

**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, June 2, 2014 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, June 2, 2014 to order at 7:04 p.m.

***There were present:***

**Ms. Holm  
Ms. Hunter  
Mr. McCarthy  
Mr. McGhee  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Welch  
Mayor Ward**

***Absent/Excused***

**Excused  
Excused**

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

Led by Mayor Ward

**INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Councilwoman Holm

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Mr. Welch moved to Approve the Agenda of June 2, 2014**

**Seconded by Mr. McCarthy**

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

**YES – 5 – Welch, McCarthy, Holm, Hunter, Ward  
NO – 0 –  
Absent – 2 – McGhee, Smith**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Ms. Holm moved to Approve the minutes of May 19, 2014**

**Seconded by Mr. Welch**

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

YES – 5 – Welch, McCarthy, Holm, Hunter, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 2 – McGhee, Smith

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

\*Presentation by Bob Shefchik – Update on the Interior Gas Utility

- The City is in need of volunteers for the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and picnic. If you are interested please call City Hall and sign up! The meetings are set for the following dates at 6pm here at city hall. The Festival is slated to start at 10am and run until 5pm. For vending information please contact North Pole City Hall. Meetings are as follows: Monday June 9<sup>th</sup>, Monday June 23<sup>rd</sup>, Monday June 30<sup>th</sup>
- The North Pole Lions have agreed to partner with the City of North Pole to host the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade this year. We look forward to partnership with the North Pole Lions. Parade entry information will be available through the lions.
- Last week I met with representatives from the Alaska Railroad about special trains for the interior. We discussed ideas ranging from Christmas trains to Easter trains and what they do in Anchorage. The main concern with special trains in the Interior is the severe cold and how the cars will stay heated. Stay tuned for more on a Special North Pole Christmas train
- We have had several complaints lately about ‘trash’ or ‘junk’ around neighborhoods in the City. The City of North Pole does not have specific ordinance against unappealing items on private property. The Fairbanks North Star Borough does not have junk ordinances either and it can lead to unappealing properties. Much of North Pole is lightly regulated through zoning regulation which limits the ability of the city to enforce cleanup of these properties.
- The City currently is in need of representation on the planning board.
- If you have concerns for noise or public safety, please contact our police department.

- I will be taking some time off this summer (Thursdays and Fridays). If you would like to stop in, please call and make an appointment to ensure I am here at City Hall. I do always carry my phone if there is a need to immediately reach me.

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

**Police Department, Sgt. Bellant**

- Chief Dutra and Lt. Rathbun are in Anchorage for the next 2 days for the debriefing of Alaska Shield.
- Thanks for approving the grant money for the re-model of the Police Station.
- Siezed 70 marijuana plants in the City this past week.

**City Accountant, Lisa Vaughn**

- Talking with auditors and will present on June 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Fire Department, Chief Lane**

- None

**Director of City Services, Bill Butler**

**Building Department**

- No new permits issued since last council meeting
  - McDonalds' has submitted construction plans and project is in plan review
  - New residential permit application submitted
  - New institutional permit application submitted—bus shelter at Beaver Springs Mall

**Public Works**

- Flowers for roundabouts to be delivered Tuesday, June 3; plantings should be completed by weekend
- Exercise trail
  - Begun dumping fill to raise the level of Start/End site of trail (corner of Kevin's Way and Snowman Lane)
  - Site preparation to begin within next two weeks--stump grinding and dirt work to occur at Site 2 (corner of 5<sup>th</sup> and Davis) and stump grinding at Site 3 (corner of 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Blanket Blvd.)
  - Stump grinding firm will donate wood chips to be installed around base of exercise equipment

- FNSB has generated a lease agreement for Site 4 (corner of Santa Claus Lane and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue)
- Two part-time summer staff hired for summer
  - Reduced summer hires by one to help manage budget in this period of budget uncertainty and to help fund vehicle repair expenses
- Flatbed truck is repeatedly failing and disrupting ability to complete jobs
  - Electrical, transmission and hydraulic system failures occurred in succession last week
  - Repair costs expected to be \$2,000-\$3,000
  - Need flatbed truck almost daily during the summer season

#### **Utility Department**

- Sewer outfall
  - Flow has not yet returned to the sewer outfall channel
  - Governor signed Capital Budget that includes \$500,000 for addressing sewer outfall
  - No feedback yet from ADEC on Compliance Order by Consent status
- Potential Hurst Road lift station failure—assembly that holds automatic pump control switches rusted through and dropped the controls into the lift station resulting in pumps running constantly
  - Failure occurred during the work day and a resident called in hearing the alarm

#### **Natural Gas Utility Board**

- Detailed report by the IGU Board President, Bob Shefchik, scheduled for tonight's meeting

#### **City Clerk**

- The additional work station has been installed and all programs have been installed.
- eDocs will be here next week, June 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> for training.
- There haven't been many applications received on the Records Preparation Clerk yet so it's very unlikely that we will have someone hire before the training begins.
- I'm still in the process of looking to upgrade the sound system in the council chambers and would welcome any advice from those who have some knowledge with this issue. I will be working toward putting out an RFP for the sound system in the council chambers.
- The Caselle program, Myviewpoint has been purchased and was installed. Tricia Fogarty and myself took the training last week. We will be scheduling with Dept Heads and employees a time when we can get them up and running. Council members will also be included in this training and will have accessibility to certain programs. I will keep everyone posted.

## **ONGOING PROJECTS**

- None

## **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Rep. Doug Isaacson –

Mr. Isaacson asked the council to consider putting in an ordinance to not tax natural gas at least for the initial set-up. He likes what he sees in the City and it looks good.

Mr. Welch asked why the City would exempt natural gas and not other commodities.

Rep. Isaacson said that it would help to get people to convert and help the PM2.5. He said for the City to use some discretion and reevaluate it in 5 years.

Rep. Isaacson also spoke on the EPA ruling and that there is an opportunity to weigh in on it. The document is 625 pages.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **ORDINANCE 14-07, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE AMENDING TITLE 4, REVENUE AND FINANCE, ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES TO COLLECT DELINQUENT DEBTS OWED TO THE CITY**

Mr. Welch said that this ordinance was introduced on May 19<sup>th</sup> and sent to our attorney for approval. For the most part it can be applied to other debts of the City.

#### **Public Comment**

Bill Bellant – 125 Snowman Lane

Mr. Bellant asked how much the City is talking about in debt.

Mr. Welch said that it is about \$75,000. Of that, \$25,000 of that is by one entity and some of them are people who have not paid anything since 2006.

Mr. Bellant asked if there was something that the City could do for the citations and if the State could implement something to help municipalities collect on citations. He would also like to see the State revoke driver's licenses for unpaid citations.

**Mr. Welch *moved to* Adopt Ordinance 14-07, An Ordinance of The City of North Pole amending Title 4, Revenue and Finance, establishing procedures to collect delinquent debts owed to the City**

**Seconded by Mr. McCarthy**

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

YES – 5 – Welch, McCarthy, Holm, Hunter, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 2 – McGhee, Smith

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 14-11, A RESOLUTION GRANTING MAYOR BRYCE J. WARD AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO A SHORT-TERM LINE OF CREDIT LOAN FOR \$500,000 WITH MT. MCKINLEY BANK TO FACILITATE CITY CASH FLOW DURING THE SUMMER 2014 CONSTRUCTION SEASON**

Mr. Butler gave the council an update as to why the City needs to enter into a short-term line of credit to help cover large payments paid out to contractors doing projects for the summer. He said it was insurance for the City that the bills can still be paid.

**Public Comment**

None

**Mr. Welch *moved to* Introduce and Adopt Resolution 14-11, a Resolution granting Mayor Bryce J. Ward authority to enter into a short-term line of credit loan for \$500,000 with Mt. McKinley Bank to facilitate City cash flow during the summer 2014 construction**

**Seconded by Ms. Holm**

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

YES – 5 – Welch, McCarthy, Holm, Hunter, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 2 – McGhee, Smith

**RESOLUTION 14-12, A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE GABE RICH & SCOTT JOHNSON MEMORIAL PARK ON A CITY PROPERTY; BLOCK 1 LOT 9 IN THE MORNING STAR SUBDIVISION, TO HONOR FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH RESIDENTS WHO HAVE DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY WHILE SERVING THEIR COUNTRY, STATE OR MUNICIPALITY.**

Mr. Butler reported to council on how this came into fruition. There is a property within the City limits that could be donated to create a Memorial Park. This would be built with donations.

**Public Comment**

Sgt. Bill Bellant -

Sgt. Bellant felt it was a fantastic idea and asked if they could change a street name for Gabe Rich. Rich worked for 4 years for the City and specifically for him. Kevin Lam was a reserve officer here and was killed while in service to Fairbanks Police Dept.

**Mr. Welch *moved to* Introduce and Adopt Resolution 14-12, a Resolution establishing the Gabe Rich & Scott Johnson Memorial Park on a City property; block 1 lot 9 in the Morning Star Subdivision, to honor Fairbanks North Star Borough residents who have died in the line of duty while serving their country, state or municipality.**

**Seconded by Mr. McCarthy**

**Discussion**

Mr. Welch liked this Resolution and felt it was fitting. He suggested some grammatical corrections and wanted to see the title "Trooper" added in front of Gabe Rich & Scott Johnson.

**Mr. Welch *moved to* name the park the "Trooper Gabe Rich & Trooper Sgt. Scott Johnson Memorial Park.**

**Seconded by Ms. Hunter**

Ms. Holm asked if we wanted to specifically name the park after those two officers when there were others that have been killed in the line of duty.

Mayor Ward said he didn't see an issue with naming the park after the two officer killed. He also said that there would be a committee set up to put the policy together.

On the main motion as amended

**PASSED**

YES – 5 – Welch, McCarthy, Holm, Hunter, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 2 – Smith, McGhee

**Discussion**

Mayor Ward said that it was the intention to include those who have died serving their country, state, and municipality. He feels it is completely appropriate to name the park after the two troopers.



### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mr. McCarthy – brought up the subject on getting the packet on Thursday and that they should contact the front office with questions.

Ms. Hunter – Good night.

Ms. Holm – thanked the clerk, Lisa Vaughn and Bill Butler for their help this past week.

Mr. Welch – thanked Rep Isaacson for all his help and appreciates all he does for us. He appreciates Alaska after being in Georgia and Alabama and is happy to see IGU marching forward with their plans. He is happy to see the Resolution for Memorial Park and wishes the committee well. He hopes they can work out a workshop time for the budget.

Mayor Ward – Good night.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Welch adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.**

**Seconded by Ms. Hunter**

The regular meeting of June 2, 2014 adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

**These minutes passed and approved** by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, June 16, 2014.



Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC  
North Pole City Clerk