



**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 18, 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, May 18, 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***

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Mayor Ward called the regularly scheduled meeting of the North Pole City Council to order on Monday, May 18, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Led by Mayor Ward

**INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Mr. Smith

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Mr. McGhee moved to Approve the Agenda of May 18, 2015**

**Seconded by Mr. Welch**

**Discussion**

None

**Mr. McGhee moved to amend the agenda to consent under New Business as follows:**

- a. Contract amendment with Stantec (formerly USKA, Inc.) for feasibility engineering for alternative treated wastewater discharge options in response to “Notice of Violation”.

- b. Ordinance 15-06, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to amend Title 4, Revenue and Finance, Section 20.010, Sale of City Property.

**Seconded by Mr. Welch**

**On the amendment**

**PASSED**

Yes: 7 – McGhee, Holm, Welch, Smith, Hunter, McCarthy, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 0

**On the Agenda as Amended**

**PASSED**

Yes: 7 – McGhee, Holm, Welch, Smith, Hunter, McCarthy, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 0

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mr. Welch *moved to Approve the minutes of May 4, 2015.***

**Seconded by Mr. McGhee**

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

Yes: 7 – McGhee, Holm, Welch, Smith, Hunter, McCarthy, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 0

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

- Student of the Month – NPHS, Katie Wagner
- Presentation by Christine Nelson, FNSB Planning director, on zoning for marijuana producers, processors, and retailers.

### **Mayors Report**

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 had a great contractor meeting today and look forward to starting work when the road/weight restrictions are lifted.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival “A Patriots Christmas” is only 6 short weeks away. If you are interested please contact me or Katy Englund for details. Flint Hills Resources has graciously agreed to come on as title sponsor again this year. Thank You!

May 29<sup>th</sup> through the 31<sup>st</sup> the North Pole Lions are hosting a “Circus in Town”, next to Mt. McKinley Bank. The times will be 4:30 pm and 7:00pm each day. Proceeds will go to the North Pole Lions. The Lions are also hosting the Cruzin with Santa car show on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May. Hopefully we don’t have snow this year...

May 19<sup>th</sup> is the North Pole High School graduation at the Carlson Center. If you have a student or friend graduating please come join the celebration.

Thank you to everyone who showed up last Wednesday to go over the healthcare renewal. Ordinance 15-07, which changes the health care contributions for employees, was distributed last Friday and will appear on the June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting for its initial hearing.

I was asked to welcome the state VFW meeting in Fairbanks on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May and it was my pleasure to do so. The state VFW is rooted in values and is a great organization for supporting the needs of our veterans and speaking as the voice of those who cannot be heard.

Today we celebrate Arbor Day in the State of Alaska and it was my pleasure to plant two choke cherry trees with the three Interior mayors in the greenspace in Fairbanks. Next year is the 50 year anniversary of Arbor Day in Alaska and it would be great to plan to do tree planning in North Pole next year.

Thursday is the PERS presentation if employees are interested in learning about Tier 4 and what the PERS retirement plan is all about.

Friday at 5:30 pm is the Fairbanks Mayors Arts Awards held at the Centennial building at Pioneer Park. This year was North Poles turn to purchase the awards and I chose to make them myself. Please come support those members of our community that advocate for the arts.

### **COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR**

None

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

**Police Department, Chief Dutra**

- Lt. Rathbun is attending OSSI training. RMS/CAD familiarization.
- We had Memorial Park Meeting with contractors today. Happy to announce Ron Rady with Rady Concrete, Rolie Miranda with Miranda Electric, Nils Degerlund with Degerlund Engineering, John Rowe with Design Alaska, and Glen Weber with Weber Inc all attended our Contractors meeting. We are moving forward and I am excited to say these fine companies have all offered their services for free.
- Nadine Winters has come forward and offered her assistance to work on fundraising. If any of you know of people willing to help or donate please have them email me. We are truly blessed to have a group of people willing to support this endeavor. I want to thank Dorothy Chaiemz at the Fairbanks Daily News Miner for her article on the park
- The employees all pitched in and painted the EOC and scrubbed the floors. We are currently working with Alasconnect to wire the EOC and NPPD with new cabling for our new fiber and internet. We are also working on a camera quote for NPPD and possibly City Hall.
- I am sorry to say that I will be arrested and have to report to jail on Thursday. I really could use some help with my bail. I would ask that each of you or your friends to consider donating to raise the \$1600 I need to get out. The funds go to a great cause to support the Muscular Dystrophy Association. You can donate online or come down to Pikes Landing at 12:00 – 1:00 and donate to get me out.
- I spent one day last week touring local LEO facilities, Alaska State Troopers, Fairbanks Police Department, Ft. Wainwright Police Department, Eielson Air Force Base SF, and North Pole Police Department. Excellent time interacting and sharing capabilities, equipment, and learning how each agency functions.
- Family friendly workplace award. I want to thank Sgt. Dave Stevenson for nomination. I am very grateful to have the people I do. We won the category for public employer 1-25. I want to thank the borough and early childhood development for sponsoring this award. It is imperative that we support the family because it is truly at the core of why we do what we do.
- Working on grant for new laptops. DHS&EM for \$82,000.
- We're starting our busy season and have some staff challenges.

Mr. Smith

Mr. Welch asked when the EOC would be functional.

**Fire Department, Chief Lane**

- None

**Finance, Tricia Fogarty**

- None

**Director of City Services, Bill Butler**

**Building Department**

- New permit application to install a MAC Federal Credit Union kiosk in the parking lot off Doughchee Road (adjacent to the coffee cart)
- Approximately \$750,000 of building projects to date

**Public Works**

- Major Summer Projects
  - Landscaping Santa Claus lane
  - Dog Park
  - Fitness trail
  - Road striping
  - Flower baskets on light poles (test)
  - Way finding signage and signage on Beaver Springs Trail
  - City Hall weather-damaged window replacement
- Subsiding roads—small sink holes and depressions are appearing in roads around City— if you notice any please contact me
- FMATS 2014 repaving project scheduled to begin early June on the following roads:
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenues by the Elementary School
  - West 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue
  - Manley Street
  - Owens Street
  - Blanket Boulevard
- FMATS 2015 repaving projects in the bid generation stage
  - Ouida Way
  - Road approaches on 5<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Avenues

### **Utility Department**

- Professional service agreement for engineering response to Notice of Violation
- High volume of utility location request for gas line construction
- \$2 million for lift station rehabilitation remains in 2016 Capital Budget awaiting transfer to Governor

### **Natural Gas Utility Board**

- Installation of gas lines has begun

Mr. McGhee asked what residents would be charged for natural gas and why wasn't it decided to go up to the meter at the house.

Mr. Butler said he talked with the project coordinator and they said it was a compromised approach as to what could be afforded.

Mr. Smith asked about summer hires.

Mr. Butler stated that all three positions have been filled.

Mr. Smith asked about striping around North Pole.

Mr. Butler said that the City would be striping around North Pole and DOT should be striping on Santa Claus Lane.

Mr. Smith asked if Perimeter will be repaved.

Mr. Butler said that it was a City project and will be repaved.

Ms. Hunter said that GVEA notified her that underground electrical will be put in between the railroad tracks and City Hall and if that would open a corridor for snow machiners.

Mr. Butler said that it was an easement and he would look into seeing if it was a dedicated easement. That is one of the prerogatives of the utility easements and you cannot block it.

### **Borough Representative**

- The borough did increase the mil rate for education .43 mils per request of the FNSBSD.

**City Clerk, Kathy Weber**

- An Ordinance was drafted and sent out to employees last week on the employee and dependent contribution to health care. That Ordinance will come before council on the June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.
- PERS Counselors will be here on Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> to meet with employees. A workshop will be held from 10:30 – 11:30 am for Tier IV employees and anyone wishing to learn more. Please contact me if you are interested in setting up an appointment.

**ONGOING PROJECTS**

None

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Santa Claus, 350 S Santa Claus Lane

Mr. Claus said that the new City website states “Live reindeer and an opportunity for a photograph with Santa Claus at the Santa Claus House are available year round.” He requested that Santa Claus be removed and just the word “Santa” be used.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 15-11, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE OF PENTEX CORPORATION AS A CRITICAL STEP TO THE TIMELY ADVANCEMENT OF THE INTERIOR ENERGY PROJECT**

Mayor Ward said this is the same ordinance that is going before the FNSB and City of Fairbanks. Mr. Shefchik, a representative from AIDEA, gave a presentation on the Interior Energy Project that was presented on May 12, 2015 at the Town Hall Meeting. (See attached power point)

**Public Comment**

None

**Mr. McGhee *moved to Approve Resolution 15-11, a Resolution of the City of North Pole, Alaska supporting the purchase of Pentex Corporation as a critical step to the timely advancement of the Interior Energy Project***

**Seconded by Mr. Welch**

**Discussion**

Mr. McGhee and Mr. Welch asked to be added as sponsors to this ordinance.

Ms. Holm said that she is not in support of this ordinance because of government bullying.

**Mr. McGhee moved to amend Resolution 15-11, to insert the wording between lines 14 – 15 as follows:**

*The expected sale of Titan/AET assets to Harvester Alaska with a 10 year supply agreement to Fairbanks Natural Gas (FNG) for \$15 per mcf to Fairbanks, may not be in the best interest of the Interior Energy Project.*

**Seconded by Mr. Welch**

**Discussion**

Mr. McGhee agreed with Mayor Ward's opinion on the amendment.

Ms. Hunter asked for clarification on the amendment.

**PASSED**

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

No: 1 - Holm

Absent: 0

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Smith – thanked everyone for a great evening and encouraged the public to be cautious of the construction on Hurst Rd. He said it was good to see people utilizing the trails and parks in North Pole.

Hunter – no comment

Holm – no comment

Welch – looking forward to Memorial Day weekend and Cruizin with Santa at the end of the month.

McGhee – said it was summertime and new drivers are on the road. He asked everyone to drive defensively and set a good example for other drivers.

McCarthy – the city is still looking for a rep from North Pole to sit on the Planning Commission. He asked the council to recommend a friend or neighbor.



Mayor Ward – the City does have a need for a rep to the planning commission and said we are still looking for someone to fill that position.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. McGhee adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.**

**Seconded by Ms. Hunter**

The regular meeting of May 18, 2015 adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

**These minutes passed and approved** by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, June 1, 2015.

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Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Kathryn M. Weber, MMC  
North Pole City Clerk