



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, March 2, 2015 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, March 2, 2015 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
Excused
Excused

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Ward called the regularly scheduled meeting of the North Pole City Council to order on Monday, March 2, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Mayor Ward

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Ms. Holm

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Welch *moved to* Approve the Agenda of March 2, 2015

Seconded *by* Ms. Holm

Discussion

None

Mr. Welch *moved to* amend the agenda and consent the following items:

Old Business

- a. Ordinance 15-03, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to amend Title 2, Administration and personnel, Chapter 2.36.470 Pay.

New Business

- a. Approval of liquor license for The Refinery Lounge
- b. Approval of liquor license for 2 Go Mart #122
- c. Approval of liquor license for Pagoda Restaurant

Seconded by Ms. Holm

On the amendment

PASSED

Yes: 4 - Holm, Welch, Smith, Ward

No: 0-

Absent: 3 - McGhee, Hunter, McCarthy

On the Agenda as Amended

PASSED

Yes: 4 - Holm, Welch, Smith, Ward

No: 0-

Absent: 3 - McGhee, Hunter, McCarthy

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Welch *moved to* Approve the minutes of March 2, 2015.

Seconded by Mr. Smith

Discussion

None

PASSED

Yes: 4 - Holm, Welch, Smith, Ward

No: 0-

Absent: 3 - McGhee, Hunter, McCarthy

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Update by Interior Gas Utility project manager David Prusak on the upcoming Clearing and Construction work scheduled for the City of North Pole and surrounding areas in the spring and summer of 2015 – see attached map.

Mayor Ward Comments

- We are seeking donations for the Trooper Park, if you are interested in donating your time or resources please talk to me or Chief Dutra with the Police Dept. We are approaching the construction season and are in need of contractors and volunteers to do the necessary work.
- The air quality ordinance proposed at the Borough passed early Friday morning. I did stick it out till the end and even offered a amendment to the ordinance. A majority of the new regulations will not take effect until next year.
- Wednesday March 18th at 6pm will be the first festival committee meeting. If you are interested please contact me or Katy Englund for details. The 4th is on a Saturday this year so get ready for a great time!
- February 24th 5-7 pm was the Programmatic Environmental EIS for Force restructuring at Fort Wainwright. In an effort to reduce the size of the Army, leadership is exploring areas where force reductions can occur across the country. Fairbanks and North Pole had a great tum out and testimony went until after 11pm. Governor Walker, the interior delegation and our federal delegation all spoke in favor of our troops.
- I will be out of the office for at least a week when my wife gives birth to our firstborn. I will be making arrangements for the office in my absence. I will inform the council as soon as my son is born for the duration I will be absent.

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

Mr. Smith asked if there will be any meetings held with the council for workshops, budgets, etc. on the news with Flint Hills Resources.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Fire Department. Chief Lane

- In Juneau with State Fire Fighters Association.

- Alaska Fire Chiefs yearly summit.
- Great interaction with legislators.
- Homeland Security Conference, 2016 State Exercise.
- All three EOC's to work together and do a continuity drill.
- Putting medics on sweep teams with police officers nationwide.
- Platform is ready to go into service and they are waiting to see if all training has been completed.

Police Department. Chief Dutra

- Presented Officer Milne with his intermediate certificate.

Finance. Tricia Fogarty

- Working with auditors to button up 2014.

Director of City Services. Bill Butler

Building Department

- No new building permits issued since November 3
- Website project: Plan to go live before next City Council meeting

Public Works

- On Friday February 27, Public Works took delivery of its new articulating loader purchased with a state grant
 - New loader includes a snow blower and snow bucket
 - New loader can use existing Bobcat attachments
- Discussing with Utility Department transfer of oldest skid steer loader to Utility
 - Utility needs a means to lift heavy equipment and pallets in their garage

Utility Department

- Wastewater treatment plant project's Municipal Matching Grant:
 - Received final construction contractor and engineer's invoices
 - All grant funds expended
 - Emergency generator at WWTP funded with an Alaska Clean Water Fund Loan:
 - Generator is installed and operational
 - Requires some modifications to be complete and staff need training

- Wastewater treatment plant experienced a frozen discharge line from lagoon 4 to the treatment works
- Cause uncertain since many changes have occurred in past year-sewer lining project, reduced flow from Flint Hill and treatment works renovation.
- Staff were able to correct the problem by steaming the discharge main and problem has not reoccurred

Natural Gas Utility Board

- Modification of Senate Bill 23 under consideration by State Legislature
- Original SB 23 only permitted use of State funds dedicated to obtaining natural gas to be spent on a North Slope liquefaction plant
- Proposed changes will broaden areas can use State funds to acquire a gas supply
- IOU released Invitation for Bids for construction of local gas lines
- Divided the project into three separate bids
- Bid openings scheduled for March 9, 12 & 16
- Plan review and inspection of gas line installation in City of North Pole:
- Working to partner with DOT to share a field inspector
- Working with MWH Engineers, PDC Engineers and IOU to get a comprehensive plan review to satisfy City's requirements
- Brush cutting contract awarded for clearing that needs to occur before migratory birds return
- Approximately 11 miles of brush cutting may occur in City

Borough Representative

- Passed marijuana ordinance and adopted provisions as the City of North Pole did. It did restrict the ability to smoke on private property. They do not have a nuisance clause like the City of North Pole.
- Air quality was discussed. There were many amendments made to it. They shrank the non-attainment area inside 2.5. There are three stages (1, 2, & 3). Mayor Ward offered an amendment and if it is below -15 you are allowed to bum.

City Clerk, Kathy Weber

- Reminder that APOC forms are due to the City Clerk and to APOC by March 15, 2015. Even if you file online you must give a copy to the clerk to keep on file.
- New part time records preparation clerk, Stephanie DeCristo started last week. I hope to start training her with Michelle and also some online training with Laserfiche sometime this month.

- Cara High is our new Accounts Payable Clerk which brings us to full staffing again in Admin. She will be a great asset to us and the position.
- Many thanks to Michelle Myhill for doing the minutes of the past meeting. When Michelle was here at City Hall she did the minutes

ONGOING PROJECTS

None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

OLDBUSINESS

ORDINANCE 15-04. AN ORDINANCE REQUESTING THE PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE FOR DETECTIVE/CRIME SCENE OPERATIONS USING JUSTICE FUNDS

Chief Dutra updated council on the Ordinance and reasons for going with the Chevrolet Tahoe. He encouraged them to pass this ordinance.

Mr. Smith asked if it could also be used for patrol.

Chief Dutra stated that it needed to be used for crime scene or detective use because of the funding.

Public Comment

None

Mr. Welch *moved to* Adopt Ordinance 15-04, An Ordinance Requesting the Purchase of a Vehicle for Detective/Crime Scene Operations Using Justice Funds

Seconded *by* Mr. McCarthy

Discussion

Mr. Welch *moved to* amend by replacing Ordinance 15-04 with Ordinance 15-04 Substitute A .

Seconded *by* Ms. Holm

Discussion

Ms. Holm *moved to* amend line 20 to strike Chevrolet Tahoe and substitute with Ford Expedition.

Seconded *by* Mr. Welch

Discussion

Smith said he would be more apt to go with what the Chief said would be better for the department.

Welch concurred with councilman Smith and that the Tahoe had better towing capacity and would be better suited for the NPPD.

Holm said that the Chief said this vehicle would have the same towing capacity as the Expedition and this would still give the officer the tools to do his role. With the cuts in revenue with Flint Hills, she felt the amendment was appropriate and would save the City \$5,000.

On the amendment

PASSED

Yes: 4 - Holm, Welch, Smith, Ward

No: 0-

Absent: 3 – McGhee, Hunter, McCarthy

On the main motion as amended

PASSED

Yes: 4 - Holm, Welch, Smith, Ward

No: 0-

Absent: 3 – McGhee, Hunter, McCarthy

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Welch thanked the boy scouts for coming out tonight.

Ms. Holm thanked the boy scouts for coming out.

Mr. Smith thanked boy scouts for coming out tonight and asked everyone to be careful on the roads. He stated that we have more than 8 hours of daylight now.

Mayor Ward thanked everyone for coming out tonight.

ADJOURNMENT


Mr. Welch adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Smith

The regular meeting of March 2, 2015 adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, March 16, 2015.

ATTEST:


Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk



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