

**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, November 21, 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, November 21, 2011 was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

There were present:

**Mr. Holm
Ms. Hunter
Mr. Jones
Mr. McGhee
Mr. Nelson
Mr. Ward
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 November 21, 2011

Seconded by Jones

Discussion

None

Mr. McGhee moved to consent the following items:

New Business

- a. Approval of Liquor License for Sourdough Fuel
- f. Resolution 11-27, A Resolution of the North Pole City Council Designating City Officials Authorization To Sign on City of North Pole Accounts
- g. Resolution 11-28, A Resolution Of The City Of North Pole Authorizing The Submission Of A Grant Application For An Alaska Department Of Commerce, Community And Economic Development Block Grant Not To Exceed \$100,000 For The Purpose Of Installing Food Preparation, Ventilation Systems And Ancillary Equipment At The Santa's Senior Center

Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion

None

On the Amendment

PASSED

YES –7– Ward, Hunter, McGhee, Nelson, Jones, Holm, Isaacson

NO – 0

Abstained- 0

On the main motion as amended

PASSED

YES –7–Ward, Hunter, McGhee, Nelson, Jones, Holm, Isaacson

NO – 0

Abstained- 0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McGhee moved to Approve the Minutes of October 17, 2011

Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES –7–Ward, Hunter, McGhee, Nelson, Jones, Holm, Isaacson

NO – 0

Abstained- 0

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Communication Highlights from the Mayor for the period ending November 21, 2011

ISSUES:

- Budget Workshop meetings: City Code lists the distribution allocations for bed tax collected within North Pole city limits. This year's budget has included money for two activities not designated in the Code; combined with the request by several Council members to have annual presentations, we will a bet tax workshop on Monday, November 28 at 6 pm here at City Hall. Please place this time and date on your calendars. The Clerk has noticed the meeting to the public as follows: The City of North Pole is holding annual presentations from those organizations, public or private, that are receiving funding from the

Hotel/Motel Bed Tax Discretionary Fund by North Pole Municipal Code. Other organizations seeking consideration may also make presentations. Revenues are distributed primarily for the purpose of funding services for the promotion of economic development, including the tourist industry, and for the funding of services for the general public. Interested groups and individuals may make a presentation to the City Council on Monday, November 28, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the North Pole city hall council chambers. Contact the City Clerk if you wish to make a presentation to the council.

- Alaska Municipal League Meetings (AML): Most, if not all, of the Council and members of the City Staff took part at AML held in Fairbanks and North Pole from November 5 to 11. Council members attended the seminar, “Take This Job and Love It!”, Newly Elected Officials Training (which is not just for freshmen officials) in addition to the regular meetings of the AML. North Pole has significant influence in AML: The Mayor was elected to the AML Board for a one year stint as Director at Large, Council member Ron Jones was elected to the AML Board representing District 7, Council member Sharron Hunter is Co-Chair of Land Use, Resources, and Economic Development Policy Committee, and City Clerk Kathy Weber has finished her year as President of the Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks (AAMC) and will move to the position of Immediate Past President. I received many compliments for the extraordinary work Kathy performed in her position as President and was pleased to be able to acknowledge our gratitude to the Clerks for how they have benefited North Pole by investing also in Kathy. Also to note, Lisa Vaughn, City Accountant, was an active participant in the Alaska Government Finance Officers Association (AGFOA) meetings.

Again, commending Kathy who brought Dr. Alan Zimmerman to the AAMC meetings, the seminar, “Take This Job and Love It!” was an all-day, very interactive process that focused, as advertised, on how the best leaders bring out the best in themselves, their co-workers, and their customers. Through a process of 8 “dance partners” we were able to examine behaviors and attitudes that positively, or negatively, affect our performance and our effectiveness in our interactions with staff and citizens. I hope to review the material with staff and interested council participants in December.

I also participated with the Planners in their meetings on Monday, hearing issues ranging from the process of moving the community of Newtok to Mertarvik due to coastal erosion in Western Alaska, to using GIS in the planning process, to Bob Heinz’ presentation on “Sustainable Future for the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB).”

During the Conference of Mayors (ACoM), Lt. Governor Mead Treadwell re-affirmed the Governor’s support for revenue sharing and a commitment to a gasoline distribution build-out in the FNSB, as well as lowering the cost of electricity throughout the state using more hydro-electric plants.

The members of AML, reaffirmed five statewide priorities in 2012: 1. Aggressively facilitate efficiency and affordable energy for all Alaskans; 2. PERS relief and the repeal of the requirement for communities to pay for termination studies; 3. Revenue Sharing; 4. Prohibition of State unfunded mandates in any form, including “optional” exemptions; 5. Transportation funding assistance for local governments and the dedication of funds for the Alaska Transportation Infrastructure Fund.

The three resolutions submitted by the City of North Pole all passed, including 2012-01, which has a companion resolution before the Council tonight regarding the in-state gasline; 2012-02, which the Council had passed as Resolution 11-08 back in March, regarding ensuring jobs in Alaska by competitively pricing in-state refining costs; and 2012-05, which the Council had passed as Resolution 11-21, regarding updating the State Rail Plan in order to make our rail projects eligible for appropriate federal assistance programs.

• Military: We appreciate the many members of our community who serve in the military. This is month seems especially busy with military activities.

- Retirements: On October 18, the community said goodbye to Lt. General Dana Atkins, Commander of 11th Air Force, who oversees BG Post and the 354th Fighter Wing at Eielson;

December 3, CMSgt Tran Brunsberg, the 168th Air Refueling Wing Command Sergeant

December also will be a time when CMS Todd Wentland retires as Command Sgt Major for the garrison at Ft. Wainwright. Todd and his wife Rose have been an energetic part of the North Pole Community, serving energetically on the Summer Festival Committee and with the NPHS Football Booster Club. Both the Wentlands and Brunsbergs will be staying in the local community.

- Memorial Service for 1-25: Our military members are our neighbors and friends, their families are often here in the community when they deploy; we grieve when notified, as we were this past week, that two more 1-25 Strykers from Ft Wainwright were killed in Afghanistan: Spc James Burnett and Pfc Matthew Collin. I've not yet been notified of the time/date for their memorial service. Our prayers go out for their families and friends, especially during this Thanksgiving week.
- Coining Wounded Warriors: Thankfully, not all injuries result in loss of life for our soldiers. My thanks to Col. Ron Johnson, Garrison Commander Ft. Wainwright, who took 13 coins and cards from the City of North Pole and presented them this past week to wounded warriors deployed from the 1-25 who are now rehabilitating at Ft. Sam Houston in Texas. I received a call from Sgt Stephen Jackal who was moved to tears by our remembering him with the coin. He expressed his appreciation to the City for the token. He has been in several explosions where he has watched up to four comrades in arms be blown up, he has witnessed 11 fellow soldiers in total be ripped apart. He has lost his right foot and his left foot/leg was broken. During the next year as he rehabs his body, he will also be visiting the pain clinic and a psychologist to rehab his spirit. Sgt Jackal would like to return to duty but is likely to be discharged but has a continuing goal to serve and protect and would like to work security detail guarding officials. Anyone wishing to send him a card / letter, let me know and I will pass along his contact information.
- 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; attended Quarterly Awards Luncheon for the 354th FW at Eielson; participated in the Community Veterans Day Service in Fairbanks; met with members of the Fairbanks Arts Association regarding the “Buy Local” program, “Fairbanks First;” Community members OD and Russ Atkins regarding North Pole’s prominent location to the access corridors to minerals and energy mapped out and compiled in 1993, consistent with our resolutions to the State and our production of oil products and electricity; met with Commissioner Hartig and staff in Anchorage regarding the City’s water/sewer projects and the scoring of our Council priority in the Governor’s budget; met telephonically with Governor Parnell and OMB Director Rehfeld petitioning him to keep the North Pole sewer lining project in his FY13 budget; met with AFN officials in Anchorage soliciting board approval to locate the AFN convention in Fairbanks in 2012; attended Senator Murkowski’s Town Hall meeting on the economy (see Council Packet for handout) .

- **FMATS:** the Fairbanks Metropolitan Area Transportation System (FMATS) Policy Committee met on Wednesday October 19 and November 16. Notably, funding for North Pole projects stays consistent in the current 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #1, which is out for public comment. The Draft Non-Motorized Transportation Plan is available for viewing online: <http://www.dot.state.ak.us/nreg/planning/fmats/index.shtml>. The next meeting will be held on Dec 21, 10 am at the DOT Conference Room on Peger. Public comment is possible at the beginning and near the end of the meeting.

FNSB ASSEMBLY MEETING:

The FNSB Assembly met on October 20, 27, November 17. There were no items directly affecting North Pole on the October 20 and 27 Agendas. On November 17, the Assembly re-organized, passed an appropriation to develop an Agriculture Industry Cluster to be added to the FNSB Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

The next regular FNSB Assembly meeting is scheduled for December 8 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 22, 29, Nov 5, 12, 19: Mayor Isaacson was on KJNP (1170 AM, 100.3 FM) 8 – 9 a.m.
“Over the Coffee Cup.”

Nov 15: Mayor was on KJNP ch4 TV, “Closing Comments”

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

- **November 23, 7 p.m.:** Community Thanksgiving Service and Pie Social @ St. Nicholas Catholic Church
- **November 24: Thanksgiving Day: CITY HALL IS CLOSED**
- **December 3 & 4: WINTER FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES & CHRISTMAS IN ICE begins,** see attached flyers

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Fire Dept

-

Accountant

-

Police Dept

- None

FNSB Representative

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<http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/meetings/Assembly>

Director of City Services, Bill Butler

November 21, 2011 Council Report

Bill Butler

Director of City Services

Building Department

- No new building permits since the last Council meeting on October 17

Public Works

- Have hired a new Public Works Supervisor, Cody Louge, start date November 28
- City Hall heating system is limping along
 - Had “band aid” repairs to help system remain operational until can replace

- Have received two contractor estimates of cost to repair/replace system (~\$55,000 and ~\$174,000)
- Waiting for Energy Audit report to learn what amount of grant funds can be used for heating system repairs (expect report in mid-December) before releasing a request for bids to repair system
- Writing a Community Development Block Grant application in anticipation of Council action on authorization to submit a proposal.
- Had a city-wide snow plowing November 14-15
 - Received only two complaints: One where the property owner had left their vehicle parked in easement, second about illegal snow dumping by a North Pole business

Utility Department

- Final inspections for lift station project scheduled for November 28
- Early cold snap is a challenge for the utility to ensure all systems operating despite the cold
- Draft Preliminary Engineering Report & Environmental Report submitted for the waste water treatment plant by engineering for City and grant funder review.

Held preliminary meetings with architectural firm (Jantz Associates) for the development of request for proposals for Utility Garage Project

City Clerk, Kathy Weber

November 21, 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 took place 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 was held on Monday & Tuesday, November 7 & 8, and the conference from Wednesday, November 9 – Friday, November 11, 2011.
- The Alaska Association of Municipal Clerks (AAMC) will hosted their 46th Annual conference in November. This year's theme was "The Power Within" and we had the dynamic speaker, Dr. Alan Zimmerman. Dr. Zimmerman is a motivational speaker who has won many awards. He presented "Take this job and love it!" and was a smash hit with everyone that took the class.

- Many thanks go out to North Pole Economic Development and Santa Claus House for their support of me and AAMC and helping to bring out 80 clerks from around the state to North Pole for the Presidents Reception. Paul Brown from Santa Claus House organized buses to bring the municipal clerks here. Tree decorations and ice sculptures were done in record time to welcome them and Benny from Pagoda served a meal that was over the top at the Hotel North Pole. They are still talking about what a wonderful time they had and that this was one of the best conferences they've attended in years.
- As Past President of AAMC, I now hold a seat on the AML Board representing AAMC and working with communities and issues in our state.
- 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 be out of town from November 22 – December 4.
- The City of North Pole Christmas party will be held on Friday, December 9th at the Hotel North Pole. Social hour begins at 6:30 p.m. with dinner being served at 7:00 p.m. The cost of the Christmas Party this year is \$15 per person and tickets are available at City Hall.

There are 33 days left until Christmas.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Snowflake Drop – Tom Ertel brought his creation of a computerized Christmas Tree Lighting for the Ice Park. He asked council for a donation of \$800 for the project. The tree will be lit on the weekend of December 4th at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Isaacson stated that the \$800 would come out of Administration budget, “Promotions”.

Ms. Hunter asked for clarification on the Snowflake drop and the Christmas Tree Lighting. It was explained that they were two different events.

CITIZENS COMMENTS – 5 Minutes

None

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Isaacson *moved to table the ordinance until after item h./New Business*

Seconded by Mr. Jones.

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES – 7- Hunter, McGhee, Holm, Ward, Nelson, Jones, Isaacson

NO – 0 -

Abstained – 0

**ORDINANCE 11-06, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA
AMENDING TITLE 4, CHAPTER 4.10.010, USER FEES**

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee moved to Approve Ordinance 11-06, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska Amending Title 4, Chapter 4.10.010, User Fees

Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES – 7- Hunter, McGhee, Holm, Ward, Nelson, Jones, Isaacson

NO – 0 -

Abstained – 0

NEW BUSINESS

**APPROVAL OF GRANT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR THE
CONTINUATION OF THE BYRNE JAG FUNDING OF THE ABADE INVESTIGATOR
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$75,984**

Lt. Dutra informed council on the grant and stated that this is the 4th year that the Police Dept. has used these funds.

Public Comment

None

Mr. Jones moved to Approve The Of Grant From The Department Of Public Safety For The Continuation Of The Byrne Jag Funding Of The ABADE Investigator In The Amount Of \$75,984

Seconded by Mr. McGhee

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES – 7- Hunter, McGhee, Ward, Nelson, Holm, Jones, Isaacson

NO – 0 -

Abstained – 0

**ORDINANCE 11-09, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE CITY OF NORTH POLE
2012 BUDGET AND LEVYING THE MIL RATE**

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee moved to Approve Ordinance 11-09, An Ordinance Establishing The City Of North Pole 2012 Budget And Levying The Mil Rate

Seconded by Mr. Ward

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES – 7- Hunter, McGhee, Ward, Nelson, Holm, Jones, Isaacson

NO – 0 -

Abstained – 0

**ORDINANCE 11-10, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA
AMENDING TITLE 4, AND ADDING SECTION 4.10.030, AMBULANCE/EMS
SERVICES**

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee moved to Approve Ordinance 11-10, An Ordinance Of The City Of North Pole, Alaska Amending Title 4, And Adding Section 4.10.030, Ambulance/Ems Services

Seconded by Mr. Ward

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES – 7- Hunter, McGhee, Ward, Nelson, Holm, Jones, Isaacson

NO – 0 -

Abstained – 0

RESOLUTION 11-27, A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL DESIGNATING CITY OFFICIALS AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN ON CITY OF NORTH POLE ACCOUNTS

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee *moved to Approve Resolution 11-27, A Resolution Of The North Pole City Council Designating City Officials Authorization To Sign On City Of North Pole Accounts*

Seconded *by Mr. Ward*

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES – 7- Hunter, McGhee, Ward, Nelson, Holm, Jones, Isaacson

NO – 0 -

Abstained – 0

RESOLUTION 11-28, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR AN ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT NOT TO EXCEED \$100,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSTALLING FOOD PREPARATION, VENTILATION SYSTEMS AND ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT AT THE SANTA'S SENIOR CENTER

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee *moved to Approve Resolution 11-28, A Resolution Of The City Of North Pole Authorizing The Submission Of A Grant Application For An Alaska Department Of Commerce, Community And Economic Development Block Grant Not To Exceed \$100,000 For The Purpose Of Installing Food Preparation, Ventilation Systems And Ancillary Equipment At The Santa's Senior Center*

Seconded *by Mr. Ward*

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES – 7- Hunter, McGhee, Ward, Nelson, Holm, Jones, Isaacson

NO – 0 -

Abstained – 0

RESOLUTION 11-29, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA, SUPPORTING A LARGE VOLUME GASLINE WHICH WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THE COST OF ENERGY IN THE FAIRBANKS/NORTH POLE AREA AND OTHER PARTS OF ALASKA WITH GAS VIA A GASLINE FROM PRUDHOE BAY TO FAIRBANKS AND CONTINUING SOUTH TO GLENNALLEN, CONNECTING TO A SPUR LINE FROM GLENNALLEN TO THE EXISTING SOUTH CENTRAL GAS GRID AND CONTINUING TO THE KENAI PENINSULA FOR EXPORT, AND PROVIDING FOR EXPORT FROM THE ICE FREE DEEP WATER PORT AT VALDEZ

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee *moved to* Approve Resolution 11-29, A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of North Pole, Alaska, Supporting A Large Volume Gasline Which Would Significantly Reduce The Cost Of Energy In The Fairbanks/North Pole Area And Other Parts Of Alaska With Gas Via A Gasline From Prudhoe Bay To Fairbanks And Continuing South To Glennallen, Connecting To A Spur Line From Glennallen To The Existing South Central Gas Grid And Continuing To The Kenai Peninsula For Export, And Providing For Export From The Ice Free Deep Water Port At Valdez

Seconded by Mr. Ward

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES – 7- Hunter, McGhee, Ward, Nelson, Holm, Jones, Isaacson

NO – 0 -

Abstained – 0

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. McGhee –

Mr. Ward –

Mr. Holm –

Mr. Jones -

Ms. Hunter –

Mr. Nelson -

Mayor Isaacson –

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McGhee *moved to* adjourn the meeting of November 21, 2011

Seconded *by* Mr. Jones

No Objection

The regular meeting of November 21, 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, December 5, 2011.

DOUGLAS W. ISAACSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

KATHRYN M. WEBER, MMC, City Clerk