



**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 16, 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 16, 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

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Ward called the regularly scheduled meeting of the North Pole City Council to order on Monday, March 16, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Led by Mayor Ward

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Ms. Hunter

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Welch *moved to* Approve the Agenda of March 16, 2015

Seconded *by* Ms. Holm

Discussion

None

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

New Business

- a. Request from Christmas in Ice for 4th Quarter 2014 bed tax.
- b. Approval of the US Corps of Engineers Chena River law enforcement agreement for 2015.
- c. Agreement between the City of Fairbanks and City of North Pole for Emergency Dispatching Services.
- d. Approval of the purchase of ten (10) APX 4000 Motorola portable radios

Seconded by Ms. Holm

On the amendment

PASSED

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

No: 0

Absent: 1 – McGhee

On the Agenda as Amended

PASSED

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

No: 0

Absent: 1 – McGhee

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Seconded by Mr. Smith

Discussion

None

PASSED

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

No: 0-

Absent: 1 – McGhee

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

- 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.

- 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!
- March 24th from 6-8pm will be the F-35 EIS for Eielson Air Force Base. The North Pole meeting will be held at North Pole Worship Center across the parking lot from Sourdough Fuel. This EIS is similar to the F-16 EIS where the Air Force is seeking input from the community on the F-35 basing at Eielson. The great thing about this meeting is we get to say YES!
- Was in and out of the office this last week as my first born son Kipton Jeffery Ward was born 3-3-15 at 3:04pm. He is a healthy boy who is fond of sleeping during the day and staying up all night.

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Police Department, Chief Dutra

- Ofc. McBroom intermediate certificate congratulations.
- Cocoa with a Cop: Excellent experience kids had fun asked a lot of questions. We plan on doing these once a month. Topics will range from bullying, safety related issues, and guns. SHARE: Story kids and contacts with NPPD.
- Sold the Dodge pickup for \$4716.50. Had three bids. These funds will be placed back into the Dept. of Justice, asset forfeiture.
- I want to advise you that our SEDU Officer assisted DEA in Anchorage and intercepted a large shipment of drugs and money bound for Fairbanks. I am excited to know our efforts are stopping the importation of drugs into this area.
- We gave commendations to ADA Tricia Haines for her efforts on the case involving a harassment case. This case was a substitute teacher accused of grabbing some kids at our schools.
- Officer Fisher and Sgt. Binkley helped out with Chena Flood Control snow machine races on Saturday.
- We conducted our annual department meeting.

Lt. Rathbun was given a letter of accommodation for his efforts during 2014 specifically his follow up on high profile cases.

Officer Milne was given Officer of the Year as voted on by his fellow officers.

Officer Fisher was awarded Employee of the Year for his excellent efforts in 2014.

Sgt. Binkley and Sgt. Bellant given letters of commendation for efforts on Harassment case of fondling students at the school.

- We have made headway on Memorial park. We have Design Alaska working with Degerlund Engineering to get staking layout completed. Hoping to have park ready for clearing in mid- April. Weber Inc. and Degerlund Engineering are both donating their work.

Fire Department, Chief Lane

- Encouraged the council to complete their NIMS testing. He said it was mandated from the federal government for communities that accept federal funding. If you need help completing them you can go to the fire department for help.
- State of Alaska will come to North Pole will and give a training class for council members on disasters.
- Work is being one on EOC and computers are being ordered with grant funding.
- Working on communication plan for EOC.
- As of yesterday, the platform truck is online. Training is complete.
- Spring preparedness conference will be the first week of April. The fire chief, city clerk, director of city services, and police Lt. will be attending classes in Anchorage.
- Looking for dates for the Open House and appreciation dinner.
- He asked everyone to be careful on the roads as the temperatures are rising.
- St. Baldericks will be having their fundraiser on Saturday.
- Received grant through FEMA for smoke detectors and the public can contact the fire department for a free detector.

Finance, Tricia Fogarty

- None

Director of City Services, Bill Butler

- None

Borough Representative

- None

City Clerk, Kathy Weber

- APOC forms were due today in my office at 5:00 p.m.
- Continue to work with laserfiche and scan records. Stephanie DeCristo has really caught on to the program and is working very well with it.
- I will be working with Alaska USA to bring forward an acceptable healthcare renewal to council in May.

ONGOING PROJECTS

None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Francie Cork – 401 Holiday Rd

Ms. Cork congratulated the Mayor on the birth of his child. She thanked the NPPD for allowing people to leave town and check on their homes. Ms. Cork invited the council join her in “Sher with a Friend”, by donating shower and bath items to benefit the Fairbanks Rescue Mission. Shampoos and conditioners, soaps and body washes, razors, washcloths and scrubbies, etc. will be collected and delivered in May.

Ethel Stoneman is also ill and she asked the council to contact her for a kind word.

Steve Dutra - 125 Snowman Lane

Thanked Bill Butler for an awesome job on the website and encouraged everyone to look at it.

Santa Claus – 350 S. Santa Claus Lane

Mr. Claus asked to do a presentation at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 15-09, A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL IN APPRECIATION AND SUPPORT FOR THE ALASKA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND EXPORT AUTHORITY’S CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO MEETING THE GOALS OF THE INTERIOR ENERGY PROJECT.

Mayor Ward said this was information that was passed by the FNSB assembly. He gave the public and council background on the projects. He answered questions from the council.

Public Comment

None

Mr. Welch *moved to Approve Resolution 15-09, A Resolution of the North Pole City Council in appreciation and support for the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority's continued commitment to meeting the goals of the interior energy project.*

Seconded by Ms. Hunter

Discussion

Mayor Ward gave the description of and mcf and mmbtu.

Mr. Welch *moved to amend to change lines 9 and 27 "units of measure" to read \$15/mcf instead of mmbtu.*

Seconded by Ms. Hunter

Discussion

None

PASSED

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

No: 0

Absent: 1 - McGhee

Ms. Holm *moved to postpone to a later date*

Failed for lack of a seconded.

On the main motion as amended.

Discussion

Mayor Ward went over the title of the ordinance again and gave an overview of what the resolution was.

Ms. Holm had issues with line 57 and she wanted to know if it should be deleted from the resolution. She felt there were a lot of unknowns.

Ms. Hunter asked if Ms. Holm had a problem with the wording.

Ms. Holm had issues with the wording of the ordinance and the City Council supporting it and putting pressure on a private business.

Mr. Welch said that due diligent is complete and the resolutions covers it in that way in line 39 that goes into 40 and it tells us that we have a lot of latitude.

Ms. Holm said it looks like loose ends and until the process is complete she felt there were a lot of unknowns.

Mayor Ward said the intent of the resolution was to support AIDEA in low cost energy. He felt it was clear that they show due diligence and significantly provide low cost gas to as many people as possible.

PASSED

Yes: 5 – Welch, McCarthy, Smith, Hunter, Ward

No: 1- Holm

Absent: 1 - McGhee

RESOLUTION 15-10, A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING HOUSE BILL 118 AND SENATE BILL 56, “AN ACT ADOPTING THE MUNICIPAL PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY ACT; AUTHORIZING MUNICIPALITIES TO ESTABLISH PROGRAMS TO IMPOSE ASSESSMENTS FOR ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS IN REGIONS DESIGNATED BY MUNICIPALITIES; IMPOSING FEES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE”

Mayor Ward introduced this resolution and explained the process. He took questions from the council.

Public Comment

None

Mr. Welch *moved to* Approve Resolution 15-10, a Resolution of the North Pole City Council supporting House Bill 118 and Senate Bill 56, “an act adopting the Municipal Property Assessed Clean Energy Act; authoring municipalities to establish programs to impose assessments for energy improvements in regions designated by municipalities; imposing fees; and providing for an effective date”

Seconded by Mr. McCarthy

Discussion

Mr. McCarthy said this was one of the best things the state legislators have done. If gas does show up here, he sees solar panels going up and opens a lot of doors for commercial owners in town. He was in favor of the resolution.

Ms. Holm likes the points that Mr. McCarthy made. She would like to see us one of the top ten green communities. She thinks it is too much to ask our staff and this is going to have to create a position. It is a nice idea and she researched it and it is successful in larger cities. She didn't see this being a positive effect on our staff.

Ms. Hunter is glad our legislature took this on and it is supporting a statewide effort. She said we are not saying we are supporting it personally but statewide and urged the council to vote for it and there is a separate decision on whether we want to participate.

Mr. Welch said it comes timely. He said that what seems impossible today by today's standards, the dreams of tomorrow today's show that it may be possible. He applauds the resolution.

Mayor Ward said in the slides there is a bit more info. You have to have a property assessment office and it would fall to the borough assessing office. The info provided says there are 24 entities that can take part in this. The City of North Pole would not look after it and it would be looked after by a 3rd party and cost is factored in with the loan. The benefit is that it is an option and you do not need to use it if you don't want to.

PASSED

Yes: 6 – McCarthy, Smith, Holm, Hunter, Welch, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 1 - McGhee

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Welch thanked Ms. Cork for coming tonight. He has always said that if there is going to be development of a theme park that it would come from outside the city. He thanked Santa for coming tonight

Ms. Holm stated there are a lot of positive things happening in our community. She was happy to hear that the fire truck is up and running and that the police are going out into the community as well.

Ms. Hunter thanked the citizens that came out tonight. She will get her things together for "Showering With A Friend" and bring them to Santa's Senior Center.

Mr. Smith thanked everyone for coming out. He said the school district will be eliminating teachers, counselors and programs with the budget cuts in the legislature. It's nice to have 10 hours of daylight.

Mr. McCarthy thanked Ms. Cork for everything she does and all the energy she has.

Mayor Ward thanked everyone for coming out tonight.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Welch adjourned the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Seconded by Ms. Hunter

The regular meeting of March 16, 2015 adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, April 6, 2015.

Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk