



**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 Tuesday, February 16, 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 Tuesday, February 16, 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 - Juneau

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro Tem McCarthy called the regularly scheduled meeting of the North Pole City Council to order on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Led by Mayor Pro Tem McCarthy

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Councilman Thomas McGhee

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McGhee moved to approve the Agenda of February 16, 2016

Seconded by Ms. Holm

Discussion

None

PASSED

Yes: 6 –McGhee, Dawson, Claus, McCarthy, Holm, Smith
No: 0
Absent: 1 - Ward

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Seconded by Mr. Claus

Discussion

None

PASSED

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

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Ward

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

- Mayor Ward is in Juneau this week.

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

- None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Fire Dept., Chief Lane

- Attended Fire Chiefs conference in Juneau last month.
- He spoke on a PERS bill that was introduced by Representative Wilson.
- A bill is being introduced to allow NARCAN which is a drug used for someone who has overdosed.
- 7 people from fire and 3 from police are taking cyber training at the University.
- FBI did active shooter training in Fairbanks. There has been a change in the way First Responders treat these situations.

Finance, Tricia Fogarty

- None

Police Department, Chief Dutra

- Completed active shooter course in Fairbanks.

- Chief Dutra will speak at the next meeting about Senate Bill 91 and HB 205 that may be introduced this session.
- Phil McBroom is in Sitka at the Police Academy. It is paid for by the State.
- Ordered new mats for the NPPD funded by forfeiture money.
- New color copier delivered today.

Borough Representative

- None

Director of City Services, Bill Butler

- None

City Clerk, Kathy Weber

- Karen Grey from the State of Alaska Archives was at the City of North Pole for three days. She was able to go over our records, visit the archive room and give suggestions, look at the City retention schedule, and visit every department in the City. Ms. Grey gave a list of recommendations and we will be putting that into motion this spring.
- Key Bank has been purchased by a dental business. They have already started on the renovations.
- We have purchased a new program to help with the incoming of records for the litigation. Concordance will be a great asset to the City and the archiving of all legal documents. This is paid for by the archive grant from the State.
- Was sent a link by the Police Chief to watch an Active Shooter video. I will send the link to all council members to view.
- Reminder: The City of North Pole Comprehensive Strategic Plan Core Team Update will be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at North Pole City Hall from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- Tricia Fogarty's father-in-law passed away and she will be out of town this week.
- Dennis Small passed away last night at the Denali Center at 6:15 p.m. He and his wife Jo were married for 53 years and have 3 children. His memorial service will be held on Saturday, March 5, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. at either the Moose Lodge in Fairbanks or at Santa's Senior Center. The location will be finalized tomorrow afternoon and I will notify council. Dennis served on the North Pole City Council from June 1999 – October 1999 and again from November 2001- October 2008.

ONGOING PROJECTS

- None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

- None

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

REQUEST FOR TUITION REIMBURSEMENT FROM ST. BELLANT PER NPMC 2.36.231

Chief Dutra stated that Sgt. Bill Bellant is requesting reimbursement for tuition. He is in support of further education and believes that this course that Sgt. Bellant has taken is applicable to the department that his major, Business Administration, is a valid degree, useful for the department. He asked the council to approve the tuition reimbursement.

Ms. Holm asked if this would affect this year's budget since the letter was written in December 2015.

Chief Dutra stated that it would not.

Mr. McGhee said he was on council in 2001-2002 when this ordinance was brought forward. He asked what his degree was in.

Public Comment

None

Ms. Holm moved to approve tuition reimbursement for Sgt. Bellant in the amount of \$549 as per NPMC 2.36.231

Seconded by Mr. Claus

Discussion

Mr. McGhee said that he was on the council when this ordinance was passed. Everyone has a right to go to school to further their education. The intent of this ordinance was if an employee wanted to go to school to improve their position with the City that the City would reimburse the employee for that course related to the field of work. He asked if this person was working to become the next Chief or to better himself if he leaves the City. He said that it was not the intent of the ordinance to let employees take any course they wanted.

Ms. Holm said that when she read the course content that it did deal with major issues in

government such as inflation, poverty and budget deficits. She felt that having that background would benefit the department. She didn't see that this was a way to manipulate council. She felt that this officer was dedicated to the City of North Pole.

Mr. Claus said that in the future council may want to change things so that employees have to come before council to get preapproval.

Ms. Weber stated that this had been done in the past and council amended the code and gave the authority to department heads. They would then come before council after the class was taken and give a summary of the class and submit grades.

Ms. Holm stated that Chief Dutra has already looked at his budget and approved it.

Mr. McCarthy said that it was already approved on December 17th and that it is coming before council now. We should not be going against this now. He did not agree with Mr. McGhee on taking the class and that this was already approved and being pulled out from under the guy.

PASSED

Yes: 5 –McGhee, Dawson, Claus, McCarthy, Holm, Smith

No: 1 - McGhee

Absent: - Ward

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ms. Holm – Have a great night.

Mr. Claus – Be safe on the road and thanks to Public Safety.

Mr. Smith – Thanked everyone for coming out tonight.

Mr. McGhee – Goodnight.

Mr. Dawson – Goodnight.

Mr. McCarthy – Goodnight.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Seconded by Mr. Claus

The regular meeting of February 16, 2016 adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, March 7, 2016.

Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk