

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 7, 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, July 7, 2014 to order at 7:00 p.m.

There were present:

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

Absent/Excused

Excused

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Led by Mayor Ward

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Councilman McGhee

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McGhee moved to Approve the Agenda of July 7, 2014

Seconded by Mr. Welch

Discussion

None

Mr. McGhee moved to consent the following items:

- a. Approval of the Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with PDC Engineers to complete Phase 2 of the Water System Engineering and Design Project
- b. Approve Cummings North West's bid for \$173,754 to provide the Emergency Generator for Phase 1 of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation Project
- c. Ordinance 14-08 An Ordinance Amending Title 2, Police Department, Section 2.20.080, Take Home Vehicle Usage and Cost

- d. Ordinance 14-09, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to Amend Title 2, Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.16, Appointive Officers.
- e. Ordinance 14-10, An Ordinance amending Title 2, Chapter 2.25, by deleting Public Works Department and creating Division of City Services
- g. Ordinance 14-12, An Ordinance amending Chapter 10, Vehicles and Traffic, Section 10.01, State Regulations Adopted
- i. Resolution 14-14, A Resolution of the City of North Pole placing an amendment to the City of North Pole Charter on the October 7, 2014 ballot concerning violations of the North Pole Municipal Code

Seconded by Mr. Welch

Discussion

None

On the amendment

PASSED

YES – 6 – Welch, McCarthy, Smith, McGhee, Holm, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 1 – Hunter

On the main motion as amended

PASSED

YES – 6 – Welch, McCarthy, Smith, McGhee, Holm, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 1 – Hunter

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McGhee moved to Approve the minutes of June 16, 2014

Seconded by Mr. Welch

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES – 6 – Welch, McCarthy, Smith, McGhee, Holm, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 1 – Hunter

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mr. McGhee thanked the mayor for the workshop and agreed with his perception of how the previous meeting had gone. He felt the new wording of the bed tax ordinance would work great.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

City Accountant, Lisa Vaughn

- Mr. McGhee asked about the sales tax revenue for certain months and how council can get that information.
- Ms. Vaughn said that they could definitely look at that.

Fire Department, Deputy Chief Coon

- None

Police Department, Chief Dutra

Mr. McGhee asked about the motorcycle training for the Police Department.

Sgt. Stevenson said that he would be taking the training this next month.

Director of City Services, Bill Butler

- McDonalds has started to pull things out and demo will start on July 9th. They plan on reopening in October.
- Mr. McGhee asked about striping.
- The fitness trail, dog park, and striping is on their agenda.
- Mr. Smith asked how the lift station pumps have been working.
- Mr. Butler said that the flow has been significant this month. He also said there is flow on the out channel as of the 19th of June.

Borough Representative

- None

City Clerk, Kathy Weber

- None

ONGOING PROJECTS

- None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

- None

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 14-11, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA TO AMEND TITLE 4, REVENUE AND FINANCING, CHAPTER 4.16, PURCHASING

Bill Butler introduced the ordinance and council had many questions of department heads.

Public Comment

Buddy Lane said that council punishes everyone for one person's mistake. It is hard to work with the numbers that are in the code now. He said that we have a good checks and balances in the City. Mr. Lane also talked about the cooperative purchasing and how much the City would save to adopt this. He didn't feel anything needed to be changed.

Mr. McGhee *moved to* Introduce and Advance Ordinance 14-11, an ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to Amend Title 4, Revenue and Financing, Chapter 4.16, Purchasing

Seconded *by* Mr. McCarthy

Discussion

Mr. McCarthy was comfortable with the limits on the ordinance presented.

Mr. Smith had questions on the City credit cards.

Ms. Holm had questions and needed clarification on the wording of "designee".

Mr. Welch had questions as to what items are purchased that would be over the \$3,000 limit for Dept. Heads.

Mr. McGhee had concerns about purchases that could potentially take place without the council approval such as a lawn mower that was bought previously.

Mr. Welch moved to amend Ordinance 4.16.030 as follows:

- A. The limit of purchase of an article of personal property, supplies, services or construction items without prior Mayoral approval shall be \$1,000 ~~\$5,000~~ ~~\$3,000~~ (~~one five three~~ thousand dollars). The limit of purchase of an article of personal property, supplies, services or construction items without prior City Council approval shall be \$7,500 ~~\$20,000~~ ~~\$15,000~~ (~~seven twenty fifteen~~ thousand ~~five hundred~~ dollars).
- B. The limit of purchase of personal property, supplies, services or construction items with the approval of the City Council shall be limited to ~~\$20,000~~ ~~\$50,000~~ ~~\$30,000~~ (~~twenty fifty thirty~~ thousand dollars).

Seconded by Mr. McCarthy

Discussion

Mr. McGhee felt this was a good amendment.

Mr. Welch felt this was a good amendment because it doubled the limit for the Dept. Heads and Mayor but thought the competitive bidding should be held at \$30,000.

Mr. McCarthy was concerned with the numbers and that they may not be high enough. He didn't want to hamstring the Dept. Heads and need to up it again next year.

Mr. Welch stated that the council didn't need to wait a year if they felt that the numbers needed to be increased.

Ms. Holm said that the City needed to be sure to make good ordinances. She wasn't comfortable with the amounts or the ordinance.

On the Amendment

PASSED

Yes: 6- Welch, Holm, Smith, McCarthy, McGhee, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 1 – Hunter

On the Ordinance as amended

PASSED

Yes: 5- Welch, Smith, McCarthy, McGhee, Ward

No: 1- Holm

Absent: 1 – Hunter

RESOLUTION 14-15, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE ADOPTING THE MULTI-JURISDICTION MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN FOR THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH, CITY OF FAIRBANKS, AND THE CITY OF NORTH POLE AS THE OFFICIAL MITIGATION PLAN OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE

Mr. Butler introduced the resolution and explained to council how important it was to adopt this plan. He said it was being pro-active and has met all requirements by the state and federal government.

Public Comment

Chief Lane stated that if the City doesn't pass this, they are not a part of the plan and therefore, will lose out on a lot of money. He said that if there is a disaster anywhere in the United States then the City would be able to go out and get money to make our buildings safer.

Mr. McGhee *moved to Approve Resolution 14-15, a resolution of the City Of North Pole adopting the Multi-Jurisdiction Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Fairbanks North Star Borough, City of Fairbanks, and The City of North Pole as the official mitigation plan of the City of North Pole*

Seconded by Mr. Welch

Discussion

Ms. Holm wasn't comfortable with this Resolution. She said that large buildings are constructed and have earthquake standards. She stated that her taxes doubled this year and is that it is time that we said no to certain things as it's the tax payer that actually pays for it.

Mr. McGhee said that with all the activities that have gone on with this, even the State asked why North Pole was participating on the Preparedness drill. He said that Mr. Butler brought up that we are not a threat and asked what is our real threat. Mr. McGhee said he doesn't know about the energy expended on this but felt this was a bandwagon of Mr. Lanes and it seems to be a torch of Mr. Lanes. He said any kind of preparedness is great but that was based on a company that could handle it.

Mr. McCarthy said that we could look at earthquakes, volcanoes, fires, and he was here in 1980's when they had to shut down and that we are not immune to any community catastrophe. He said Mr. Lane is an expert in the state and community. Mr. McCarthy said that this is something that we should pass and it is more of an insurance policy and if we need it, we have it.

Ms. Holm said that Mr. Lane carries a torch and that it is a good quality. With this FEMA issue they are targeting small communities by making them get flood insurance and there are strings attached. There is a line of readiness and being prepared. FEMA is like doomsday prepping.

Mayor Ward said that the value is the plan itself. He said this is the carrot that the government gives to make things happen. We have an opportunity to put together a plan with FNSB and City of Fairbanks and that it does happen and we should be prepared if it does. This is a resolution by the City and doesn't bind us to anything. He said we are not signing a contract. Mayor Ward said after the wind storm last year we didn't go after disaster money because the City didn't need it. This gives us one more tool in the tool belt.

PASSED

Yes: 5- Welch, Holm, Smith, McCarthy, McGhee, Ward

No: 1 - Holm

Absent: 1 – Hunter

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ms. Holm – Good night.

Mr. Smith – good work session and would like to see more updates on the Flint Hills process.

Mr. McCarthy- apologized if he hurt anyone's feeling but the staff give lots of time to get the packets out. He felt the council should look over their packet prior to the meetings and if there are questions then they have time before the meeting to get answers.

Mr. McGhee – does not always agree with questions that council asks but does agree that they can ask before the council meeting and he supports Mr. McCarthy. He thanked the Mayor and council for the bed tax workshop. Sorry he missed all the activities but he had to work on the 4th and celebrated a bit before the previous day. He is grateful for all the work on St. Nicholas Drive and wished the rain would quit. Hope everyone enjoys the heat and stay dry.

Mr. Welch – today is a day of 7 7's for him as he arrived in North Pole on July 7th and retired and went beyond with his business. Must be something right going on here. Great July 4th celebration and a lot of work that went into it. Best he's seen since in the 15 years he has been here. There were a lot of vendors here and didn't know that there were that many people here.

Mayor Ward – July 4th weekend was fun and a lot of work went into it. This would not be possible for all the people that came here to enjoy the festivities if it wasn't for the Summer Festival committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McGhee adjourned the meeting at 9:21 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Welch

The regular meeting of July 7, 2014 adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, July 21, 2014.



Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk