

**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, February 19, 2013 in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 125 Snowman Lane, North Pole, Alaska.

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Mayor Ward called the regular City Council meeting of Monday, February 19, 2013 to order at 7:15 p.m.

***There were present:***

**Mr. Holm  
Ms. Hunter  
Mr. McGhee  
Mr. Nelson  
Ms. Sikma  
Mr. Smith  
Mayor Ward**

***Absent/Excused***

**Excused**

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

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Ward

**INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Councilman Thomas McGhee.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Mr. McGhee moved to Approve the Agenda of February 19, 2013**

**Seconded by Ms. Sikma**

**Discussion**

None

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

**Old Business**

- a. Ordinance 13-01, An Ordinance Amending The City Of North Pole's 2013 Administration Budget By Reallocating Funds To Administration Office Equipment

**New Business**

- a. Liquor License Renewal for Refinery Lounge
- b. Approval of Specimen 457(b) Plan Document for Deferred Compensation Plan with The Hartford

- c. Approval to sell two (2) 2011 Arctic Cat M8162 Snow Machines Using Consignment Process Through Local Arctic Cat Dealership
- d. Approval for Clerk to Travel to the 2013 International Institute of Municipal Clerks Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey

**Seconded by Ms. Sikma**

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

**YES:** 6 – Hunter, Sikma, Holm, Smith, McGhee, Ward

**NO:** 0

**Absent:** Nelson

*On the main motion as amended*

**PASSED**

**YES:** 6 – Hunter, Sikma, Holm, Smith, McGhee, Ward

**NO:** 0

**Absent:** Nelson

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Ms. Sikma moved to approve the minutes of February 4, 2013**

**Seconded by Mr. Holm**

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

**YES:** 6 – Hunter, Sikma, Holm, Smith, McGhee, Ward

**NO:** 0

**Absent:** Nelson

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

The Eielson scoping meetings proceeded without much of a hitch. Its estimated 900+ people were in attendance at the three meetings with most showing up at North Pole. We are now awaiting the draft EIS at which time another comment period will be available.

Friday Night was the Annual awards for Eielson, The City of North Pole gave certificates and a City Coin to all 12 award winners.

Last week I was in Juneau for three days for AML and the Conference of Mayors. AML Staff gave reports on legislation the municipalities have requested and the Mayors have created a group to explore the ramifications of oil tax reform.

I had an opportunity to talk with many of our local legislators and press the issues we face, most notably energy cost and also our capital projects. Our resolutions 13-01, 13-01, and 13-03 were graciously accepted.

Last week Governor Parnell was in town at the FEDC investor Luncheon where Governor Parnell unveiled the latest benchmark requirement the “big three” have completed. The benchmark was the size and scope of the proposed gas line; 42 inch with five compressor stations. The news was well received. The three mayors were asked to give small speeches at the luncheon.

Yesterday Lisa Murkowski was in Fairbanks at the Fairbanks Chamber board of Directors meeting as well as at the Tiger Team Meeting where she updated the local leaders about sequestrations and what they may mean for our community.

Tomorrow (Wednesday) is a Sulfoline update at the North Pole Plaza Mall from 5:30PM to 7:30PM

The City of North Pole was notified approximately two weeks ago that our projected property values for the City were decreased by approximately 26.4 Million dollars. At our current property tax rate of 3 Mills it is estimated that this would have a \$80,070 effect on our budget. The effect of this decrease is primarily to the devaluation of the crude unit three refinery operated by Flint Hills Resources.

The \$80,070 loss is not accounted for in the 2013 budget, during my visit to Juneau I was also notified there was no current legislation to add the municipal sharing (25 Million) back into the state budget. This equals another approximate \$80,000 to the City that we have received in the past and may not receive this year.

As was mentioned in our last council meeting we have a \$32,000 liability with the Alaska Railroad, consisting of 4 years of unpaid bills. As of December 1<sup>st</sup> 2013 the liability will be \$40,000.

The staff, and I are working hard to bring a conclusion to this and ensure we maintain a balanced budget. I will keep the council apprised as we move to a solution.

- **Students of the Month**
  - “Owen” Xichun Luo – NPE
  - Christopher Starkey – NPHS

**COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR**

Mr. Smith asked about the transfer site closing.

Mayor Ward said that it was not passed by the borough at the last meeting.

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

**Police Department, Chief Dutra**

- Chief Dutra introduced Officer Amanda Bean who is attending the academy in Fairbanks.
- Chief Dutra thanked all the officers for attending the meeting tonight. He honored the following Officers:
  - Det. Stewart received the 2012 Employee of the Year
  - Officer Durny received the 2012 Officer of the Year
  - Officer Binkley received a letter of commendation for tirelessly working a case in 2012.
- Chief Dutra recognized each of his employees individually for an outstanding job well done by all.

**Fire Department, Chief Lane**

- Chief Dutra & Chief Lane are attending a class through homeland security to start with the Emergency Operation plan and things they may want to mitigate.
- NFPD donates to Fairbanks Counseling and Adoption a night with the department. This past weekend they were able to raise \$1,050. They Cook dinner, let them ride on fire trucks and is great PR.
- The NFPD lost a couple people in the department. Kyle Green is now the Fairbanks Deputy Fire Marshall and Jayson Russell has been hired in that position. Christine Boddy had her baby two days ago and all are doing well. Danielle Krause also left the department and her and her husband are expecting their 1<sup>st</sup> child.
- The Moniken family lost their child this weekend to brain cancer.
- St. Baldericks is next month and that is where the departments shave their heads and raise money for childhood cancer. To donate or support this program in memory of Ms. Moniken you can donate at the following website:  
[www.stbaldericks.org/participants/mypage/591330/2013](http://www.stbaldericks.org/participants/mypage/591330/2013)

**Accountant, Lisa Vaughn**

- Council received 2 financials for December and January. She is working on audit for the next couple of weeks.
- General fund is \$77,465 in expenses over revenues.
- January budget is in. Central treasury is \$2.2 M and part of it is from property tax that has just come in.
- Finance/Audit Committee met this afternoon.

**Utility & Public Works**

None

**Borough Representative**

None

**City Clerk**

- Senior Luncheon has been tentatively set for Friday, April 26, 2013

**ONGOING PROJECTS**

- None

**CITIZENS COMMENTS – 5 Minutes**

Karen Lane – Arctic Winter Games

- Offices have been moved from Pioneer Park to Ken Murray Insurance bldg..
- Merchandising store will be open next week.
- Barbara Lavalee will do a poster and print signing at Thomas Morris Center next Friday.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Mr. McGhee** - nice to see the Boy Scouts out here tonight.

**Mr. Smith** – thanked community for coming out and to see the public at the EIS meeting at NPHS. He reminded the public to not forget the meeting tomorrow at the mall for sufolane.

**Mr. Holm** – good to see Boy Scouts here again tonight and they look a little sharper tonight also. Next week Mr. Holm will be in Juneau and said he would carry down anything concerns that the City may have to our elected officials.

**Ms. Sikma** – She was happy to see the Boy Scouts here tonight and issued a challenge to the scouts and would like to have some comments from them.

**Ms. Hunter** – Thanked the Boy Scouts for coming out and liked Chief Dutra’s request to have everyone out and thank employees individually.

**Mayor Ward** – thanked everyone for coming out and for the Boy Scouts for coming out and participating in the meeting. He said it is also important to recognize the students, staff and residents.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. McGhee adjourned the meeting at 8: 35 p.m.**

**Seconded by Ms. Sikma**

The regular meeting of February 19, 2013 adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

**These minutes passed and approved** by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, March 4, 2013.



**ATTEST:**

  
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Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

  
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Kathryn M. Weber, MMC  
North Pole City Clerk