

**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, August 6, 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, August 6, 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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Led by Mayor Isaacson

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Mr. Jones

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Ward moved to Approve the Agenda of August 6, 2012

Seconded by Mr. Jones

Discussion

None

Mr. Jones moved to amend the agenda by adding 1st quarter to the bed tax request

Seconded by Mr. Ward

Discussion

None

Mr. Jones moved to consent the following items on the agenda under New Business:

- a. Request from North Pole Community Chamber of Commerce for 2nd Quarter Bed Tax
- b. Approval To Purchase An Undercover Vehicle For The NPPD With ABADE Funds In The Amount of \$24,403

c. Approval of iPad Policy For The Mayor And City Council

d. Authorization Of A Utility Extension Permit For Flint Hills Resources North Pole Refinery
Industrial Force Sewer Main Project

Seconded by Mr. Ward

Discussion

None

On the amendment

PASSED

YES –6- Ward, Holm, Hunter, Jones, Nelson, Isaacson

NO – 0 -

Absent- 1 – McGhee

On the main motion as amended

PASSED

YES –6- Ward, Holm, Hunter, Jones, Nelson, Isaacson

NO – 0 -

Absent- 1 – McGhee

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Jones moved to Approve the minutes of July 16, 2012

Seconded by Mr. Holm

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES –6- Ward, Holm, Hunter, Jones, Nelson, Isaacson

NO – 0 -

Absent- 1 – McGhee

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

GENERAL:

- The Status of Energy Relief and Projects: Since 2010, I've kept the Council informed every time I publicly push for an adjustment to royalty oil pricing. Attached to this report is the Power Point presentation I gave to the Interior Issues Energy workgroup on July 17, "Con v. Pro: Using Royalty Oil for Immediate Energy Cost Relief." Also attached are excerpts from AS 38.05 and

38.06. If you are interested in other supporting documentation, I will be glad to provide it to you. We don't have to wait for expensive infrastructure to be built to provide relief to our citizens, we just need the decision to use what we have to provide "maximum benefit" to our people.

- North Pole Housing Market: I was with Bert Perkins, Stars & Stripes Realty, and Wes Madden, Madden Realty, on KTVF's Fairbanks Focus program on Sunday, August 5, at 6:30 a.m. The program was pre-recorded on Friday. The show is hosted by FEDC's Sean O'Shea. It is informative quoting from multiple sources and several perspectives. Here is the link to watch the video on youtube:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LSzRsWckp08&list=UUKsZm_mQ3TrK6wgYpFcue_Q&index=1&feature=plcp The roundtable is the second segment on the show. The video can also be found on the [FEDC Facebook Page](#).

- The Status of Eielson: At the invitation of Sen Begich, the mayors were hosted by Eielson for a dinner with the Department of Defense (DOD) Assistant Secretary for Energy Sharon Burke. At the diner we were able to speak frankly about many topics concerning the status of Eielson and the ability of the local communities/State to enhance the mission, press for new associated missions, defray some of the operational energy costs, the DOD's position on Eielson ability to provide energy security to the Pacific rim, the status of alternative fuel projects, including coal/gas/biomass to liquids and small mobility nuclear reactors / batteries, etc. Ass't Sec. Burke also addressed these and other broader issues in a luncheon today at the Westmark. While the community and State can play some positive roles, she felt that some of the alternative energy proposals were too expensive or not ready for deployment. Her primary concern was for energy security in the battlefield environment and was very intrigued by what she saw being done in the village of Tanana, which she said had direct application to military application in Afghanistan. There are several environmental impact statements being prepared by consultants who will be in the area during the next month or two. One of the reports concerns the expanded JPARC proposals, and is represents a positive impact for Eielson; the other concerns moving the F16s to JBER, which would have a negative impact on Eielson.

Eielson's new leadership, BG Mark Kelly, Commander, and Col Jay Aanrud, Deputy Commander, were quick to invite the mayors out to Eielson and have had several follow-up meetings as they seek to keep the local communities engaged with the process.

- FEMA Floods North Pole and Eielson! Late last week, the Borough received drafts of FEMA's new flood maps that has put much of North Pole, including the High School, Refineries, GVEA electric plant, and many residents, and much of Eielson AFB, in new flood zones which will require, if adopted, the purchase of expensive flood insurance by people who currently don't have it. The mapping decision is curious and apparently arbitrary as it ignores the presence of a certified dyke protecting the City and arbitrarily uses the Richardson Highway as a barrier against flooding in some areas (Moose Creek) but not in other areas. I will be working with Borough and State officials to prepare a response and have asked Mayor Hopkins to provide staff to give Council a briefing, possibly as early as the next council meeting.

- WEIO Games: The World Eskimo Indian Olympics were held July 18-21. I was honored to address the attendees once again, along with the other mayors. NPHS student Gavin DeWyld

was one of the torch bearers. Our own NPPD Officer Stan Swetozof took home TWO silvers: 1) the Eskimo Stick Pull and 2) the Arm Pull – both are very strenuous events and Stan was up against much younger competitors! Good Job, Stan!

MEDIA:

July 28 & Aug 4: 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.

- **August 9, 11:30 a.m:** City Employee Appreciation luncheon @ City Hall
- **August 10- 19: ALASKA SENIOR GAMES** will be held in various locations, see Poster at City Hall bulletin board for specific times, events, and locations.
- **August 19, 9 a.m – 5 p.m.:** Alaska Senior Games, Horseshoe competition, @ Terry Miller Memorial Park
- **August 13-16:** Alaska Municipal League meetings in Bethel. Attending from the City are City Clerk Kathy Weber, Councilman Dick Holm, and the Mayor (on the 14-16) DAYS kick off event @ Pioneer Park, free hotdogs (donation proceeds go to benefit Arctic Winter Games 2014 Host Society). The event continues through Saturday, July 21.
- **August 17, 5 - 8 p.m.:** Third Friday Art Show @ the North Pole Grange. Also on Saturday, August 18 from Noon – 4 pm.

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Police Department, Chief Dutra

Council Meeting Comments : Chief Dutra 8-6-2012

- I will be out of town this week. Sgt. Rathbun is in charge. I will be back Monday.
- Remodel of the PD is moving forward. What a lot of stuff.... Old/New Chief's office is cleaned and painted, interview room=server room, radio room=armory,

- We had volunteers from a local church group, thanks to Melisa Bidwell. Came in and painted the PD entry area, dispatch area, and main hallway.
- I would like to thank Public Works especially Cody and Tom and the gang for helping with remodel of PD. We have installed motion sensors on almost all of the light switches and more to come. Almost all of the light balusters' have been replaced with energy efficient systems.
- We are in the process of collecting quotes on desks for Officers and Sgt's. Some of the desks are from the early 1990's and are in serious disrepair. The chairs are falling apart and we continually have to replace them. Working on getting commercial grade chairs for longer life.
- We hosted a training class today Managing the Media message. Good turnout City Clerk, Fire Department, and PD along with local and state police.
- Broad Criminal Report:
 - We served a Search Warrant on marijuana grow inside the city where 65 plants were seized.
 - Recently the elementary school had a fire set inside and the Middle School was broken into and vandalized. Happy to say we have solved these cases. Good work by Detective and Patrol. Lots of man hours went into crime scene, you should be proud of the job they did.
 - The nation is seeing a rise in Spice and Bath Salt crimes. We have had two recent contacts: DUI's and a one other case where subjects was showing signs of being under the influence.
 - Spice is being sold inside the city.
 - We recovered some stolen 4-wheelers inside the city for AST. We have had some motorbikes stolen and recovered inside the city.
 - Car burglaries several over the last few months. Keep your cars locked.

Fire Department

- Yearly testing is complete. Tested hose, apparatus, and hydrants.
- FOOLS (Fraternal Order of Leatherheads) was held last week and feedback received on the firefighters hospitality was great. They were able to take a tour of North Pole.
- Homeland Security Grant worth \$300,000 has been applied for. The City needs to be in compliance with the NIMS and there are still those that have not finished it. This could

keep the City from obtaining these funds. The fire department is willing to help out with this.

Accountant, Lisa Vaughn

- None

FNSB Representative:

FNSB ASSEMBLY MEETING:

The Assembly met on July 26, Mayor Pro Tem Ron Jones represented the City. Of importance to North Pole was the further discussion on Ordinance 2012-32 which was dealing with language change, considered “housekeeping” by the borough to Borough code, title 17. I had several discussions with the borough, our city attorney, with Bill Butler and Ron Jones. A summary of the result is provided by a Platting Officer:

“...the FNSB Assembly passed an ordinance changing the subdivision code (Title 17). The subdivision code previously stipulated that the minimum standards for subdivisions developed within the City of

Fairbanks or North Pole shall be determined by the appropriate municipal authority. That sentence was eliminated from Title 17.60.110 and a new section was inserted (17.10.040.C) that reads:

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. Municipalities shall be notified and may provide written comments per 17.030.020.B.

In order to comply with the ordinance change, the Platting Board would either need to approve the City of N.P.'s standards on a case by case basis as new N.P. subdivisions come before the Board, or vote to accept and apply the City of N.P. standards to all subdivisions within the City of North Pole.”

Bill has provided the Board with the City of North Pole Construction Standards found in NPMC Title 12, 13, and 15, which can be accessed online at:

<http://www.codepublishing.com/ak/northpole/>

We will notify Council members and interested members of the public via email as soon as we know when the Board has placed this question on their Agenda.

The next regularly scheduled Assembly meeting is scheduled for August 9. There does not appear to be anything on the agenda that directly affects the City. 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

Building Department

- No new building permits issued
 - One building addition permit under development

Public Works

- Public works is continuing with beautification efforts on Santa Claus Lane
 - Installed benches in front of Pizza Hut, Block Buster and McDonalds
 - Members of the public are routinely stopping Public Works staff and speak appreciatively of beautification work
 - Working with North Pole Economic Development to install a bench at their installation
- Work has begun on grant-funded rehabilitation of City Hall heating control system
- Negotiated a maintenance agreement with DOT where City will plow Santa Claus Lane sidewalk as a coordinated effort to expedite construction of North Pole Plaza Mall bus shelter
 - DOT's concern is that their method of sidewalk clearing—road grader—could damage the shelter so they are reluctant to approve construction of the new shelter
- Community Development Block Grant for Santa's Senior Center Kitchen Upgrade Project went to bid on August 1 with bids due August 15.

Utility Department

- Utility Garage Project
 - Steel framework is in place
- Flint Hills Resources has a utility extension permit before City Council this evening for dedicated industrial sewer force main
 - FHR has authorized their contractor to preposition pipe and clear utility easements on Flint Hills' property. Also has obtained state and FNSB approval to clear utility easement on their properties in anticipation of sewer main construction
 - FHR has initiated this work on the understanding that they bear the risk if the permit is delayed or not approved.
- Submitted a Municipal Matching Grant qualifying application (questionnaire) for \$1.6 million
 - Grant funds would permit construction of first phase of waste water treatment rehabilitation activities
 - State awards these funds as part of capital budget so would not know status of any award until June 2013.
 - City Council approved at its July 16, 2012 meeting the rehabilitation of waste water treatment plant as the City's #1 Utility Department capital priority for 2013.

- Proposing to use an existing \$1.7 million state award combined with Utility match and the requested grant funds for a three-year \$4.7 million rehabilitation effort
- Resolution before City Council this evening to approve placing question on the October 2nd ballot to incur debt for emergency generators is in support of the treatment plant rehabilitation effort.
-

City Clerk

HR Manager Report to Council– August 6, 2012

- Open enrollment ended on July 30th for the City healthcare and life insurance programs. So far the change over from GWL/CIGNA to AW Rehn has been uneventful and AW Rehn has been great to work with.
- City wide BBQ will take place on Thursday, August 9, 2012 from 11:30 – 1:00. All city personnel and council members are invited.
- Attended the program sponsored by APSC Managing the Media Message with Lynn Hightower, the Communications Director for Boise PD this morning.

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 for more information and forms.

To date we have had the following individuals file for candidacy:

City of North Pole 2012 Candidate List

MAYORAL CANDIDATES

Dick Holm
167 Santa Claus Lane
North Pole, AK 99705
488-1776 Home
488-8555 Work
Email: nprxlab@hotmail.com

Bryce Ward
606 E 5th Ave
North Pole, AK 99705
488-7314 Home
388-4830 Cell
Email: BryceWard@WardAlaska.com

Michael W. Welch
934 Les Rogers Turnaround
North Pole, AK 99705
P: 488-5834
Email: statedeputyak@gmail.com

COUNCIL CANDIDATES

Michelle Sikma
307 W 5th, #5
North Pole, AK 99705
378-5778 Cell
Email: msikma2009@gmail.com

Reminder:

I have received registration forms for the 2012 Annual Local Government Conference which will be held in Anchorage November 12-16, 2012. Registration forms must be returned by October 12 to receive the best rates. After October 12th a \$50 late fee will be added per person. Please let me know if you are interested in attending and for those newly elected officials I will tentatively register them. I have also left an application form for the 17th annual "Awards of Excellence" on the dais. There are several categories of awards; People awards to recognize local government officials who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in local government both within their own communities and on a statewide level; and Community Awards to showcase your area and let others know how you have solved a problem or improved local government. If you have any questions regarding the upcoming conference, please call me at 488-8583 or come in to City Hall.

ONGOING PROJECTS

NPCCC – Heather Heineken

Ms. Heineken updated council on what they are doing in the community.

- They hosted a candidate forum this past month and a meet & greet with Senator Coghill in June.
- There are approximately 48 people per day coming through.
- Sharon Hedding is working at the cabin and is a great asset.
- In September the NPCCC will hold a candidate forum featuring the North Pole candidates and borough candidates.
- The holiday bazaar and candlelight ceremony dates are set.

CITIZENS COMMENTS – 5 Minutes

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 12-19, A RESOLUTION TO PLACE AN INITIATIVE ON THE OCTOBER 2, 2012 CITY OF NORTH POLE BALLOT AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO INCUR \$302,500 OF DEBT IN THE FORM OF A LOW-INTEREST ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LOAN FOR THE PURCHASE OF EMERGENCY GENERATORS FOR THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM

Mr. Butler updated council on the process of this loan. He was concerned about taking on more debt but after getting the report back from the engineers, he felt that they needed to purchase and update the generators. This is a source of money that could be used to fund this project.

Mr. Nelson asked if there are emergency generators on hand now.

Mr. Butler said that there was but it was 27 years old and parts were hard to find.

Mr. Nelson asked what the general life span is for a generator.

Mr. Butler stated that the general life span is approximately 20 years.

Public Comment

None

Mr. Jones *moved to* Introduce and Approve Resolution 12-19, A Resolution To Place An Initiative On The October 2, 2012 City Of North Pole Ballot Authorizing The City To Incur \$302,500 Of Debt In The Form Of A Low-Interest Alaska Department Of Environmental Conservation Loan For The Purchase Of Emergency Generators For The Waste Water Treatment System

Seconded by Mr. Ward

Discussion

Mr. Jones said he is skeptical about this. He heard from Mr. Butler that this isn't used very often and he isn't convinced that the city should incur this debt.

Mr. Ward said that we have a great resource with our department heads and that he had an opportunity to go out and see the project. He likes to see forward planning and making this generator will make the plant more efficient. Right now it's the generator they have is 130 kw and if you add more equipment you will need a new larger generator. The utility operates on its own funds and he would like to see it go on the ballot. He has no qualms of letting the public vote on this. He likes to see the forward planning and can see where they are going with it.

Mr. Nelson agreed with Councilman Jones on the pricing of the generator but also agrees with Mr. Ward to put it on the ballot and let the people decide.

Ms. Hunter said this is a protection of a huge resource and isn't sure that the City could even wait to find out if the generator would work during an emergency and that it is essential to have a back-up to the whole utility system. The expense involved with it breaking down would be like committing suicide if we didn't approve this. She said that water/sewer mains could freeze and break causing catastrophic results for the City. Being penny pinching now is not the time and the Utility is the biggest asset the city has and invests in.

Mayor Isaacson said that he agrees and it is a result of extensive studies. He said the City doesn't want to get to the point where they absolutely have to replace it and it's best to do it now. He agreed that it should go to the voters.

YES –6- Ward, Holm, Hunter, Jones, Nelson, Isaacson

NO – 0 -

Absent – 1 – McGhee

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Holm – wished everyone a good two weeks.

Mr. Jones – Red Flag is ongoing and will hear the sound of freedom from now to August 17th. Six bases and the Canadians are here. Met with Gen. Holly and is looking forward to him getting together with the City. Will not be able to go to Bethel but he will be working with Red Flag.

Ms. Hunter – Wished everyone a great evening and to enjoy the sunshine.

Mr. Nelson – Wished everyone campaigning a great season.

Mr. Ward – Reminder that the next Finance Committee meeting is August 13th from 6 – 7 p.m. Encouraged the council to get out and see what the Utility Department and other Departments are doing.

Mayor Isaacson – many thanks to Weber Inc for hydro-seeding the areas around North Pole. A new POW flag will be bought as the old one has been torn.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Holm adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Ward

The regular meeting of August 6, 2012 adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, August 20, 2012.

Douglas W. Isaacson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk