

**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, July 16, 2012 in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 125 Snowman Lane, North Pole, Alaska.

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Mayor Isaacson called the regular City Council meeting of Monday, July 16, 2012 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***

**Excused**

**Excused**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG**

**Led by Mayor Isaacson**

**INVOCATION**

**Invocation was given by Ms. Hunter**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Mr. McGhee moved to Approve the Agenda of July 16, 2012**

**Seconded by Mr. Ward**

**Discussion**

None

**Mr. McGhee moved to consent the following items on the agenda:**

**OLD BUSINESS**

- a) Ordinance 12-17, An Ordinance Of The City Of North Pole, Alaska Amending Title 4, Chapter 4.10.010, User Fees

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Request from Christmas In Ice for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2012 bed tax
- c) Resolution 12-18, A Resolution of the City of North Pole Establishing the Waste Water Treatment Plant Rehabilitation Project, Phase 1 as the City of North Pole's Utility Department Priority Capital Project for calendar year 2013

**Seconded by Mr. Ward**

**On the amendment**

**PASSED**

**YES –5 -** Ward, Holm, Hunter, McGhee, Isaacson

**NO – 0 -**

**Absent- 2 –** Jones, Nelson

**On the main motion as amended**

**PASSED**

**YES –5 -** Ward, Holm, Hunter, McGhee, Isaacson

**NO – 0 -**

**Absent- 2 –** Jones, Nelson

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mr. Holm moved to Approve the minutes of July 2, 2012**

**Seconded by Mr. McGhee**

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

**YES –5 -** Ward, Holm, Hunter, McGhee, Isaacson

**NO – 0 -**

**Absent- 2 –** Nelson, Jones

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

**Communication Highlights from the Mayor for the period ending July 16, 2012**

**GENERAL:**

- **The Status of Energy Relief and Projects:** The Senate Resources committee met last week in Anchorage. There is some talk about increasing a one-time subsidy but they believe if one person got relief, then every person must receive the same help. That hasn't held true for natural gas distribution to Anchorage, nor for Power Cost Equalization payments to the Rural communities. Tomorrow at 8 a.m., at FEDC, I will be presenting the Pros and Cons of using Royalty Oil to provide an Immediate Relief to our Energy crisis. Alaska Statutes already give the Administration the ability to change prices for in-state refining of products based upon social and economic reasons.

\*\* If you, or someone you know, wants to make a trip to Glennallen this Friday, the Governor will be meeting with the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline Coalition (ANGPC), the organization that made a presentation to Council a month or so back. Call Alan LeMaster, Director, at 907-822-3664 for more information. Pre-meeting begins at 2 pm, meeting with the Governor is at 3 pm. There may be people who can carpool from the area to reduce the travel expense; let me know if you want to carpool.

I am on the FNSB Natural Gas Distribution Study Advisory Group and attended the rollout of the FNSB's Natural Gas Distribution Study Analysis this past week. Several legislators were also in attendance. The target price delivered to the customer is \$15 mmbtu, which is about half of what we're currently paying, i.e., approximately \$31 mmbtu equivalent, and will still be higher than what the Anchorage area pays for natural gas. The estimated cost to the consumer, once the community build-out is complete, is estimated at approximately \$16 mmbtu at today's prices. The report can be found at: <http://www.investfairbanks.com/about/news/jul/fnsb-gas-distribution-system-analysis-final-report> .

The other two mayors and I met with Lt. Governor Mead Treadwell regarding energy issues and the possibility of an Energy Authority. Details will have to be developed and so will the pros and cons, but the primary idea is to have a public/private relationship for the lowest possible cost to the consumer for the distribution of natural gas and propane. The idea is to have the Energy Authority oversee a competitive bid process for the operation of the distribution system. The Lt. Governor reiterated the Governor's desire to back the project once the community agreed on an operator and has encouraged us to form a partnership with FNG, GVEA and Flint Hills, or some other entity.

- Summer Festival Committee: The North Pole Summer Festival, "Santa's Polar Party: Christmas in July" was a great success! We did get rained out between 3-4 pm, but most vendors and all the participants I spoke with were enthusiastic. We had a couple of glitches that need to be ironed out for next year, but those will be passed along in the Procedures Manual for next year's organizers to use. Thank you to all our hard working volunteers and to all our contributing sponsors, and all the participants, who made this event happen! The premier sponsor was Flint Hills, followed by the Santa Claus House, North Haven Homes, the Alaska Railroad, Chevrolet of Fairbanks, Birchwood Homes, Seekins Ford, Mt. McKinley Bank, Leaf and Bean, Wells Fargo Bank, Cold Spot Feeds, Tammy Randolph State Farm, NPHS Football Booster Club, Sani Cans, Clear Channel Radio, the Uptgraft family, and many others. The complete list will be out and published in the News Miner in the coming weeks.

- The Jingle Bell Run: Jingle in July, a fundraiser for the Arthritis Foundation, had a record turnout with over 450 participants, some coming from overseas and the lower 48 to participate. Thank you to the many volunteers, City staff, and others who make this event happen, and

especially to the participants and team leaders. Thank you, too, to the Santa Claus House for donating their parking area for the event! As of race time, almost \$40,000 had been collected, also setting a new record.

- The Status of Eielson: Our Congressional delegation continue to work on saving Eielson through the budget process. But after early August, there will be a lag as Congress recesses for a summer break. Meanwhile, both consultants hired by the borough, PPSG, and by the State, Hijax and Fix, continue to work on developing strategies that will BRAC proof Alaskan based military facilities, and actually increase the mission at Eielson. This week, the three local mayors will be meeting with the new base commander, BGen Mark “Grace” Kelly and his staff at Eielson.

**Also, KeepTheF16s.com** is a joint outreach effort by the Fairbanks North Star Borough and the cities of North Pole and Fairbanks to inform concerned residents about the Air Force’s plans to move the F-16 squadron and support staff from Eielson AFB to the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage. The website (<http://www.keepthef16s.com>) and related Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/ KeepTheF16s /](http://www.facebook.com/KeepTheF16s/)) are also places where the public can share their comments, photos, and videos to help make the case that moving the F-16s from Eielson is the wrong solution for Fairbanks and the country.

- Of Interest—the Boats are on their way to the Beaufort Sea! The last of 8 boats being moved by Alaska West Express for Shell Oil, travelled through North Pole on Friday, July 13. It was 23’ wide, 80’ long, 18’ high, and weighed over 328,000 pounds! While the other seven boats were lighter and able to travel over the overpasses, this ship had to be diverted by DOT through the far roundabout by Tesoro. NPPD was on-sight and no incidents were reported while traffic was diverted for 30-45 min. Although the street signs had to be removed, no flowers were disturbed during the transit.

- Fence Down: expect to see the fence along NPBS Blvd disappear during the next month. Bill Butler is seeking feedback from affected land owners. The fence is in bad condition and restricts street clearing efforts in the winter.

- Visits with the City Attorney: Chief Lane and I met with City Attorney Zane Wilson and discussed an on-going case that due to the appeals process may be with the City for another 2-3 years. While the court has released all individuals from the case, unless the City can get out during the appeals process, NPPD may be involved in a protracted process. The cost for this case is being paid by the insurance company.

- Alaska Coastal Zone Management Plan (ACMP): will be the topic of State Ballot Initiative 2 on August 28. The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce Board overwhelmingly approved a resolution AGAINST the initiative. On July 11, the Lt. Governor held a public hearing that gave both sides of the argument a chance to deliberate. For more information, see:

Pro: [www.alaskacoastalmanagement.org](http://www.alaskacoastalmanagement.org)  
Con: [www.akrdc.org](http://www.akrdc.org)

## **MEDIA:**

**July 7 & 14:** Mayor Isaacson was on KJNP (1170 AM, 100.3 FM) 8 – 9 a.m. “Over the Coffee Cup.”

**UPCOMING** (*This is NOT conclusive, see above for other events, dates, and times, or call the Clerk or Mayor for other possible upcoming events*) As a reminder, the Mayor will be taking leave time, as able, through August 29.

- **July 17, 8 a.m.:** Mayor Isaacson will present the Pros and Cons of using Royalty Oil for Immediate Energy Relief @ FEDC 301 Cushman St, Suite 301
- **July 18, 10 a.m.:** FMATS Policy Committee meets at ADOT&PF Conference room on Peger Road.
- **July 9:** JPARC EIS Comments are due, [www.jparceis.com](http://www.jparceis.com).
- July 13, 9:30 am: **354<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Change of Command from B.Gen James “Bull” Post to Col (B.Gen Select) Mark “Grace” Kelly @ Eielson AFB.**

## **COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR**

None

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK**

### **Police Department, Chief Dutra**

- None

### **Fire Department**

- State Fire Marshall, Dave Tyler, is retiring this year. The mayor will be doing a proclamation in his honor as Mr. Tyler was a former chief at the City of North Pole.
- Working on Homeland Security grants with Police, Utility, and Fire. All NIMS must be done by the end of the month.
- Finished hydrant testing.

Mr. McGhee asked who would be the new State Fire Marshall. Chief Lane stated that it would probably be filled nationally.

**Accountant, Lisa Vaughn**

- None

**FNSB Representative:**

**FNSB ASSEMBLY MEETING:**

The Assembly met on July 12. Of importance, slipping past both Cities, Ordinance 2012-32 was considered “housekeeping” but the word swap may be construed as an unnecessary diminishing of the Cities authority within our boundaries. Borough code, title 17, currently reads that the minimum standards “for design, materials, and construction of the required improvements for subdivisions approved under this title, located outside the City of Fairbanks and the City of North Pole. Minimum standards for subdivision developed within the City of Fairbanks or North Pole SHALL BE DETERMINED by the appropriate municipal authority.” The requested change is, “At a minimum, improvements shall be designed and constructed to the standards set forth in this title except that the Platting Board MAY ACCEPT ALTERNATE STANDARDS approved or adopted by the City in which the property is located.”

I am conferring with our legal and with the City of Fairbanks regarding the appropriate response.

- The next regularly scheduled Assembly meeting is scheduled for July 26. I will be requesting a Pro Tem to attend as the City Rep. For a list of meeting times and agendas, go to <http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/meetings/Assembly>.

**Director of City Services, Bill Butler**

**Informational Newsletter**

- Mailing a newsletter of Building, Public Works and Utility Department summer activities
- Goal is to inform residents of City Services activities taking place in the City

**Building Department**

- In process of plan review and approving a building permit for a residential home
  - Habitat for Humanity project

**Public Works**

- Public works is continuing with beautification efforts on Santa Claus Lane
  - Hydro-seeding has contributed to greening up Santa Claus Lane
  - First bench installed
  - Working with North Pole Economic Development to install a bench at their installation
- Grant manager for Economic Stimulus grant for energy saving project has submitted design and cut sheets for heating system improvements at City Hall
  - Installation should begin before end of July

- DOT has delayed sidewalk extension project to 2013
  - Includes Santa Claus Lane, Park Way shoulder widening, and other connections
- LED street light project phase 2 bid opening scheduled for this week
  - DOT confirmed project will not be completed before summer 2013
- Had meeting with DOT to expedite construction of new bus stop at North Pole Plaza Mall
  - If City performs snow removal on Santa Claus Lane sidewalk, DOT can authorize FNSB to proceed with construction bus stop shelter
- Community Development Block Grant for Santa's Senior Center Kitchen Upgrade Project
  - Begun design of kitchen upgrades and expect to release request for bids at end of July or beginning of August
- Investigated background of a proposed park on land in Morning Star Subdivision adjacent to Beaver Springs Creek—expect to receive some materials this week

### **Utility Department**

- Utility Garage Project
  - Slab poured and contractor is waiting for delivery of steel to begin erecting building
- Utility's waste water discharge to the Tanana River
  - River flow continues in the discharge channel for the waste water treatment plant
- Met with staff from Flint Hills Resources concerning construction of dedicated industrial sewer force main
  - FHR is committed to constructing the sewer main this year
  - Working with FHR, their engineer and our third party engineer to expedite the project
  - Hope to bring a recommendation to City Council at the August 6 meeting for a utility extension permit or a conditional permit so construction can begin

### **City Clerk**

#### **City Clerk/HR Manager Report to Council– July 16, 2012**

- So far so good with the transition to AW Rehn and Lincoln National Life Insurance. Their customer service has been excellent with them contacting me weekly to do updates and make sure that things are going smoothly.

### **City Clerk's Office**

The Municipal Election for the City of North Pole will be held October 2, 2012. Declaration of Candidacy may be filed with the North Pole Clerk's Office at 125 Snowman Lane, from July 30, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. through August 10, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. for the following:

#### **CITY OF NORTH POLE MAYOR**

(Serves at-large)

3-year term

## **CITY OF NORTH POLE COUNCIL SEATS**

(All offices serve at-large)

City Council Seat.....3-year term

City Council Seat.....3-year term

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

A candidate for city mayor or city council must be a qualified voter of the State of Alaska who has resided within the city for a period of one (1) year preceding the period for filing a declaration of candidacy. An elected person may hold only one (1) elective seat at a time.

### **DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY**

A candidate for municipal office is nominated by executing a declaration of candidacy under oath and a properly and fully completed public financial disclosure statement that complies with the requirements of state law.

### **REQUIRED WHEN FILING FOR ALL ELECTED CITY OFFICES**

- Completed Declaration of Candidacy obtained from the clerk's office
- Completed Public Financial Disclosure Statement that complies with state law. For more information contact APOC at <http://doa.alaska.gov/apoc/> or 800-478-4176
- A twenty five dollar (\$25) non-refundable filing fee shall accompany the declaration of candidacy and PFDS

### **CANDIDATE FILING INFORMATION**

Location: City Clerk's Office, 125 Snowman Lane

Filing Opens: 8:00 a.m., July 30, 2012

Filing Closes: 5:00 p.m., August 10, 2012

Withdrawal Deadline: 5:00 p.m., August 17, 2012

\*Note: A candidate desiring to withdraw may do so by filing a written request with the clerk by August 17, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

Please go to our website at [www.northpolealaska.com](http://www.northpolealaska.com) for more information and forms.

### **ONGOING PROJECTS**

None

### **CITIZENS COMMENTS – 5 Minutes**

Brendon Macalbre – Boy Scouts

Mr. Macalbre asked if there was anything that the Boy Scouts could do to help save EAFB. He asked the mayor what else the closing of the base could affect in the area.

Mr. Macalbre is advancing to Eagle Scout before next summer and almost has his life badge. He stated that he will be consulting with Mr. Slater about projects around EAFB.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **APPROVAL OF DISPATCH CONTRACT BETWEEN CITY OF FAIRBANKS AND CITY OF NORTH POLE**

Pat Cole - Fairbanks Chief of Staff, Stephanie Johnson – Fairbanks Dispatch Supervisor, Chief Lane-NPFD, and Chief Dutra-NPPD updated council on the Dispatch Contract between the City of Fairbanks and the City of North Pole. Mayor Isaacson gave an overview of the contract along with the costs of inflation through the next 3 years.

Pat Cole gave the history of the Dispatch Center since it took over from North Pole. He explained that there was a work study that had been done and that was how they came up with the costs and that the City of North Pole was getting a good deal on the service. The contract will become effective retroactively from January 1, 2012.

Chief Lane said they were very happy with the services they receive from the City of Fairbanks. They meet monthly with dispatch and talk over things that need to be improved on and any problems they are having. He would like to see the relationship continue.

Ms. Hunter asked if we had been using their services for free over the years.

Chief Lane stated that it has cost the City approximately \$75,000 per year since the City of North Pole discontinued their dispatch center.

### **Public Comment**

None

**Mr. McGhee *moved to* Approve the Dispatch Contract Between the City of Fairbanks and the City of North Pole**

**Seconded by Mr. Ward**

### **Discussion**

Mr. McGhee asked how the calls get broken down from other agencies.

Ms. Johnson said the FNSB collects the 911 surcharge. They do not dispatch for the University, State Troopers or either of the bases.

Mr. Holm said that our budget is set at \$75,000 for the first 6 months and that the contract is for \$85,000 leaving \$6,000 for the City to make up.

The mayor said that the City can absorb that since they have saved money on insurance.

Mr. Ward asked what the duration of the contract was.

Mr. Cole said that they can renegotiate in 2 years.

Mr. Holm said that the rates are higher than the CPI and asked if it was because of the study and the costs that were expected.

Mr. Cole said that this was a compromise between the two mayors and that the City of Fairbanks is picking up the majority of the cost.

Mr. Holm was curious about what some of the problems that might crop up.

Chief Lane said there have been no big problems. They discussed radio channels, terminology, and procedures.

Ms. Johnson said they have come up with ways to use the ALMR systems and fall back plans and used the forum for projects that all the different agencies can use, and that alone, individual agencies wouldn't qualify for and that as a group they can.

Chief Lane said that he has always had the opportunity to go in and talk with dispatch.

Chief Dutra said that usually the Police Department doesn't have the problems that EMS has.

Ms. Johnson explained about the length of the calls for EMS vs police.

Mr. McGhee said that for historical purposes, this is definitely much cheaper than what we had when dispatch was at North Pole.

Mayor Isaacson said that the City of Fairbanks has been professional and easy to work with. He thanked them for attending the meeting tonight.

**YES –5-** Ward, Holm, Hunter, McGhee, Isaacson

**NO – 0 -**

**Abstained- 0**

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Mr. Ward** – Finance Committee meeting needed to be canceled and is rescheduled for July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Mr. Holm** – No Comment

**Ms. Hunter** – Thanked Brendon Macalbre for attending tonight and was happy to see the Boy Scouts get involved. She liked the newsletter that Mr. Butler sent out and would like to see the other departments do something like that.

Mr. McGhee –encouraged the Mayor and Mr. Butler to look at all the properties the City owns

and to get all the parks done and use land that has been dedicated as such.. He is glad we had a safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

**Mayor Isaacson** – candidate forums are coming up.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Holm adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.**

**Seconded by Mr. McGhee**

The regular meeting of July 16, 2012 adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

**These minutes passed and approved** by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, August 6, 2012.

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Douglas W. Isaacson, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Kathryn M. Weber, MMC  
North Pole City Clerk