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 Monday, October 17, 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 Monday, October 17, 2011 was called 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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG
Led by Mayor Isaacson

INVOCATION
Invocation was given by Councilman Ron Jones

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Mr. McGhee moved to Approve the Agenda of October 17, 2011

Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion
None

Mr. McGhee moved to Postpone until the meeting of November 21, 2011:
  a. Ordinance 11-06, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska Amending Title 4, Chapter 4.10.010, User Fees
and move to consent the following items:
New Business
  b. North Pole Economic Development Request for 3rd Quarter Bed Tax
  c. Recommendation for Skid Steer Loader Equipment Purchase Bid Award
  d. Recommendation for Heating Fuel Bid Award for 2012
  e. Surplus Sale of Public Works Boom Truck Bid
  g. Mayor Isaacson Request for Partial Reimbursement for Travel To Anchorage, October 20-23, 2011
  h. Resolution 11-26, A Resolution of the City of North Pole Canceling the November 7, 2011 Council meeting due to the AML Conference
Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion
None

On the Amendment

PASSED
YES –7– Arnold, Hunter, McGhee, McCarthy, Jones, Holm, Isaacson
NO – 0
Abstained- 0

On the main motion as amended

PASSED
YES –7–Arnold, Hunter, McGhee, McCarthy, Jones, Holm, Isaacson
NO – 0
Abstained- 0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McGhee moved to Approve the Minutes of October 6, 2011

Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion
None

PASSED
YES –7–Arnold, Hunter, McGhee, McCarthy, Jones, Holm, Isaacson
NO – 0
Abstained- 0

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR
Communication Highlights from the Mayor for the period ending October 17, 2011
ISSUES:

• The Norwegian Model: Ira Perman, representing the Institute of the North spoke at the Oct 5th Alliance meeting about the visit State and business officials made to Norway last month. His topic was “How Norway Does Oil & Gas”. Interesting facts in simplistic terms:
  • while Alaska’s economic future is uncertain, Norway’s star is rising.
- Norway is attracting private investment due in large part because they invested in ownership of the infrastructure and development sectors, which they then spun off as publicly traded corporations, while maintaining ownership of the intra-state pipeline systems. Globally, those businesses are now extremely successful and pay dividends to the State which retains shares in the spin-off companies. For example, Houston, TX is home to the second largest number of Norwegian oil related companies outside of Norway.
- Norway is the number one investor in in-state oil & gas development, using “SDFI” State Directed Financial Investment where Norway becomes a 25% partner and puts 75% up for licensing. Norway no longer uses the bonus/royalty system as it impaired investment.
- Their licensing takes less than 3 years, where it may take decades in Alaska.
- Norway’s Oil Fund, started in 1996, is over $570 Billion from about 12 billion barrels of production, versus Alaska’s Permanent Fund, started in 1977, which is just over $40 Billion from approximately $60 billion barrels of production.
- No matter where the community is located, whether it’s the equivalent of Barrow to Juneau, hydro electricity is the main source of energy consumed in-country and all communities pay the same rate.

The questions that State officials will have to answer is: can the Norway model, or parts of it, be applied in Alaska?

At a separate meeting on October 8, Lt. Governor Mead Treadwell stated that for Alaska, the leases at Prudhoe Bay is still the easiest way to fill the Trans Alaska Oil Pipeline, the State needs to be more competitive. The North Pole community, and City revenues, is immediately impacted if the State does not become more competitive in oil and gas development being the home of 2 oil refineries and 180 megawatts of electrical generation.

- **October is Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Awareness Month.** I participated in a press conference on October 7, on this topic, sponsored by the Interior Alaska Center for Non Violent Living; the State, Troopers, City of Fairbanks, and the Borough also participated. The discussion involved the recently released State and area statistics. The NPPD supplied me with numbers (our city numbers are thankfully low), but alarmingly, the studies show that 1 in four women sometime in their life experience such violence. The study did not ask about the occurrences where men may have been the victim. To view helpful information for victims of domestic violence: [http://www.dps.state.ak.us/ast/domesticviolence/docs/dvbooklet.pdf](http://www.dps.state.ak.us/ast/domesticviolence/docs/dvbooklet.pdf). In an editorial in the News Miner ([http://www.newsminer.com/printer_friendly/15948651](http://www.newsminer.com/printer_friendly/15948651)) the question is asked and answered, “So what causes this? The misuse of alcohol and other drugs would be at the top of the list, followed by a host of character defects.”
• **FMATS:** the Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System (FMATS) Policy Committee will meet this Wednesday, 10 a.m. at the DOT&PF Conference Room on Peger. There is time for public comment at the beginning and the end (near noon) of the meeting.

• **Budget Workshop meetings:** Please place on your calendars the following budget workshop meeting times:

  **Monday - 6pm**
  Police Department
  Administration, Professional Services

  **Tuesday - 6pm**
  Fire Department

  **Wednesday - 6pm**
  Public Works
  Utility
  Building Department

Please note, these are public workshops where department heads are able to present their vision and needs; while in-depth questions are encouraged, no formal action is being taken during the workshops. The 2012 budget will be formally introduced the meeting of November 21 and will have three readings.

• **Other Meetings:** included going weekly to NPMS and helping with announcements and giving “Words of Wisdom”; meeting with the other two mayors on issues pertaining to all three municipal governments; attended the monthly military-civilian leadership group; was honored with the other mayors, Dave Gardner of GVEA and Bill Brophy of Usibelli, as an Honorary Commander of the 354th; attended a welcoming function for the current Red Flag participants; met with Kathie Wasserman and Betty Svenson of AML discussing the November meetings, pending resolutions, and other issues affecting the City; attended an AWG 2014 Host Society Board meeting where I was reminded that North Pole is slated to contribute $5000 in 2011 and 2012 (probably using a portion of retained Bed Tax funds); I’ve had several meetings with mayors, department heads, and State officials regarding our Dispatch Center fees. We’ll have detailed information available to the Council during our budget meetings; and attended a fund raiser for Hannah Monikian, whose parents have been active and invaluably helpful with our Itadori Sister City, and who at 7 years old is battling a brain tumor. Those wishing to help Hannah should contact Chief Buddy Lane, 488-0444.
• Memorial Service for 1-25: A Memorial Service in memory of: Sergeant Rodolfo Rodriguez Jr., Specialist Ryan J. Cook of 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment; Sergeant Timothy D. Sayne of 5th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment; and Private First Class Brett E. Wood of 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, 1-25 Stryker Brigade Combat Team members fallen in action, was held on Thursday, October 6. Another memorial will be held for Pvt Danny Chen, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, at 11 a.m. at the Southern Lights Chapel, Fort Wainwright. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and with our troops!

• Public forum: What would help the Alaska gas pipeline? LIVE FEED @ arctcgas.gov, Tuesday, October 18, at 5:30 p.m.

You may begin viewing the live stream approximately five minutes before the event. If you'd like to view the presentations only, they are available by clicking on the "Presentations" link above approximately one day before the forum. Both video and audio versions of the forum will be available on the Arcticgas.gov site approximately one day after the event.

By: Jennifer Thompson
Director of Communications and Policy Support
jthompson@arcticgas.gov
Release Date: 09/19/2011

The federal coordinator's office for an Alaska natural gas pipeline is sponsoring a public forum Oct. 18 on what could be done to help the economics of a large pipeline from the North Slope to the Lower 48 states, while also supporting a smaller in-state spur line to serve Alaska's needs. The forum will be held in Anchorage and streamed live on the Internet.

"Alaskans want a natural gas pipeline for the public revenues it will produce, for the oil and gas development it will promote, for the jobs it will create and for the affordable long-term gas supply it will provide to meet local needs. To get all of that will take a big line moving a lot of gas to make it affordable," said Federal Coordinator Larry Persily.

The forum is intended to start a discussion to get Alaskans thinking: What could the state do to help gas line economics? How much risk can or should the state take on? Are there benefits and cost savings from working the big pipeline and smaller in-state line together, forming one overall path to a prosperous future for Alaska?

The Office of the Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects will bring together panelists knowledgeable about the state's economy and the economics of large energy projects to discuss the state's fiscal options for assisting in any gas line development. The panelists will discuss potential financing options and how the two projects could benefit by working together.

"The economics of any large-scale gas pipeline project are daunting. Shippers must commit years in advance by signing binding contracts worth more than $100 billion to move their gas down the line, regardless of the market price in 2020, 2030 and beyond," Persily said. "The worry of construction cost overruns is real. The timing of production and property taxes is within the state's control and is a big factor in any investment decision on the pipeline, such as the billion-plus dollars in property taxes payable during pipeline construction. The forum will discuss these issues."

Panelists will include William Garner, senior counsel at Dewey & LeBoeuf in Houston, who has extensive experience in energy projects worldwide; Gregg Erickson, a longtime Alaska economist; and Dan Fauske, president of the state-run Alaska Gasline Development Corp.
Regular City Council Meeting
October 17, 2011
7:00 p.m.

The forum is set for 5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 18, at the University of Alaska Anchorage Fine Arts Building Recital Hall (Room 150). The forum is open to the public, and there will be time for questions. Seating will be limited, though overflow space will be available in a room down the hall.

The forum also will be available via live Internet streaming Oct. 18 and will be available online after the event, too. Streaming information and other forum details, including biographies of the speakers, supplemental materials and a link to electronically submit questions during the forum, can be found on the federal coordinator's website www.arcticgas.gov.

Congress established the Federal Coordinator's office in 2004 to expedite and coordinate federal permitting for a pipeline to deliver natural gas from Alaska's North Slope to U.S. markets.

FNSB ASSEMBLY MEETING:
The FNSB Assembly met on October 13. Due to a mistake in the public noticing of the calendar, most issues were postponed so a Special Meeting this Thursday night, October 20. However, there are items directly affecting North Pole on the Agenda. The next regular FNSB Assembly meeting is scheduled for October 27 at 6 pm. The Agenda has not yet been posted. For a list of meeting times and agendas, go to http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/meetings/Assembly.

MEDIA:

Oct 8 & 15: Mayor Isaacson was on KJNP (1170 AM, 100.3 FM) 8 – 9 a.m. “Over the Coffee Cup.” Several other media contacts were made, including PARADE Magazine (the Sunday newspaper insert).

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

• October 18: Alaska Day, City Offices will be OPEN.
• October 18, 6:30 p.m.: Mayors and community leaders will attend recognition dinner for retiring Lt Gen Dana Atkins, Commander of the Alaska Command and the 11th Air Force.
• October 19, 3:30 pm: Reception for 66 Defense Attaches representing 32 nations @ Santa Claus House
• October 19, 6-9 pm: ANWR Public Testimony being taken @ Carlson Center (see Action Alert, attached)
• October 20, 6-7:30 pm: EAFB Restoration Advisory Board meets @ NPCH
• October 20-23: Mayor Isaacson will be in Anchorage for meetings and AFN (action item on tonight’s agenda)
• October 23-31: Red Ribbon Week (see attached Proclamation), activities to be held at various local schools.
• October 24-26, 6-9 pm: Budget Workshops @ NPCH
• November 5-11: Alaska Municipal Meetings in Fairbanks
• November 14, 6 pm: Beautification committee meets @ Wendy’s
  - Proclamations
    Lindsey Elgin – NPE
    CCLC 4H Group
    National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR
Mr. Jones stated that Christmas In Ice will meet on October 28th.

Mr. McGhee commented on the beautification by Safeway and encouraged the city to work on the other side of the traffic circle.

Mr. Holm asked about the Public Works position and if it was true that the city is looking outside the city for that position.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

City Clerk, Kathy Weber
Certification of October 4, 2011 Regular City Election

Attached for councils review and certification was the report of the Election Canvass Board for the Regular Municipal Election held on October 4, 2011.

Mr. McGhee moved that the North Pole City Council accept the report of the Election Canvass Board and declare that the Regular City election of October 4, 2011 was validly held.

Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion
None

PASSED
YES –7–Arnold, Hunter, McGhee, McCarthy, Jones, Holm, Isaacson
NO–0
Abstained-0
  - Oath of Office for Newly Elected Officials – Bryce Ward, Derrick Nelson
  - Certificates of Appreciation for the City of North Pole Election Board
  - Community Reception
October 17, 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.

- The Alaska Municipal League Annual local government conference will take place from November 7 – 11, 2011 at the Westmark Hotel in Fairbanks, Alaska this year along with the American Planning Association, Government Finance Officers, Municipal Attorneys, Assessing, Municipal Management, and Alaska Conference of Mayors. Newly elected officials training will be held on Monday & Tuesday, November 7 & 8, and the conference from Wednesday, November 9 – Friday, November 11, 2011. The banquet will be on Thursday, November 10, 2011, so if you haven’t gotten your tickets yet please let me know.

- The Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks (AAMC) will host their 46th Annual conference in November. This year’s theme is “The Power Within” and we will have the dynamic speaker, Dr. Alan Zimmerman. Dr. Zimmerman is a motivational speaker who has won many awards. He will be our guest speaker at the academy and the topic will be “Take this job and love it!” The cost is $125 which includes a buffet lunch. I am encouraging employees and anyone from the public to register for this exciting forum. CEU’s will be available to those that need them. Please contact the city clerk for more information at 488-8583 or go to www.alaskaclerks.org.

- I have been appointed by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks to serve on their Public Relations & Marketing Committee for 2012. I hope that I will be able to count on your continued support and have very much appreciated your encouragement and support over the past 3 years. I have had awesome opportunities and traveled throughout Region IV and represented my city, state, and association at the international level. Without your continued support and belief in me, this would not have been possible.

- Ms. Weber stated that she will make arrangements after the election to hold a training session with our newly elected officials to go over the workings of the city, code, parliamentary procedure, ordinances, resolutions, etc.

- Ms. Weber asked the public to keep their conversations down during council meetings or take them outside the council chambers. She asked everyone to remember to shut their cell phones off and that any information that the public wants given to council should go through her office first.

There are 69 days left until Christmas.

Mr. McGhee moved to suspend the rules to have a community reception
Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion
None

PASSED
YES – 7 – Arnold, Hunter, McGhee, McCarthy, Jones, Holm, Isaacson
NO – 0
Abstained -

Mayor Isaacson brought the meeting back to order at 8:00 p.m.

Councilman Holm left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Director of City Services, Bill Butler
October 17, 2011 Council Report
Bill Butler
Director of City Services

Building Department
- Two new commercial permits issued since September 19
  - Safeway pharmacy remodel
  - Solar Panel Project, Tanana Apartments

Public Works
- Series of bid results before Council this evening:
  - Skid steer loader
  - Bucket truck
  - Heating fuel
- Interviewing will begin tomorrow for Public Works Supervisor Position
- City Hall heating system will need to be rehabilitated soon
  - Experiencing repeated failures
  - Controls are antiquated
  - At least one system component appears to have been purposely undersized—air handler is operating at about 20% of designed capacity
  - Atrol Heating contractor is making some “band aid” repairs until we can replace the system
  - Have request an estimate from Control Contractors to start process if need to move quickly to request for bids
  - Good news, energy inspectors for the City’s energy grant will be here October 20 and I will make the case for upgrading the City Hall heating plant as the most significant energy saving upgrade
Utility Department

- Lift station renovation project inspection
  - Few electronic reporting problems remain
  - Odor at Holiday lift stations, second method being tried: Activated Carbon Filter
- ADEC $1.4 million loan initiative October 4 ballot will be presented for certification this evening
- Request approval of professional services agreement with Jantz Associates for preparation of bid documents; assistance in review of bid submissions, and responses to bidders for Utility Garage Project
  - Have a state grant for 524,977 for garage project to be matched with $300,000 from Water and Sewer Fund
  - Request DEC to reallocate $190,733 unexpended funds from Sludge Removal Project to Utility Garage Project

Fire Dept

- Chief Lane said that the State Fire conference was very successful. He had personnel that were instructors at the conference and received state recognition. The conference was well attended.
- Chief Lane was in Anchorage last week attending a Homeland Security conference and will be encouraging council members to finish their NIMS training.
- Dan Kuhnert attended an Advancing Hose seminar. Two people from NPFD will be going to Texas with Flint Hills for fire training.
- Auto pulses are here and he will be demonstrating them during Committee of the Whole at the next meeting.
- Fire Fighters ball was last week and he was keynote speaker. Chief Lane is president of Fire Chief Association. The following awards were given out: Scott Learned – Computer work with fire dept., Line Officer of the year - Justin Boddy who is a Captain at Ft. Wainwright, Firefighter of the year - Ed Deal, Support Person of the Year - Sue Sandborn, and Prevention Program of the Year went to NPFD Kyle Green.
- Kyle Green gave a presentation to council on Fire Prevention Month (October).

Accountant

- Lisa Vaughn stated that the most recent financials were given to council tonight. She is still reconciling the accounts.
- First check from PFD, $49,000.
- Working on budget and each dept received their salary info for 2012.
- Putting in 2011 amended budget

Police Dept

- None
FNSB Representative
The FNSB Assembly met on October 13. Due to a mistake in the public noticing of the calendar, most issues were postponed so a Special Meeting this Thursday night, October 20. However, there are items directly affecting North Pole on the Agenda.
The next regular FNSB Assembly meeting is scheduled for October 27 at 6 pm. The Agenda has not yet been posted. For a list of meeting times and agendas, go to http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/meetings/Assembly

ONGOING PROJECTS

- North Pole Economic Development Corporation
Paul Brown stated that the landscaping at Safeway is about 95% complete. There will be seeding done and more planting of trees next summer. They have been working on that project for over a year with permitting and other issues before actual construction. NPEDC are working with DOT and the City with beautification of the roundabouts and hope to have more going on by spring. Mr. Brown recognized area businesses and people for their donation of time and funding.

- Itadori Sister City
Ms. Lane spoke on the fundraiser for the Moniken family. There daughter Hanna was diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor and a spaghetti feed and auction was held on her behalf that raised over $10,000 for the family. Firefighter shaved their heads in her honor and over 200 people came out for the event through social media. They are still taking $5 donations.

The next meeting for Itadori Sister City will be in November for any of those people wishing to travel to Japan.

CITIZENS COMMENTS – 5 Minutes
None

OLD BUSINESS
None

NEW BUSINESS

FAIRBANKS CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU REQUEST FOR 2ND QUARTER BED TAX
Dawn Murphy from FCVB officially requested the 2nd Quarter Bed Tax from North Pole. At the Alaska Travel Industry Association Conference, Karen Lane received the Spirit of Alaska Award for her contributions.

Ed Malen, tourism sales manager from FCVB, spoke of his trip to Japan promoting Alaska as a tourist destination.
Public Comment
None

Mr. McGhee moved to Approve The Fairbanks Convention And Visitors Bureau Request For 2nd Quarter Bed Tax

Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion
None

PASSED
YES – 6- Hunter, McGhee, Arnold, McCarthy, Jones, Isaacson
NO – 0 -
Abstained – 0

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH JANTZ & ASSOCIATES FOR BID DEVELOPMENT AND ASSOCIATED SUPPORT SERVICE FOR UTILITY GARAGE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT
Bill Butler informed council during the Committee of the Whole.

Public Comment
None

Mr. McCarthy moved to Approve Professional Service Agreement With Jantz & Associates For Bid Development And Associated Support Service For Utility Garage Construction Project

Seconded by Ms. Hunter

Discussion
None

PASSED
YES – 6- Hunter, McGhee, Arnold, McCarthy, Jones, Isaacson
NO – 0 -
Abstained – 0

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. McCarthy – his advise to council is to do what you think is good, take what you know, make a choice, and take a stand. Whatever you do is better than doing nothing. Kudo’s to Bill Butler and it was great working with him.
Mr. McGhee – thanked Bonnie Arnold for her service. Thanked Kevin McCarthy for his input and value to the council. Good luck to the new council members and welcomed Bryce Ward to the council. It was a great council this past year and he thanked the mayor for not chastising him too much this year. He stated that sometimes he gets a bit zealous about what they do during the meetings. Mr. McGhee said this is our home and community and he wants make a difference with what our children have in years to come. He thanked the mayor for his past years of service and reflected on how well this council has worked together. He asked that the council review their packet prior to meeting and wants to hear from the public.

Ms. Arnold – stated that Ms. Hunter will be the only woman on the council this next year. She wished Bryce Ward luck and stated that the City has a wonderful clerk and accountant that will help him. She said has personal reasons for not running again for council this year. Ms. Arnold said her ipad is a godsend and a huge asset. She thanked department heads for all they’ve done in making North Pole a success and thanked mom for $5 and wished everyone well.

Mr. Jones - thanked Kevin McCarthy and his wisdom on council. He thanked Bonnie Arnold for giving the City a well rounded council and looks forward to the future and what it holds for the City. Mr. Jones welcomed Bryce Ward to the council and serving the City of North Pole. He said there is a lot to do, visiting your constituents, and doing good things for the city. He commented that the budget is coming up and he hope to see good things for the police and fire department. He added that Mayor Isaacson has done a good job this year and thanked everyone for coming out.

Ms. Hunter – commented that the hiring process for the Public Works Department seems like a real creative way of getting the best person for the job and complimented Bill Butler on that. She is glad to hear about the story from Ed Malen on Itadori and has been to Itadori, Japan and stayed with homestay families. She plugged the Friends of North Pole Library and they are selling coffee with the logo on it. It will make a great present for Christmas.

Mayor Isaacson – stated that this the most philosophically diverse council and smoothest working council. He appreciates the effort each has made doing the work of the people. The mayor said he is in his countdown. He told council that each of them need to keep in mind that anything could happen and think carefully as you consider putting your name forward when the mayor isn’t here. It is an important position and on the 21st of November we organize the council and it isn’t just a glad hand position, it is a real position. He urged council to be on committees in the city and the community. He said the clerk attended the Writers Conference Luncheon with FCVB and was all jazzed saying there were great opportunities for North Pole. It takes people to be involved and brings people back to the city. He would like to see NPEDC have a buy North Pole campaign instead of buying in Fairbanks. He thanked everyone and encourage all council members to tour the City.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. McGhee moved to adjourn the meeting of October 17, 2011

Seconded by Mr. Jones
No Objection

The regular meeting of October 17, 2011 adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, November 21, 2011.

____________________________________
DOUGLAS W. ISAACSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

____________________________________
KATHRYN M. WEBER, MMC, City Clerk