



**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, January 4, 2016 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, January 4, 2016 to order at 7:05 p.m.

There were present:

**Mr. McCarthy – Mayor Pro Tem
Mr. Smith – Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Ms. Holm – Alt. Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Ms. Dawson
Mr. McGhee
Mr. Claus
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, January 4, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Led by Mayor Ward

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Councilwoman Holm

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Claus *moved to approve the Agenda of January 4, 2016*

Seconded by Mr. McGhee

Discussion

None

Mr. McGhee *moved to amend by consenting the following items under Old Business:*

- a. Ordinance 15-25, an ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to amend the 2016 Budget to authorize a professional services agreement with Stantec Engineering to generate engineering and design documents to the sewer discharge main extension

- b. Ordinance 15-26, an ordinance amending Title 15, Building and Construction, Chapter 15.05 Administrative Code concerning valuation of building improvements for the determination of permit fees
- c. Ordinance 15-27, an ordinance amending Title 12, Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places, Chapter 12-04, Obstruction or Alteration of Streets, Sidewalks or City Property
- e. Ordinance 15-29, an ordinance amending Title 4, Chapter 4.10.010, User Fees

New Business

- a. Request for NPPD to purchase two vehicles through the State of Alaska Fleet Vehicle bid awarded August 7, 2015

Seconded by Mr. Claus

Discussion

None

On the Amendment

PASSED

Yes: 6 –Holm, Smith, McGhee, Dawson, Claus, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

On the agenda as amended

PASSED

Yes: 6 –Holm, Smith, McGhee, Dawson, Claus, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Smith moved to approve the minutes of December 21, 2015

Seconded by Mr. McGhee

Discussion

None

PASSED

Yes: 6 –Holm, Smith, McGhee, Dawson, Claus, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Every third Friday of the month is Muffins with the Mayor, Please mark your calendars for this special event January 15th , all are welcome from 8-10 am here at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

The Festival Committee has been hard at work and is finalizing recommendations for the council consideration. The final committee meeting before the presentation is tomorrow night at 6pm here at City Hall, the committee is requesting time to present to the council during the meeting of January 19th.

The new year came in with a bang over at Christmas in Ice this year, the much missed snowflake drop was back and even better than in the past. Approximately 1500 people showed up for the new year's festivities and everyone had a blast. If you haven't had a chance to check out the Ice Park this year tomorrow is the last day. I believe this year was the best year yet!

I intend to have my marijuana permitting and regulation ordinance release for its first reading on January 19th. This two part ordinance establishes a new marijuana tax and establishes a permit process for operating marijuana establishments in the City of North Pole.

I will be traveling to Juneau with the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce for their Legislative Fly-in and will be gone February 16th to the 19th.

Employee Recognition

Geoff Coon – 20 years

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Fire Dept., Deputy Coon

None

Finance, Tricia Fogarty

- We will be working on year end and preparing for the 2015 Audit. It usually takes a month, month and a half to get the previous year completed. There will be a transition period working in 2015 as well as 2016.
- Tomorrow morning we have a meeting with Gary Hutchinson to talk about the audit.
- I am still working on the suggested changes to the revised chart of accounts; I hope to get it completed by the end of the week.

Police Department, Chief Dutra

Mr. McGhee said there have been some problems with speeding on the Richardson Hwy and asked to have it looked into.

Mr. Smith said there had been some fuel thefts off of Peridot.

Ms. Holm asked why the pavilion was not made locally.

Borough Representative

- None

Director of City Services, Bill Butler

- None

City Clerk, Kathy Weber

- Reminder - the second meeting of the month will be held on Tuesday, January 19th and City offices will be closed Monday, January 18th in observance of Martin Luther King Day.
- The newsletter has been a success and we have an email list going so if you would like to have it delivered by email please let us know. The City Facebook page has gone live and we are putting as much information and pictures as we can to keep everyone in the know. If you haven't had a chance to visit us, please go to our page; City of North Pole – with the City seal next to it. If you have something of interest, please call us and let us know.
- Today is our first day back in 2016 and staff has begun working on the 2015 year end.

ONGOING PROJECTS

- None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Sharon Geese, 353 E 8th Ave – Santa’s Senior Center

Ms. Geese gave a presentation on Friends of the North Pole Branch Library, Santa’s Senior Center, 17 Mile Homemakers. She encouraged everyone to go to the Santa’s Senior website

Goldie Southwood, Santa’s Senior President

Ms. Southwood talked about the 1,000,000 pennies that helped to build the North Pole Library. She also talked about the FCE and what that organization does to help the community.

Jeannie Olsen, 1890 Hollowell Rd.

Ms. Olsen spoke on the air quality and against the division of the non-attainment area. She is opposed to the division and is a member of Citizens for Clean air, a non-profit group. If anyone has any questions they can contact the group. She would like to see the council do a resolution. There is an app that can be downloaded for air quality information.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 15-28, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 12, STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND PUBLIC PLACES, CHAPTER 12.08, EXCAVATIONS

Bill Butler talked about updating the chapter and making it more clear for the public.

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee *moved to Adopt Ordinance 15-28, an ordinance amending Title 12, Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places, Chapter 12.08, Excavations*

Seconded *by*

Discussion

None

Ms. Holm *moved to amend ordinance 15-28, an ordinance amending Title 12, Streets, Sidewalks and Public Places, Chapter 12.08, Excavations on page 4, lines 136 and 17 striking the phrase “~~committee on streets and alleys or its~~” and replacing it with “**mayor or their**”*

Seconded *by Mr. McGhee*

On the amendment

PASSED

Yes: 6 –Holm, Smith, McGhee, Dawson, Claus, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

On the main motion as amended

PASSED

Yes: 6 –Holm, Smith, McGhee, Dawson, Claus, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

Executive Session – To discuss employee wage issues in the NPPD

Mr. McGhee moved to go into executive session to discuss employee wage issues in the NPPD

Seconded by Mr. Claus

Mayor Ward moved to bring the meeting back into session at 8:50 p.m.

Mr. McGhee moved to instruct the police chief to go forward with the wage issue.

Seconded by Mr. Claus

PASSED

Yes: 6 –Holm, Smith, McGhee, Dawson, Claus, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

COUNCIL COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McGhee moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Smith

The regular meeting of January 4, 2016 adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City

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Council on Monday, January 19, 2016.

Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk