

**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 Tuesday, September 6, 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 Tuesday, September 6, 2011 to order at 7:00 p.m.

There were present:

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

Absent/Excused

Excused

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Led by Mayor Isaacson

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McGhee moved to Approve the Agenda of September 6, 2011

Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion

None

Mr. McGhee moved to Table Ordinance 11-06, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska Amending Title 4, Chapter 4.10.010, User Fees until October 17, 2011 and Move New Business, Items A. Recommendations 1 & 2 For Engineering Firm For Water Treatment Plant Engineering Analysis And Design Project & Item C. Resolution 11-24, A Resolution Of The City Of North Pole Joining The National Moment Of Remembrance Of The 10th Anniversary Of September 11th, to Consent Agenda

Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion

None

On the Amendment

PASSED

YES –6– Arnold, Hunter, Jones, McGhee, McCarthy, Isaacson

NO – 0

Abstained- 0

On the main motion as amended

PASSED

YES –6–Arnold, Hunter, Jones, McGhee, McCarthy, Isaacson

NO – 0

Abstained- 0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McGhee *moved to Approve the Minutes of August 15, 2011*

Seconded *by Mr. Jones*

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES –6–Arnold, Hunter, Jones, McGhee, McCarthy, Isaacson

NO – 0

Abstained- 0

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

**Communication Highlights from the Mayor for the period ending September 6, 2011
ISSUES:**

• STSP Team Meetings Two: At the invitation of ADOT&PF, I attended the State Traffic Safety Plan (STSP) Team Meetings Two in Anchorage, August 16-18, as a member of the Leadership Group and the Pedestrian/Bike Emphasis Area. Discussed during these meetings were strategies to implement safety planning in construction, funding, data collection and reporting, and legislation and municipal understanding.

Planning, construction and funding, as we have seen in North Pole, often have safety elements be cut, such as widened shoulders, separated bike paths, and sidewalks, due to prior planning underestimations, construction material inflationary cost elements, or the length of time from planning to construction makes previous estimates obsolete. Discussed were ways to reduce the dollar per lane mile cost, which can be as low as \$1 million up to \$10 million per lane. The

answer seemed to revolve around doing more with State funds, but that requires internal DOT changes and efficiencies as well as Legislative action.

There is a Remote Roads Task Force, which I asked to be expanded to consider the “rural”/off-road vehicle usage in urbanized areas, so that the State can place more of an emphasis in education and design. Of interest in this line of discussion, what we consider “bike paths” in the Interior, are considered elsewhere in the state as simply pedestrian paths. Elsewhere it’s considered too dangerous for both bikes and pedestrians to mingle because pedestrians may be walking animals, pushing strollers, etc, that become dangerous obstacles for bicyclists. DOT engineers stated it is safer for bicycles to use the roads, than to use the paths. I made this comment during the past FMATS meeting, which raised eyebrows, which demonstrates that a “one size fits all regions” type of planning is not functional, and that greater internal communications between DOT regions may be necessary.

When it comes to Driver Behavior, Anchorage is ahead of the State in implementing a Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor who serves as a liaison between agencies, training, information, and organizational resources. 47 states have TRSPs, and while the Municipality of Anchorage has one, the State does not. Anchorage has found the position useful.

Of interest to many, DMV has implemented an online license renewals program. For more information go to: <http://www.doa.alaska.gov/dmv/faq/renewinfo.html>.

Regarding collection and reporting of traffic safety data, there is a move to two systems:

1. Data Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety (not a database), mapping crash and crime data to identify high risk locations, deployment of law enforcement resources--each community will determine level of social harm. (see DDACTS web site maintained by www.maryland.gov. FREE RESOURCE!)
2. TraCS (Traffic & Criminal Software) integrate data into CRASH, a statewide database (make data more efficient and available); DATAMASTER will also speak directly with CRASH. Helping to input this data is the move to ELECTRONIC CITATIONS.

I am encouraging our Police and Fire Departments to be involved with these discussions in the future.

The information from these meetings will be put into a report due out by October, with a final product published, or “unveiled” during an event on November 2, 2011.

Postscript: You may see me wearing a bike helmet with “Mayor” printed in reflective tape, which was a gift from the Safe Kids ALASKA State Coalition Coordinator/TCHAP In-Patient Child Passenger Safety Coordinator, Providence Alaska Medical Center, so that I can set the

proper example, having signed the pledge. It's a funny feeling to get used to wearing, but helmets have been demonstrated to save lives and protect from severe head injuries even for bicyclists.

- Other Meetings: include learning how to use Census 2010 data to extract community relevant data; meeting with Ann Farris, Steve Bainbridge of DEC and Mayor Hopkins regarding the status of sulfolane resolution; GFCC Board meeting presentation by GVEA on the positive economics of the Healy Clean Coal Project; and budget discussions with individual departments (a department head meeting on the budget is scheduled for 10 a.m., September 12, which is open to Council Members).

COMMUNITY:

- Senior Games in North Pole: included a horseshoes competition at Terry Miller Memorial Park on August 21. Approximately 30-40 seniors competed on a drizzly wet day, but all enjoyed the time and I was able to assist in handing out medals to winners in multiple age categories, including to several gentlemen well into their 80's!

Also, NPPD Chief Lindhag, took the gold in golf during the Games! Congratulations to all who participated and won medals!

- Mayor's Labor Day & Volunteer Appreciation Picnic: on September 5 at Terry Miller Memorial Park drew hundreds of people throughout the 5 hour long, sun drenched event. No one went home hungry or without winning at least a certificate for golf or food thanks to the many generous contributing sponsors. For a complete list of the sponsors, please see the attached "Thank You" advertisement and the Event Time Line.

- Mayor's Bowl:, for the FIFTH consecutive year, was won by North Pole High School Patriots! Lathrop had been favored to win this year. Final Score: North Pole 68, Lathrop 14. Mayor Cleworth has to don the Patriots shirt at his Council Meeting!

FNSB ASSEMBLY MEETING:

The FNSB Assembly met on August 25. Among the actions taken were:

- Repealed voter action for the Port Authority's plan to truck gas as they are no longer planning to do this;
- Passed the action to put school bonding for capital maintenance projects on the October 4 ballot, includes funding for replacing and upgrading the roof on North Pole Middle School and badly needed renovations to the mechanical and system upgrades to the voc wing at North Pole High School;
- Removed stipends for members serving on Boards and Commissions.

The next regular Assembly meeting will be on September 8 at 6 pm. The Agenda includes ORDINANCE NO. 2011-20-11. An Ordinance Amending The FY 2011-12 Budget By Appropriating \$1,069,500 In Federal Grant Funding To The Transit Enterprise Project Fund For The Implementation Of A New Transit Fixed Route Between Salcha, Eielson Air Force Base, North Pole And Fairbanks And Increasing The Transportation Department's Position Count By 1.58 FTE.

For a list of meeting times and agendas, go to <http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/meetings/Assembly> .

MEDIA:

Aug 20, 27 & Sept 3: Mayor Isaacson was on KJNP (1170 AM, 100.3 FM) 8 – 9 a.m. “Over the Coffee Cup.”

On various other media, including KIAK, 101.1, 820 AM, and Daily News Miner regarding City issues and events.

UPCOMING (see above for other events, dates, and times)

- **September 10:** Raising the Flag, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the new Stars & Stripes Realty / Hood Allstate Offices on Badger Road across from Morningstar Ballfields.

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

- None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Accountant

Lisa Vaughn- The city has rec'd approximately \$66,000 in extra “revenue sharing monies”. This is like the municipal assistance monies we rec'd 2 years ago. I have filled out the application and am waiting for the final paperwork. Once I receive the final paperwork, I can apply for the monies

I have received budget changes from Police, Fire, Public Works and Utilities. All departments, except for Fire, have made some cuts, mainly from personnel leaving those departments. We will however, have to pay some unemployment costs for one former employee out of the general fund. I am still waiting for the Mayor to finalize his budget changes. The budget should be coming to you on the first council meeting of the month.

We have received our first payment, for the new ambulance fees, of \$799.

Last week I garnished PFD's for outstanding citations. I garnished \$129,733, about 8,000 less than last year but more than in 2009. We should be receive about 40-45% of this amount, keeping us in line with our budgeted amounts.

I've started some work on audit. I'm setting up files and making sure I have them up to date.

Police Dept

- None

Fire Dept

- None

Director of City Services, Bill Butler

September 6, 2011 Council Report

Bill Butler

Director of City Services

Building Department

- One new residential permit issued since last Council report of August 8
- During fall will propose adoption of new building codes that parallel Fairbanks'

Public Works

- City-wide pavement rehabilitation project completed (Finnel, H&H, North Pole High School Blvd., Cross Way, Snowman, Davis, 6th & 7th.)
- FMATS project awarded for resurfacing Holiday, 4th, Santa Claus Lane (City section), Kit Blvd. loop and Beaver Blvd. loop
 - Weather may prevent the project from proceeding this year
- Public Works supervisor position advertised
 - Review of applications to begin September 8
- Received formal notification of \$52,395 award for skid steer loader for pedestrian & bicycle path snow removal and sweeping project
 - Expect to release RFB this week
 - May take in excess of 120 days for delivery after bid awarded
- Plan to release RFP for the sale of aging lift truck
 - Concerned about safety of vehicle
 - Does not reach height for all streetlights in City
 - Will rent lift truck as needed

Utility Department

- Lift station renovation project obtained Substantial Completion in early August
 - Final completion scheduled week of September 12
- ADEC reimbursed 70% of TESLA settlement
 - Utility's final share only \$8,700
 - TESLA claim has been formally dropped
- RFP for engineering analysis and design project for water treatment plant recommendation before Council this evening

- Cash flow issue
 - Sludge removal reimbursement request approved for reimbursement; waiting for deposit of payment
 - Only one large payment remaining for construction expenses; approximately \$120,000 for lift station project
- Industrial Pretreatment Permit
 - Two year process is coming to final stages where City takes responsibility for issuing waste water pretreatment permits to industries
 - ADEC expects to formally announce this change in September and accept public comment
- Next stage will be adoption of a waste water ordinance reflecting this changed responsibility

FNSB Representative

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City Clerk, Kathy Weber

August 1, 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.

- Elections for the City of North Pole will be held on Tuesday, October 4, 2011. Two

council seats are open and we only have one person who has filed their candidacy for city council, Derrick Nelson. There are two spaces for write-in votes. Anyone wishing to declare their candidacy at this time is still required to submit a Public Financial Disclosure Statement and Declaration of Write-In Candidacy with the city clerk.

A. Write-in votes are not invalidated by writing in the name of a candidate whose name is printed on the ballot unless the election board determines, on the basis of other evidence, that the ballot was so marked for the purpose of identifying the ballot.

B. In order to vote for a write-in candidate, the voter must write in the candidate's name in the space provided and, in addition, fill in the oval opposite the candidate's name.

C. Stickers may not be used. Use of stickers can cause that portion of the ballot to be invalidated.

D. Write-in votes shall only be tabulated by person if the total number of write-in votes for an office exceeds the smallest number of votes cast for a candidate for that office whose name is printed on the ballot. For special city elections write-in votes shall be tabulated by person.

- Council members should have received their registration packet for the AML conference that will take place from November 7 – 11. I highly encourage you to attend this year's AAMC Academy that is put on by the Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks, Sunday, November 6 from 9-5 pm at the Westmark Hotel. Dr. Alan Zimmerman will be presenting the program "Take This Job and Love It!" He was selected as the "Outstanding Faculty Member" by two different universities, and most recently he was awarded the CSP by the National Speakers Association, an award given to the top 5% of all speakers nationwide. In 2003 Dr. Zimmerman was awarded the CPAE (Council of Peers Award for Excellence) Speaker Hall of Fame by the National Speakers Association, a designation that less than 1% of the NSA speakers hold. This full day class is being offered for the low price of \$125 which includes a sack lunch and networking opportunities. Please let me know if you are going to be attending the AAMC Academy session, AML or the Newly Elected Officials training so I can get you signed up as soon as possible.
- On Friday August 19th we hosted 102 6th grade students from NPMS and provided them with packets of material on the city's history and demographics.
- The city hired two new employees this past month. Seth Zrucky joined the Utility Department as the new utility assistant. Seth was previously with the U.S. Air Force Arctic Survival School. David Stevenson is the newest member the North Pole Police Department. He has come to us with 23 years of experience and from the Fairbanks Police Department.

- Ms. Weber will be attending a funeral in Palmer on Friday, September 9th for the former Mat-Su Borough Clerk and AAMC President, Sandy Dillon who died last Thursday of a sudden heart attack at age 64.

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There are 110 days left until Christmas.

ONGOING PROJECTS

- None

CITIZENS COMMENTS – 5 Minutes

- Rep. Tammy Wilson

Rep Wilson asked the council to look into the 99705 sales tax issue. She is concerned that residents outside the city limits are being charged sales tax without their knowledge.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 11-23, A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FULL FUNDING FOR THE NORTH POLE BRANCH LIBRARY PROJECT AND FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH ORDINANCE NO. 2011-20-1K: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FY 2011-12 BUDGET BY APPROPRIATING \$6,220,000 FROM THE LIBRARY SPECIAL REVENUE FUND TO THE CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND FOR THE NORTH POLE BRANCH LIBRARY REPLACEMENT PROJECT; ET.AL.

Ms. Hunter said back in July the Foraker Group met to put together a plan for the new library. Following that a cost estimate was put together and the FNSB is in a place to put together funding for 50% of the cost and drawing on a special line item/Benson Trust. The Rasmussen fund is another source of money and with funding up to \$500,000 and needing a match. Friends of the library have started a fundraising and are looking at grants and businesses to maximize the whole \$500,000. Any money raised would draw down on the Benson Trust fund. The application in January ahead of all the money to be raised in the future.

Greg Hill, Director of FNSB Library Services

Mr. Hill gave historical information on library's. He went over the main points of maintaining and keeping library's.

Public Comment

Rep. Tammy Wilson,

Ms. Wilson said this is exactly what the state wants to see and wants to see community support.

Francie Cork, 401 Holiday

Ms. Cork spoke in support of this Resolution. There is also property purchased for the library and it is a good cause and good for the community.

Mr. McGhee moved to Introduce and Approve Resolution 11-23, A Resolution In Support Of Full Funding For The North Pole Branch Library Project And Fairbanks North Star Borough Ordinance No. 2011-20-1k: An Ordinance Amending The Fy 2011-12 Budget By Appropriating \$6,220,000 From The Library Special Revenue Fund To The Capital Projects Fund For The North Pole Branch Library Replacement Project; et.al.

Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion

Mr. Jones asked about the et. Al.

Mayor Isaacson said it is for a continuation of the title ordinance.

Mr. McGhee spoke in favor of the library and told council of the hard work that the community of Esther had done to get their library.

PASSED

YES – 6- Hunter, McGhee, Arnold, Jones, McCarthy, Isaacson

NO – 0 -

Abstained – 0

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ms. Arnold – thanked everyone for coming and Rep Wilson for all her help with the Mayor’s Picnic. She left before the winner of the contest was announced. It’s been a great summer and roads will slowly be getting icy. Please be careful and watch those intersections.

Mr. Jones – thanked Rep. Wilson for coming out. He appreciates her help throughout the year. He thanked those who were here and Ms. Hunter for her update on the library. The library is small and his kids and grandkids have used it as well as EAFB personnel. He is always looking for comments and concerns to better the city.

Ms. Hunter – thanked those that came. The picnic was a lot of fun she was glad to see that the Mayor can stayed as enthusiastic for a whole 6 hours. He kept things moving along. The Roller Derby girls participated in all the activities and they gave the library \$50 and have approached the library committee to help with other fundraisers. The Mayor also had a great cook, Rep. Tammy Wilson.

Mr. McCarthy –thanked Tammy Wilson for coming out tonight and commented that she was the most approachable Representative he’s ever seen. He gave kudo’s to Bill Butler on all the projects that he’s done since he’s been hired and has handled them well and is doing an excellent job.

Mr. McGhee – thanked everyone for coming and Rep. Tammy Wilson. He is disappointed in the city election and that Ms. Arnold and Mr. McCarthy are not running again. He has contacted a couple of constituents and encouraged them to run. Mr. McGhee stated that he put a lot of miles on this weekend and enjoyed the weekend. He is also is looking forward to budget sessions soon and grateful to the hardworking and dedicated employees in North Pole.

Mayor Isaacson – thanked Re. Tammy Wilson and Michael Dukes for pitching in with the celebration by acting as chefs to help celebrate the Mayor’s Picnic and Volunteer Appreciation Day. It freed him up to do other things. He reminded council that when talking with the community members about running for office that they need to talk with the city clerk. It is very important not to campaign without filing with APOC. The city has great Dept Heads and employees. We will soon have military back and the military is looking at approximately looking at \$400 billion in cuts. Stay tuned and keep you posted. He thanked Sharron for being at the picnic, Bonnie and Ron.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McGhee *moved to adjourn the meeting of September 6, 2011*

Seconded *by Mr. Jones*

No Objection

The regular meeting of September 6, 2011 adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, September 19, 2011.

DOUGLAS W. ISAACSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

KATHRYN M. WEBER, MMC, City Clerk