COMMENTS – 5 Minutes

None

CONSENT AGENDA

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 10-13, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA, AMENDING TITLE 4, CHAPTER 4.08, SECTION 110, EXEMPTIONS, EXCEPTIONS AND REFUNDS

ORDINANCE 10-14, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA AMENDING TITLE 4, CHAPTER 4.08, SECTION 4.08.020, IMPOSITION OF RATE

NEW BUSINESS

REQUEST FOR MAYOR ISAACSON AND COUNCILMAN RON JONES TO TRAVEL TO JUNEAU TO ATTEND THE WINTER LEGISLATIVE MEETING, FEBRUARY 8 – 10, 2011

REQUEST FROM COUNCILMAN RON JONES FOR SUPPORT BY THE CITY OF NORTH POLE TO COMMIT FINANCIAL SUPPORT IF APPOINTED TO THE AML BOARD OF DIRECTORS, DISTRICT 7 SEAT

ORDINANCE 11-01, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA TO AMEND TITLE 13, PUBLIC SERVICES

Mr. McGhee moved to suspend the rules for a reception in honor of Counsellor Walker.

Seconded by Mr. Jones

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. McGhee –No Comment

Mr. Holm – Thanked Deputy Mayor Walker for coming tonight and welcomed him to North Pole. He hoped everyone had a good Christmas.

Ms. Arnold - welcomed the Deputy Mayor Walker to North Pole and for making the long trip to Alaska. She said she appreciated all the hard work that the employees are doing.

Mr. Jones – Welcomed Mayor Walker and appreciated him coming to North Pole. He thanked everyone for coming and Keith Frye for coming and working at Christmas in Ice. Mr. Jones said he appreciated the fact that Mayor Isaacson even came and helped out. A lot of people came out for Christmas in Ice and asked people to go and look YouTube to see the video's that have been put there by attendees. He is looking forward to next year and he is happy that they finally got one camera up and running.

Ms. Hunter – is glad that council had a visitor today and it was interesting hearing him tell us about his government. She was also glad to hear that we have a service day for Martin Luther King Jr. Ms. Hunter said she the snowflake drop on TV on the 6pm news and the interview with Tom Ertel from the Beautification Committee. Hopefully next year will bring out even more people.

Mr. McCarthy – Thanked Keith Frye for coming out to the meeting and that he hopes to be able to volunteer next year. He has heard so many good things about Christmas in Ice everywhere he has gone.

Mayor Isaacson – No Comment

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Jones *moved to adjourn the meeting of January 3, 2011*

Seconded by Mr. McGhee

No Objection

The regular meeting of January 3, 2011 adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Tuesday, January 18, 2011.

DOUGLAS W. ISAACSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

KATHRYN M. WEBER, CMC, City Clerk