



**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, April 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, April 4, 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, April 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 Dawson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McGhee moved to approve the Agenda of April 18, 2016

Seconded by Mr. Claus

Discussion

None

Mr. McGhee moved to Consent under New Business

- a. Annual review and appointment of committee memberships
- b. Approval of Cooperative Agreement between the US Army Corps of Engineers and the City of North Pole, Alaska for the Provision of Law Enforcement Services

- c. Ordinance 16-06, An Ordinance of the North Pole City Council to amend Title 5, Chapter 5.08.030 (A), Council review of license issuance, renewal, transfer, relocation, or continued operation.

Seconded by Mr. Claus

Discussion

None

On the amendment

PASSED

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

No: 0

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

On the motion as amended

PASSED

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

No: 0

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Smith *moved to* approve the minutes of April 4, 2016

Seconded by Mr. McGhee

Discussion

None

PASSED

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

No: 0

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

None

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

- None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Fire Dept., Chief Lane

-

Finance, Tricia Fogarty

-

Police Department, Chief Dutra

- None

Director of City Services, Bill Butler

Building Department

- Petro Star submitted permit application for Naphtha Unit
- Developer submitted permit applications for 3 residential properties in Desert Eagle Loop, Stillmeyer Subdivision
 - Developer has plans to build 24 homes over 18 months if the demand materializes

Public Works

- Wayfinding sign base map completed
- Initial planning has begun on pedestrian path for Homestead Road
- Anticipate to begin street sweeping in the next several weeks
- Did not need to do a hard pack removal this year
- Begun some facelifts inside City Hall—painting and counter upgrades

Utility Department

- Notice of Violation Update: continuing with engineering and design
- Lift station update: Anticipate release of Invitation to Bid later this month
- Major water leak is unfolding
 - Leak is on Holiday Avenue
 - Water loss approaching 130 gallons/minute
 - Expect to dig on leak starting Tuesday, April 5
 - Leak is on one of the steel water mains—a difficult material to repair
 - There will be customer service shutdowns during repair.

Natural Gas Utility Board

- Contract for a general manager--Jomo Stewart—will be before the Board on April 5
- Discussions continue on the combination of IGU and Fairbanks Natural Gas

Borough Representative

None

City Clerk, Kathy Weber

- Charter Commission will have its first meeting on Wednesday, April 6th from 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm
- Will be out of town from April 21st – May 6th.
- Major scanning and downloading of information from FHR, Williams, and the State. We are very busy with keeping up with the litigation and discovery, emails, etc.

ONGOING PROJECTS

- None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

- Dawn Murphy gave an update on the financials and Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau, dba Explore Fairbanks.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 16-07, AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL AMENDING NORTH POLE MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 2, CHAPTER 2.36.231, TUITION REIMBURSEMENTS

Mr. McGhee gave the introduction to this ordinance. He stated that this will simplify the process and remove the redundancy that is in code now. He has seen this ordinance come and go throughout the years and has done some research to see how this has come forward and give some accountability to the employee.

Public Comment

Steve Dutra, 125 Snowman Lane

He applauded Mr. McGhee for bringing this forward. He respectfully disagrees with the ordinance. He was lucky to be able to have flexibility with his schedule and funding from the City. He feels it is important for us to support employees as they move toward getting their degree.

Buddy Lane, 110 Lewis

He asked that the council not consent this issue. He disagrees with this ordinance and would like to see the part where it comes before the council crossed off. He feels this is a department head issue and they are the ones who manage the budgets. He feels that having to come before council with a class that costs \$400 - \$500 is not fair to all employees. He agrees that the form should be used to let them know what classes they would take and would it be useful to the department. Department Heads manage their budgets very well.

Mr. McGhee *moved to* Introduce and Advance Ordinance 16-07, An Ordinance of the North Pole City Council amending North Pole Municipal Code Title 2, Chapter 2.36.231, Tuition Reimbursements

Seconded by Ms. Holm

Discussion

Mr. McGhee said that if this amendment to the ordinance doesn't pass that it will stay the way it is now and this is what employee's don't want to do. What they are proposing is that they have to bring forward a transcript and explain what the course is all about. Mr. Lane is 100% correct that there is a number of employees that would like to be reimbursed for their classes but don't want to come before the council after the fact. The department head is the one that will come forward to the council and the employee is never put in that position. He asked what a successful completion is. This ordinance makes it so that the employee doesn't have to come before council. He said not to confuse it with the training budget. The council does trust the department heads. Both testimonies support his position. He agreed that employees shouldn't have to be put in a position to come before council to speak.

Mr. Claus said that he is pretty sure how universities work concerning logistics with courses and registration. He said there should be some way to expedite the time to take advantage of the course. It warrants some discussion.

Ms. Holm said that she agrees with the Chiefs and they give council a budget that we they approve every year and give a generalized idea of what training will be for the year. She sees benefit of getting rid of that whole section of the code and seeing where it goes from there. She said that as council members they can go back and look at receipts and request transcripts and that it would be easy to get ahold of and the accountant would be helpful. She thanked Thomas for the rewording and would still like to get rid of that portion of the code.

Mr. Smith said he likes the fact that they would have to submit the form.

Ms. Holm asked about what section dealt with employees having to repay training.

Mr. McGhee spoke to the ordinance and said what is in black already exists and italicized red is new wording. The prorating is for new employees is separate from this ordinance.

Mr. McCarthy said he likes the ordinance but agrees with Mr. Lane that they need to take care of it on the department head level. He doesn't see where they have a tuition reimbursement agreement. He'll vote in favor to move it on.

PASSED

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

No: 0

Absent: 1 – Ward

Mr. McGhee moved to suspend the rules for 5 minutes at 8:25 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Claus

Mayor Pro Tem McCarthy brought the meeting back to order at 8:33

RESOLUTION 16-03, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LEGISLATURE'S EFFORTS TO ADDRESS PUBLIC SAFETY, HOLDING OFFENDERS ACCOUNTABLE, REDUCING THE COST OF INCARCERATION, THROUGH SENATE BILL 91, AND ENCOURAGES A MORE COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC SAFETY REVIEW TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ALL RESIDENTS OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

Chief Dutra introduced the resolution and gave a presentation to council. The power point is attached.

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee moved to Approve Resolution 16-03, A Resolution supporting the Legislature's efforts to address public safety, holding offenders accountable, reducing the cost of incarceration, through Senate Bill 91, and encourages a more comprehensive public safety review to ensure the safety of all residents of the State of Alaska

Seconded by Ms. Dawson

Discussion

None

Ms. Holm moved to Amend Resolution 16-03 on line 41 and insert, NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED and strike on line 43, NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the.

Seconded by Ms. Dawson

Discussion

Ms. Holm felt as though the amendment would be beneficial and the legislature would get that we are wanting to delay this bill.

On the amendment

PASSED

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

No: 1 - McGhee

Absent: 1 – Ward

On the main motion as amended.

Discussion

Mr. McGhee stated that he has studied SB 91 and it is clear that the intent is to save money on incarcerations and spend money on rehabilitation. After working with the State for 14 years he has learned that when people don't pay for it they don't follow through. He spoke against SB 91 and supports the Resolution to delay it.

Ms. Holm thanked Mr. McGhee for his comments. To decrease the incarcerations rates she felt they really have to examine what causes these crimes. It gives us something to reflect upon and shows what and desperate times and looking at different options. She said she supports this Resolution.

Mr. Smith asked to be added as a co-sponsor as did Holm, McGhee, Dawson, and Claus.

Ms. Dawson thanked Chief Dutra for all he does and she appreciates his service.

PASSED

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

No: 0

Absent: 1 – Ward

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. McGhee – Please be careful as motorcycles are coming out. They hide in your blind spots so be sure to check your blind spots and be careful for ice spots. Thanks for the awesome debates and goodnight.

Ms. Dawson – have a goodnight.

Ms. Holm – Goodnight

Mr. Claus – Kudos to NPPD and NPF D for Alaska Shield and the day to day operation they perform.

Mr. Smith – great seeing people on the bike paths and enjoying the spring weather. The kids are out riding their bikes so be aware of your surroundings.

Mr. McCarthy – thank you for putting up with him. If the Mayor is gone again he will pass the gavel and let someone else have an opportunity to do this.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McGhee *moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 p.m.*

Seconded by Mr. Claus

The regular meeting of April 4, 2016 adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, April 18, 2016.

Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk