



**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, February 1, 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, February 1, 2016 to order at 7:00 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, February 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Led by Mayor Ward

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Councilwoman Dawson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McGhee moved to approve the Agenda of February 1, 2016

Seconded by Mr. Claus

Discussion

None

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

- a. Ordinance 16-02, An Ordinance Of The City Of North Pole Amending the 2016 Budget To Transfer Necessary Funding From The General Fund To The Public Works Fleet Fund To Purchase A Snowplow
- c. Ordinance 16-04, An Ordinance Of The North Pole City Council Amending Title 5, Business License, Taxes And Regulations, And Adding Chapter 5.09, Marijuana Establishment Regulations.

Seconded by Mr. Claus

Discussion

None

On the Amendment to the Agenda

PASSED

Yes: 5 –McGhee, Dawson, Claus, McCarthy, Ward
No: 0
Absent: 2 – Holm, Smith

On the agenda as amended

PASSED

Yes: 5 –McGhee, Dawson, Claus, McCarthy, Ward
No: 0
Absent: 2 - Holm, Smith

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McGhee moved to approve the minutes of February 1, 2016

Seconded by Mr. Claus

Discussion

None

PASSED

Yes: 5 –McGhee, Dawson, Claus, McCarthy, Ward
No: 0
Absent: 2 – Holm, Smith

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Muffins with the Mayor will be cancelled for the month of February as the Mayor will be in Juneau with the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor 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.

Mayor will be giving opening remarks at the winter tourism conference hosted by Explore Fairbanks on January 27th at the Westmark Hotel.

Last Friday was the third Friday art show at the North Pole Grange. The artist was Makara who runs Painting with Pigments, a business that does art parties. After the art show at the Grange she did a class and my wife and I were able to join and painted our own paintings. I highly recommend this wonderful opportunity to explore your creativity.

Tomorrow FMATS is considering a resolution in support of the State's effort to break the PM2.5 non-attainment area into two pieces. The Mayor is not in favor of this as he believes it will cost the State more and will not address the issues relevant to fixing the problem

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

- None

Police Department, Chief Dutra

- None

Questions

Mr. McGhee asked Chief Dutra if our police department is on top of everything as far as the thefts and such in the City of North Pole.

Chief Dutra said the police department has a lot going on with that topic.

Borough Representative

- I was unable to attend the last borough meeting.
- There were a couple of things that were addressed one being the ordinance regarding the new requirements for shooting range facilities that will be opened up in the borough. It was passed with several amendments made to it. Please go to the borough website to get more information on that Ordinance.

Director of City Services, Bill Butler

Building Department

- We did issue our first building permit for the 2016 season. The Santa Claus House is going to be putting in covers over their sidewalks to make it easier for the customers to move to the building.
- We have begun to receive inquiries about building permits. The person who bought the majority of the lots on Desert Eagle Loop has come in to inquire about the permit process.
- There is a meeting with Petro Star at the end of the week for the Plant that Petro Star plans to put in.

Public Works

- We have begun moving forward with the way finding signs. We have discussed with the graphic artist to develop the base map that will be the foundation of our way finding which will identify our key locations throughout the city. We will actually construct the signs themselves using a grant that came from the Borough.
- Cody Lougee will be gone for the month of February.

Utility Department

- We have submitted additional information to Representative Wilson to carry forward with our legislative request.
- We completed and submitted our Alaska Clean Water Fund Loan Questionnaire. This is the first step in the process of applying for a loan. They will look at that and if we are eligible then they will make the offers for the loans in the spring.
- It has been a mild winter but we did finally receive our first report about a customer service line freeze up. It was not a Utility Department issue, it was an issue with an

individual being out of town for two months and their circulation pump failed. Hopefully they can thaw the line without rupturing but we won't know until the spring time.

Natural Gas Utility Board

- Nothing new to report but there will be a meeting tomorrow.

City Clerk, Kathy Weber

- None

ONGOING PROJECTS

- None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Doug Isaacson 1003 Shirley Turnaround – Mr. Isaacson wanted to commend the council on all of the budget stuff they are doing and wanted to say thank you for being proactive. He did have a concern about the street lights not always being on in the Hurst area. He also thinks that we need to sit down and decide on what kind of City we want to be. Mr. Isaacson thinks that the City might be jumping the gun on the marijuana ordinances because the State hasn't even come to a conclusion on what they are going to do yet. We also need to think about the safety of our community.

Questions

Mr. McGhee asked if he was aware that the City went through the process LAST year about approving the selling of marijuana within the city limits of North Pole and if he did was he aware that being as it was preapproved that naturally the taxes and permits where naturally to follow thereafter so that we stay within the legal ramifications of what the State is already bringing forward.

Mr. Isaacson said that he understood that action needed to be followed up but that he is saying that this action was perhaps premature and could have been postponed a little bit longer until the action of the State and your own strategic survey had been finished.

Mr. McCarthy asked if he had considered going onto the planning commission. We really need to find someone to fill that spot.

Mr. Isaacson said yes he would consider it, right now he is busy doing business for Minto but if it is not conflicting he would consider that.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 16-03, AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL AMENDING TITLE 4 CHAPTER 4.08, SALES TAX, BY ADDING MARIJUANA TAXES

Mayor Ward gave an introduction on this ordinance about adding marijuana sales tax.

Questions

None

Public Comment

None

Mr. Claus *moved to Adopt Ordinance 16-03, an Ordinance of the North Pole City Council Amending Title 4 Chapter 4.08, Sales Tax, by Adding Marijuana Taxes*

Second by McGhee

Discussion:

Mr. Claus *moved to Amend Ordinance 16-03 by adding to line 69 as follows:*

“Marijuana Product” means any item made from, or that is combined with the plant (genus) Cannabis or any resin or oil extracted from any part of the cannabis plant and contains THC

Seconded by McGhee

Discussion

Ms. Holm said we talked about this amendment coming forth and there being a problem with things like soaps, will this do that? There is no THC content obviously...

Mr. McGhee told her she was correct.

Mayor Ward said the city did contact the attorney in reference to the question about THC or hemp products. This would exempt the products that do not contain THC. So if it does contain THC it would fall under this section of code.

PASSED

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

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Smith

Discussion

Mr. McGhee would just like to address the fact that he is very grateful with the council. Last year's council and the current council both have done much research on this topic.

Mr. McCarthy would like to say thank you.

Ordinance 16-03 as Amended

PASSED

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

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Smith

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ms. Dawson – No Comment.

Ms. Holm – I am anti-drugs but I hope that the community understands that there was much research done before making these decisions.

Mr. Claus - I hope everyone has a good night and safe travels home. Thanks to public safety.

Mr. McCarthy – I was saddened today to learn about a young man that died on Ft. Wainwright.

Mr. McGhee – I am not a fan of climate change but we are definitely having some. Please don't under estimate the road conditions. Thank you.

Mayor Ward – I do appreciate everyone desire to make this community a better place.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McGhee moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Seconded by Ms. Holm

The regular meeting of February 1, 2016 adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Tuesday, February 16, 2016.

Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk