

**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, May 20, 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, May 20, 2013 to order at 7:00 p.m.

There were present:

Mr. Holm

Ms. Hunter

Mr. McGhee

Mr. Nelson

Ms. Sikma

Mr. Smith

Mayor Ward

Absent/Excused

Excused

Excused

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Led by Mayor Ward

National Anthem sung by NPMS Choir

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Sharron Hunter

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Holm *moved to Approve the Agenda of May 20, 2013*

Seconded by Mr. Nelson

Discussion

None

Mr. Holm *moved to Amend the agenda by consenting item a. under New Business*

Seconded by Mr. Nelson

Discussion

None

On the Amendment

PASSED

YES – 5 –Sikma, Holm, Nelson, Hunter, Ward

NO – 0
Absent – 2 McGhee, Smith

On the main motion as amended

PASSED

YES – 5 –Sikma, Holm, Nelson, Hunter, Ward
NO – 0
Absent – 2 McGhee, Smith

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Nelson *moved to Approve the minutes of May 6, 2013*

Seconded by Mr. Holm

Discussion

Ms. Hunter wanted her written comments put into the minutes of May 6, 2013.

PASSED

YES – 5 –Sikma, Holm, Nelson, Hunter, Ward
NO – 0
Absent – 2 McGhee, Smith

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Upcoming Events:

4th of July Committee meeting will be May 29th at 6 pm in council chambers. Parade and booth applications are available in the front office.

Appreciation reception for the interior delegation and Governor Parnell: May 29th 2013, 5:3—7:30 at the Fountainhead antique auto museum.

May 22nd Purple Heart Award and community reception FTWW

May 25th North Pole Fire Department Open House 10AM

We have lots of Construction happening in the state this year, to find northern region construction updates for the week please visit www.AlaskaNavigator.org.

Events Attended and upcoming

May 9th FNSB Senior Citizen Recognition banquet

May 13th NPHS Graduation at the Carlson Center

Students of the Month

*Hallie Austin
Joseph Gilmore
Shane Monsonn*

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

Mr. Holm – said that during one of the workshops they had talked about doing a feasibility study of merging our fire department with North Star. He wants the study to go forward and if the Mayor has done anything to move this on.

Mayor Ward stated that he has been formulating his thoughts and the questions that he needs to have answered for that.

Ms. Sikma – asked which format Fairbanks is using for their statistics for fire and police.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Police Department, Chief Dutra

- Celebrite machine has been ordered.
- Police motorbike – we shopped for used or less expensive motorbike and were unsuccessful. Little to no motorbikes available and shipping was excessive. New bike ordered at price.
- Operation we participated with DEA netted 254 lbs. of spice, \$160,000 cash, \$35,000 in silver, and 7 firearms.
- Roofing contractors came and looked at roof. Bids forthcoming.
- Sgt. Bellant is injured we are at minimums. Officers will not be attending special events due to time commitments.
- Click it or ticket is under way starting May 20 – June 2. Funds come from NHTSA and AHSO.
- Possibly could have 3 reserves if they all pass remaining testing.

Fire Department, Deputy Chief Coon

- Chief Lane is in Anchorage participating in training.
- Been to Anchorage to check out ladder truck.
- Conducted icy water training.
- Lots of prevention activities happening.

Director of City Services, Bill Butler
Building Department

Two new permits issued since last council meeting: Residential garage/shop building and a deck replacement

Public Works

- Melting snow caused flooding in Highway Park over the May 11-12 weekend
 - Blocked and frozen culverts contributed to flooding combined with persistently frozen ground
 - Not in budget this year, but 2014 budget will include a request for funding to rehabilitate drainage ditches in Highway Park Subdivision
 - Based on past expenses, estimated cost will be \$30,000 to \$40,000
- Request from Borough Transportation to modify a bus stop on 8th Avenue to improve rider safety
 - Borough offering to pay for material and City will perform work
 - Estimated cost approximately \$2,000
- Street sweeping planned to begin next week on City roads
 - Typically costs in excess of \$20,000 depending upon the amount of gravel used during winter season
 - Costs dramatically more to remove than to spread the gravel

Utility Department

- Request for Bids for the sewer lining project before Council this evening
- Entering the period where customer service line freeze-ups will begin to show themselves as ground thaws—none revealed to date

Natural Gas Utility Board

- Developing a website
- Continuing process of recruiting professional management

Continuing to develop a business plan based upon economic modeling

City Accountant, Lisa Vaughn

- Attended the AGFOA conference in Talkeetna
- GASB changes are coming up.
- No revenue sharing for municipalities, but for schools, etc.
- Marilyn Zrucky has put in her resignation for June 28.

Borough Representative

- There were two readings of the budget and it is moving on to final meeting.

City Clerk

- Ms. Weber is gone to the IIMC Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

ONGOING PROJECTS

None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Santa Claus –

Mr. Claus stated that Santa Claus is his legal name and is now a resident of North Pole and child advocate. He said he will be serving the community as the new Senior Park Ranger at Chena Lakes Recreation area.

Phil Zastro –

Mr. Zastro spoke to Peridot Rd and felt that HC Construction would be ruining road upgrade that was done last year and that it would be ruined by July 2013. He asked to have the city council put forth an ordinance to put road restrictions inside the City limits.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 13-07, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 8, HEALTH & SAFETY, SECTION 8.04.160, NOISE

Bill Butler explained the ordinance and that this was the second reading.

Mr. Holm asked if the council had any way to give a waiver to the council and how much noise would the construction make.

Public Comment

None

Mr. Nelson *moved to Approve Ordinance 13-07B, An Ordinance Amending Title 8, Health & Safety, Section 8.04.160, Noise*

Seconded by Ms. Sikma

Discussion

Ms. Hunter said that even though there are not many residents, they need to keep in mind this ordinance would apply for years to come.

PASSED

YES – 5 –Sikma, Hunter, Nelson, Ward, Holm

NO – 0

Absent – 2 – Smith, McGhee

ORDINANCE 13-08, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2013 BUDGET AND LEVYING THE MILL RATE

Mayor Ward introduced the ordinance and stated that this was the 2nd reading.

Public Comment

None

Ms, Sikma moved to Approve Ordinance 13-08, An Ordinance Amending The 2013 Budget And Levying The Mill Rate

Seconded by Mr. Holm

Discussion

None

Sharon Hunter moved to approve the amended budget as follows:

Account Number	Account Title	2013 approved budget	Proposed Change	New Budget
01-00-00-4002	Property tax	959,000	65,930	1,024,930
01-00-00-4003	Ambulance services	375,000	10,000	385,000
01-00-00-4005	Ambulance Fees	69,500	-9,500	60,000
01-00-00-4008	Fire Dept. Revenue	0	6,000	6,000
01-00-00-4045	Made In North Pole	0	4,000	4,000
01-00-00-4062	Municipal Assistance	85,000	-85,000	0
01-00-00-4141	Business License	15,500	1,500	17,000
01-00-00-5xxx	Transfer From Fund 16	0	1,788	1,788
01-00-00-5xxx	Transfer From Fund 10	0	13,500	13,500
ADMIN				
01-01-00-7003	Promotion	6,000	-2,000	4,000
01-01-00-7007	Maint. Contracts/Equipment	35,302	-700	34,602
01-01-00-7022	Office Supplies	12,000	-1,500	10,500
01-01-00-7049	Training Classes/ Manuals	6,100	-1,500	4,600
PROFESSIONAL SV				
01-02-00-7055	Preparedness	2,000	-2,000	0
01-02-00-7071	Website Design & Maint.	5,000	-2,000	3,000
01-02-00-5xxx	Ak Railroad Permit Fee	0	8,000	8,000
POLICE				
01-03-00-6000	Salaries	817,627	-43,472	774,155
01-03-00-6097	Workers Comp Ins	38,125	-1930.16	36,195
01-03-00-6099	Medicare	12,781	-630.34	12,151
01-03-00-6100	PERS	192,596	-9563.84	183,032
FIRE				
01-04-00-6000	Salaries	932,535	-10,390	922,145
01-04-00-7008	Fire Training/ Education	15,000	-7,000	8,000
01-04-00-7085	Prevention/ Public Education	2,200	-2,200	0
01-04-00-7095	Employee Health Protection	16,000	-14,000	2,000
01-04-00-7099	Employee Uniforms	2,500	-2,500	0
01-04-03-7017	Dorm Heat Cost	300	-300	0

PUBLIC WORKS				
01-08-00-7031	FMATS Match Participation	85,000	-25,000	60,000

Seconded by Ms. Sikma

Discussion

Mayor Ward said these are the amendments that have been reflected in the budget that has been distributed. There was an issue with the Mayors recommendations for adjustments were not officially moved into the budget.

Ms. Sikma had questions on dorm heat in the fire department.

Mayor Ward explained why we will not heat that building.

Mayor Ward said that he put a separate line item on Professional Services and said he would like to have a maintenance contract line item for the future with the Alaska Railroad fees.

Lisa Vaughn disagreed and said it should be kept as is.

Ms. Sikma wanted to know if this is something that should go under street maintenance.

Mayor Ward explained the history of this charge and said that it is the City's responsibility to maintain these crossings.

Sharron Hunter wanted to know about the Fire Department uniform line going to 0.

Mayor Ward explained that we received a grant.

Ms. Sikma questioned why we don't put the railroad line under a public works line item.

Ms. Vaughn explained why we should keep it where it is.

On the amendment

PASSED

YES – 5 –Sikma, Hunter, Nelson, Holm, Ward

NO – 0

Absent – 2 – Smith, McGhee

Discussion on the main motion as amended

Mr. Holm moved to Amend Ordinance 13-08 to transfer \$33,000 from Acct 01-08-00-7xxx Backhoe to 01-08-00-7012 Street Maintenance.

Seconded by Sikma.

On the amendment

PASSED

YES – 4 –Sikma, Hunter, Nelson, Ward

NO – 1 - Holm

Absent – 2 – Smith, McGhee

On the main motion as amended

PASSED

YES – 4 –Sikma, Hunter, Nelson, Ward

NO – 1 - Holm

Absent – 2 – Smith, McGhee

NEW BUSINESS

Item moved to Consent Agenda

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Holm – said spring has arrived. He’s glad to hear that the Mayor is considering a study of the fire department. He would like to thank Phil Zastrow for bringing up the Peridot Rd issue and agrees that something needs to be done. He would consider a possible ordinance to change or reduce truck traffic.

Mr. Nelson – encouraged everyone to get out and enjoy the wonderful weather this week.

Ms. Hunter commented on Chief Dutra’s comment that the reserve officers are going through the training process. She said it reflects well on the Chief and saves the city a lot of money and congratulated him on his part. Ms. Hunter also thanked Mr. Zastro for presenting the history of the Peridot situation and hopefully the mayor can work on this. She wished everyone a good evening.

Ms. Sikma – stated that it was a beautiful day in the neighborhood and welcomed Santa to the area. She thanked Marilyn Zrucky for all her hard work and that she’s going to miss her!!!

Mayor Ward –said there are summer projects that will be going on such as painting City Hall. Other projects will be happening around City Hall with use of volunteers. He said the flowers are coming for the roundabouts.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Holm adjourned the meeting at 8:26p.m.

Seconded by Ms. Sikma

The regular meeting of May 20, 2013 adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, June 3, 2013.

Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk