



**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, December 5, 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, December 5, 2016 to order at 7:05 p.m.

There were present:

Mr. McCarthy – Alt Dep Mayor Pro Tem
Mr. Isaacson - Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Mr. Thompson
Mr. McGhee - Mayor Pro Tem
Mr. Claus
Mr. Skipps
Mayor Ward – Borough Rep

Absent/Excused

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Led by Mayor Ward

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Councilman Isaacson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McGhee *moved to* **approve the agenda of December 5, 2016**

Seconded *by* **Mr. Claus**

DISCUSSION

None

Mr. McGhee *moved to* **amend under Old Business the following item, item b, by correcting the word Resolution to Ordinance and under New Business consenting items b & c**

Old Business

b. ~~Resolution~~ Ordinance 16-28, an ~~Resolution~~ Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to amend Title 13, Public Service

New Business

- b. Approval of the North Pole Planning Commission Representative, David Brandt
- c. Approval for the appointment of Bill Butler for the Interior Gas Utility Board Seat

Seconded by Mr. Isaacson

On the amendment

Discussion

None

PASSED

Yes: 7 – McGhee, McCarthy, Isaacson, Thompson, Skipps, Claus, Mayor Ward
No: 0
Absent: 0

On the Agenda as amended

PASSED

Yes: 7 – McCarthy, Isaacson, Thompson, Skipps, Claus, McGhee, Mayor Ward
No: 0
Absent: 0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McGhee moved to approve the Minutes of November 21, 2016

Seconded by Mr. Isaacson

Discussion

Mr. Isaacson states for the record on page 13, that he gave changes to Sally Terch for the minutes because of scrambled/clerical errors.

PASSED

Yes: 7 – Isaacson, Thompson, Skipps, Claus, McGhee, McCarthy, Mayor Ward
No: 0
Absent: 0

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

There was a meeting on the 29th of November with Agnew Beck, the City's strategic planning contractor to determine the direction for the implementation of components of the strategic plan. The discussion revolved around development both residential and commercial. The groups decided that the best thing that the contractor could do to help in these areas is put together a retail development study that would help the council and potential developers address the needs for retail development to occur. The contractor is working on a cost estimate to ensure that we have the funding remaining in the grant to accomplish this goal.

Last weekend was Winterfest and it was a blast! Despite the colder temperatures people were still eager to attend the Bazaar and Sunday Candle lighting ceremony. Buddy and Karen Lane were crowned King and Queen of North Pole and helped light the City Christmas tree, it was -32 below.

The next council meeting will be the Community Christmas reception; I was thinking it would be fun to do the mannequin challenge with everyone who is present. If you would like to participate or know of someone who would please come and join us!

Tomorrow evening at 5:30 pm the City of Fairbanks and North Pole and the Fairbank North Star Borough will be presenting to the Interior delegation the Capital Project request and priorities. If council is interested in attending and supporting the event will be held at the Fairbanks LIO.

I attended the Moose Creek Water Alternative meeting held at the North Star Fire Station in Moose Creek last week. Extension of the City main to supply Moose Creek is one of the options for consideration of the Site Cleanup Plan. A ROD will not be likely until 2018.

December 17th is the Politicians with Power tools event at Christmas in Ice. Starting at 12 noon Come watch your local elected officials carve ice babies and vote on your favorite, All proceeds raised will go to the winning carvers Non-Profit of Choice! I am still looking for an ice carving idea!

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

- None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Police Department, Chief Dutra

- I want to give a shout out and big thank you to the APA Farthest North Chapter for paying for the archway and Universal Welding for the discounted price they gave us to make the archway for the Memorial Park.
- Lieutenant Rathbun won the school districts and the Rescue Missions First Annual

Responders Exemplary Award and we appreciate all the effort he put into it to get that award. He did a good job representing us a couple weeks ago at that ceremony. Congratulations to Avery Thompson on his award too.

- I attended the week before last the Hamilton Acres Baptist Church law enforcement appreciation dinner which is something they have been holding for about 8 years now. They treated us like Kings and Queens. It was a great event and I appreciate the church for doing that. They wanted to thank the law enforcement for all they do. It was very well attended.
- Chad and I will be leaving tomorrow morning to Anchorage for the week to attend the Executive Development Conference and Sgt. Bellant will be in charge. One of the topics that is being brought up is the Senate Bill 91 that I've been preaching about in front of the Council that I do not like. I also put out a memo to all the Chiefs in the State requesting input from them on the impact of SB 91 on their communities. We are starting to see some statistical studies from communities around the state but it's definitely disturbing and we are interested to see what comes out of it. The Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner have agreed to sit down with all the Chiefs on Thursday at a luncheon. It will be interesting to see what feedback we can give to the Commissioner and the Governor about our concerns with the bill. This is a good step forward.
- I applied for the Strategic Homeland Security grant for rolled over funds from last year. I'm going to apply for a video camera system for the City Hall and the Police Department.
- We've ordered the laptops for the Police Department. We received the docking stations and we are excited to get that project off the ground.
- I just put out the IFB for the door lock security system. We have already received a couple calls.
- Kris Capps from the Daily News Miner is going to do an article about the Memorial Park. They are accepting applications for people who would like to honor their loved ones.

Mr. Isaacson states that he has heard a lot of issues about SB 91. He asks if they have decided to put together some verbiage changes to the law that they would like to see specifically because if you just go and tell the Deputy Commissioner what your issues might be they may or may not get translated as especially needed and he suggests that they keep active in the language of the bill as it needs modified.

Chief Dutra responds that they are putting their heads together to come up with suggestions on what they think needs to be changed. His suggestion would be to repeal but that probably would not happen.

Fire Dept., Deputy Chief Coon

- I've been out of town at the National Fire Academy attending a class with other fire Chiefs around the nation. It was reassuring to know that our issues in North Pole are the same issues in other states. Good education for me and very minimal cost to the City.

- While I was out of town the Fire Department ran flawlessly, I did not have a pile of paperwork on my desk because we have such good people in North Pole. We were even able to promote a Captain while I was out of town. Chief Heineken promoted Lieutenant Raby up to Captain.
- We are still one guy down and we are working through the process of filling those shifts.
- We will be working on more hydrant maintenance and shoveling out the hydrants throughout the winter.
- Our squad will be out a week before Christmas, I think that's December 19th.

Finance, Tricia Fogarty

- Admin sent Stephanie to a user conference with Caselle. It was held in Soldotna. Stephanie got to see some of the new things that are coming up with Connect that we want to switch and she is very excited about that.
- This week we are sending Jamie down to Caselle so she can have one-on-one training with them at their office. They have pulled our live data so she will be working with our customers and they will walk her through the process.
- Kathy was on vacation and I did payroll this time. She will be back on Wednesday.
- Late last week we found out from the State that when we garnish PFD's we have a program that uploads it to the State, we thought that is was done and it turns out that they do not have a file for us so we will not be getting any PFD garnishments this year. We did budget \$35,000 for that. The program is not really easy to use and it was unfortunate that Renee had been doing that and she left right about the time that the process would be started and there was a problem with the program at that time. We thought we had it figured out. Stephanie was on that and unfortunately it did not happen like we thought it did. This will not happen again. We had budgeted \$56,000 for citations and then we changed that budget to \$100,000 and we are sitting at \$109,000 right now in citations.

Director of City Services, Bill Butler

Building Department

- No new projects submitted to the Building Department.
- Community Development Block Grant application submitted on December 2.
 - Expect to learn status of the application in February 2017.
 - Proposed plan is to gut the existing facility; remodel the interior; update all the building's mechanical systems and utilities; and with any remaining funds build an addition. Size of any addition would be dependent upon the funds available.

Public Works

- First city-wide snowplowing of the season started last weekend. This is also the first snowplowing being performed by the contractor Blackhawk Works on behalf of the City.
- Candy Cane streetlight knocked down by a DUI driver this weekend.

Light is on Badger Road.

- The downed light temporarily blocked roundabout.
- The City has maintenance responsibility for the lights; however, we will pursue the driver's insurance company for the cost of the repair.

Utility Department

- 2nd reading of ordinance requesting a utility rate increase is before Council this evening.
 - Requesting an increase only for the sewer charge.
 - 2017 Utility budget is based upon this rate increase.
 - Rate increase is part of the ongoing effort to respond to loss of sewer revenue after Flint Hills stopped oil refining at the Flint Hill North Pole Refinery.

Natural Gas Utility Board

- The negotiations that are occurring between IGU and AIDEA are at a contentious state and the viability of the originally proposed project could be in the balance
 - Major issue surrounds agreement on payment to be made to AID EA for the transfer of the assets of Fairbanks Natural Gas to IGU and the impact this decision could have on the viability of the Interior Energy Project.
 - Regular IGU Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6 starting at 4:00 PM at IGU's office in the Key Bank Building in Fairbanks.

Borough Representative

- There has been no borough meeting since the last time. Mayor Ward was able to attend the meeting in Moose Creek in regards to the water system options that they are considering. There are a few things that they are discussing that he wanted to make sure were brought up at the Borough and he has a meeting scheduled with Mayor Kassell in regards to the land use control options they are considering and making sure they are looking at all the options that are on the table. They are still offering up solutions to the Moose Creek area that offers expansion of our system to service them.
- There is a zoning Ordinance coming up before the Borough. A report will be back to the Council before the next Council meeting with questions that have been brought up.

City Clerk's Office, Kathy Weber

- None

ONGOING PROJECTS

- None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

- None

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE 16-28, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA TO AMEND TITLE 13, PUBLIC SERVICES

Bill Butler introduced Ordinance 16-28, an Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to amend Title 13, Public Services. For the 2nd reading on Ordinance 16-28 is a request to raise the sewer utility rate. The sewer side of the Utilities had a significant loss of income with the cessation of oil refining at Flint Hills Refinery. The Refinery contributed about 25% of the revenue on the sewer side and also contributed a significant amount to the facility repair and replacements, those are funds that are used for capital projects. Typically earning about \$60,000-65,000 a year on the FRR that would go to capital projects with cessation of oil refining and now it's dropped down to about \$10,000-15,000 a year. This rate would go to operational expenses. When the revenue was lost from the Flint Hills Resources, there was an open position, we decided not to fill that position. We are down from 4 to 3 staff members on the utilities side. We also tried to cut the budget. The first year we tried to make it see how we could do without raising rates that particular year. We ended up transferring money from reserves. It's not a practical way to operate to fund the sewer side with the water side and go into our reserves to fund the sewer department. This increase in revenue will fully fund the operations on the sewer side with its rates.

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee *moved to* adopt Ordinance 16-28, an Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to amend Title 13, Public Services

Seconded by Mr. McCarthy

Discussion

None

PASSED

Yes: 7 – Thompson, Skippy, Claus, McGhee, McCarthy, Isaacson, Mayor Ward

No: 0

Absent: 0

ORDINANCE 16-27, AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL ESTABLISHING THE 2017 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET AND LEVYING THE MILL RATE, 3RD AND FINAL READING

Mayor Ward introduced the 2017 operating and capital budget and levying the mill rate. Charter states that establishing the new budget for any year, it go before council for 3 readings. We are proud to say that it does have the lowest mill rate in the City of North Pole’s history at 1.499 mills and that’s been possible by the increase of the sales tax that was approved at the last Council meeting.

The budget does have a few changes from prior years. We do have the City Clerk’s budget which has been given its own department numbering so we can be better keep track the expenses associated with general administration versus the City Clerk. We also have all our other budgeted items for all funds within the City of North Pole in the budget. We have also included a new page for our inter fund transfers, to better keep track of those as requested by the auditors.

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee *moved to adopt Ordinance 16-27, an Ordinance of the North Pole City Council establishing the 2017 Operating and Capital Budget and levying the mill rate*

Seconded by Mr. McCarthy

Mr. McGhee *moved to amend by submitting the budget amendments for the maintenance contracts as submitted by the Mayor*

	A	B	C	D
1	2017 Budget Amendments			
2				
3				
4	Account Number	Account Name	Amount	Department
5				
6	01-53-2-200	Advertising	-250.00	Police Dept.
7	01-53-2-230	Maintenance Contracts	250.00	Police Dept.
8				
9	04-10-9-998	Budget Transfer	-2,000.00	Building Dept.
10	04-10-2-230	Maintenance Contracts	2,000.00	Building Dept.
11				
12	41-10-9-998	Budget Transfer	-1,420.00	Water Fund
13	41-10-2-230	Maintenance Contacts	1,420.00	Water Fund
14				
15	42-12-9-998	Budget Transfer	-1,420.00	Sewer Fund
16	42-12-2-230	Maintenance Contracts	1,420.00	Sewer Fund

Seconded by Mr. Isaacson

Discussion

Mayor Ward gives a definition for the amendments are to include increases for the contract services that are provided by Caselle for the accounting software. The existing program is expiring and Caselle needs to be upgraded. In order to continue this service, there needs to be an increase and that's what these amendments reflect.

PASSED

Yes: 7 – Claus, McGhee, McCarthy, Isaacson, Thompson, Skipps, Mayor Ward
No: 0
Absent: 0

On the main motion as amended

Discussion

Mr. McGhee states that he is aware of the fact that it has been one of the Mayor's goals since being elected to bring property mill rates down to a comparative rate within the Borough and State and he commends the Mayor for accomplishing that in his second term.

Mr. Isaacson states that the budget does reflect some fiscal restraint. He states that the revenues are not where the budget was but the expenses were kept low. Lowering the property taxes and trying to implement the Strategic plan that will bring about some more investment into the City.

Mayor Ward stated that on the expense side of the budget the department heads do a great job of managing that and the credit really should fall to them for making sure we come under budget. He knows that everyone takes this time of year very seriously and in the past savings have been made up for lack of revenue because of folks spending under their authorized amounts. We appreciate that and this helps maintain a strong fiscal position moving into the future.

PASSED

Yes: 7 – McGhee, McCarthy, Isaacson, Thompson, Skipps, Claus, Mayor Ward
No: 0
Absent: 0

NEW BUSINESS

Appeal by Lazerwash/Detroit Hot Spring Car Wash for the late fee charge of \$25.88

Introduced by Bill Butler – The figures we have given you were accurate. The bill was for October which included the unpaid bill for September plus it included the late fee as well. The customer actually paid on the October bill they paid the September, the October and the late fee and mistakenly paid what there bill would have been for October if that had been late. They actually have a credit on their bill of \$45.10 at this time.

The policy, I think we should go forward with is if people are late they have to pay their late fees. We treat all people equally. This customer has some history of complaining they have not received their bills. Jamie Duncan has contacted the billing agency and they found that this bill had in fact been sent out. My recommendation is to not forgive the late fee.

Discussion

Mr. Isaacson asked Mr. Butler if he has record of this individual complaining of not receiving their bills and if this is the first time being late.

Mr. Butler responded that this is the first time she has been late.

Mr. Isaacson asks if this person is paying a total of over \$5,000/\$7,000 on these bills.

Mr. Butler states that's approximately two bills, two months, approximately \$2,500.

Mr. Isaacson responds that as far as Mr. Butler's ability he can't forgive the late fee but as far as the Councils ability, there is nothing restricting us from our Ordinances from allowing us to forgive.

Mr. Butler stated the Council gave staff the authority to forgive only in situations where if there was a water leak and water did not go down the sewer. That would be the only thing we are allowed to forgive. The City Council by the code is the final arbiter when someone has a complaint about billing.

Public Comment

None

Mr. Isaacson *moved to* appeal the Lazerwash/Detroit Hot Spring Car Wash for the late fee charge of \$25.88

Seconded by Mr. McCarthy

Discussion

Mr. McGhee states that according to our Ordinance, it uses two key words that could be defined as the same. The customer has a right to ask for an appeal to an unjust or inequitable bill. In a

late fee is not an unjust or inequitable request it is a requirement of making payments. Regardless of who you are or how good you are or how diligent you are. If you have made a mistake and missed a bill then you are liable to the late fee. It is a simple rule of application. You pay, you late, you pay.

Mr. McCarthy points out that the past several years they have been on autopay and we get three different emails all month long about the bill and its status. Anyone can go online and check the status of their bill. If people don't use autopay they are used to paying on a certain day of the month. I just can't see a water bill of this size, how you could forget to pay the bill.

Mr. Isaacson states that what is fair and equitable, is anybody who feels they have slipped up have the right to come to the Council with an appeal. As Bill has stated the customer has followed the rules and she is coming to Council. The Council can say nobody gets forgiven or the Council can say yes, people do get forgiven. He states that is we are going to be a City that encourages business we should be a City that tolerates at times some form of human error in business. If this was something that happened all the time he would be inclined to say no but in this case this customer has a good payment history. He feels this should be case by case and for this reason Council should approve the appeal.

Mr. McGhee states that according to testimony, it is the recommendation by the Department head not to forgive it and testimony by both the department head and the accountant, it wasn't the case of forgetting, it was just the opposite of where the customer is saying it's your mistake, I don't need to pay it, you correct it.

Mayor Ward states that as government the City has to take a standard that is above reproach and one that is equal and fair to everyone. If the Council wants to adopt some policy where its states to everyone that if you have good clean history for a long period of time then it is acceptable to forgive one months late notice. That is not the situation right now. This is the same standard that is applied to all the accounts and it needs to be maintained.

Mr. Thompson states that this certainly does not fall within the City Ordinance that really allows to discuss it because it does not fall under one of the two exceptions. If this was to be approved, a precedence would be set where anyone who was late could come before the Council. He is in agreeance with the Mayor. It would be easier to draft an Ordinance that could define what the City would forgive.

Voting on the motion to approve the appeal

Yes: 1 - Isaacson

No: 6 – Thompson, Skipp, Claus, McGhee, McCarthy, Mayor Ward

Absent: 0

APPEAL WAS DENIED

RESOLUTION 16-16, A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE 2017 CITY OF NORTH POLE BED TAX GRANT DISTRIBUTION

Introduced by Mayor Ward – We had 4 committee members that listened to their presentations. The scores of the 3 different applicants were totaled up and included in here as a dollar amount. They were then averaged against the amount given to from each person and then divided by the number of participants which came up with the organizational total for disbursement.

This year we had \$62,325 for distribution. This is based on the amounts collected in the prior audit so we are always trying to make sure to keep that funded ahead. The 2017 applicants had requested \$147,000. We only had the \$62,000. Of that amount the amount that came from the committee's recommendation, is the North Pole Chamber of Commerce for \$18,697.50, Explore Fairbanks of \$14,23.13, North Pole Christmas In Ice for \$29,604.38.

These bed tax grant distributions will be made available on January 1st, 2017. Once the P.O.s are issued, the grantees will be given 90% and then have until the application period for the next year to file for their final 10% which also then qualifies them for the next year. This is the recommendation from the committee.

Mr. Claus stated that when someone makes a presentation to the committee and they make a statement that was questionable, he wonders how to go about that.

Mayor Ward stated that at this time the committee has made a recommendation to the Council so the Council can either approve or deny that recommendation. If there is a concern, that would need to be addressed before or after this time.

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee *moved to* introduce & adopt Resolution 16-16, a Resolution establishing the 2017 City of North Pole Bed Tax Grant distribution

Seconded by Mr. McCarthy

Discussion

Mr. Claus stated that he attended the meeting that the committee had to interview the different applicants and at that time, one of the applicants said they were an all-volunteer organization. He expressed concern in regards to their 990 forms.

Mr. McCarthy stated he is not familiar with the Christmas in Ice finances but he does know that they have hired Chinese carvers to help with the park.

Mr. Claus stated that the 990 form lists Keith Fye as the salaried member.

Mr. Isaacson responded to Mr. Claus that this could be a contract labor situation. It would be nice to have more information. He commended the committee and this distribution that does a lot of good to the City of North Pole. All the applicants bring in tourism. He did not recall that any of these organizations have to be all-volunteer. If Christmas in Ice has at times, paid for some of the work, he doesn't have a problem with that. He thinks it would be wise for the Council to except the recommendation and to request clarification next time.

Mr. McGhee stated that all the applicants have to provide the committee with all of their financial records and he is not sure as to what Mr. Claus is referring to. 90% of the people are volunteers at Christmas in Ice but under their financial overview, profit and loss budget, they do have an expense of contract services which include a day labor of \$10,000, accounting of \$1,500, ice carving labor of \$55,000, ice rink of \$6,000 and outside contract services of \$8,000 totaling \$80,500. They did submit their labor cost that they have to employ.

Mr. Claus stated that all three of the organizations are deserving of the bed tax. He agrees with the council members and would like to see more clarification next year.

PASSED

Yes: 7 – Thompson, Skippis, Claus, McGhee, McCarthy, Isaacson, Mayor Ward

No: 0

Absent: 0

RESOLUTION 16-17, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LOCAL CONTROL IN THE ISSUANCE OF LIQUOR LICENSES WITHIN FIRST CLASS AND HOME RULE CITIES

Introduced by Mayor Ward – The City of Wasilla and Soldotna have both been in review of this. They are trying to come up with something that is amicable. In our last conversation they felt that there wasn't an amicable resolution to the commission recommendation.

One of the approaches is to request that the State give the same authority to municipalities to regulate alcohol as they have in the marijuana statutes that have been derived. This is restrictive to first class and home rule cities, those that have police power, knowing that they have the ability to actually regulate these establishments. For the rest of the state, they fall under different provisions under title 29. They are under the control of the state troopers.

Liquor licenses are typically established by several different methods, the most common is through population. We have more than our population allows. The case has been made that we service an area larger than 2,200 residents, it's more like 25,000. The same issues are with the City of Wasilla and Soldotna.

There are economic reasons why they are also looking at this, talking with the City of Wasilla there are retail establishments that want to do business in the City but their business model is that of having a liquor store. They are not able to come into the City because it doesn't fit their business model. What we are saying with this Resolution is that we support the idea of giving first class Cities the ability to regulate the number of liquor establishments.

Mr. Thompson asks what the benefit would be in support of this.

Mayor Ward stated that Wasilla has certain stores for example like a Fred Meyer that would like to build in town or a different area that has a liquor store as part of their business model and they are not able to do that business model in town with that component because state law prohibits them from having that establishment. Because of the limitation for population we are not able to have that establishment in the City of North Pole.

Mr. Thompson asked if we know of a situation like that where a business was unable to build in North Pole because they were unable to obtain a liquor license.

Mayor Ward stated that they did have conversations with Pagoda. They did have some issues trying to get a license. Ms. Wilson was able to work with the alcohol board to maneuver through some of these regulations so he was able to stay in the City of North Pole. That is the most recent example of this.

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee *moved to* introduce & adopt Resolution 16-17, a Resolution supporting local control in the issuance of liquor licenses within first class and home rule cities

Seconded by Mr. McCarthy

Discussion

Mr. McGhee commended AML and the other Cities for bringing this forward. With the establishment of adding Marijuana to the alcohol control board and giving that control to the municipalities he thought it was only fair that the same municipality could have a voice not only in the number of, but the placement of liquor establishments. So far, they don't have a voice, even when the Council reviews a license renewal we really only have an opinion and not truly a voice. This would give us a voice and would give the residence a voice.

Mr. Isaacson added that different States have very different perspectives on this so well-known restaurant chains have built there business models on what they can do elsewhere. If the City would like to get some businesses that are unique, the City needs to have a tool that will allow the City to say in North Pole and not in Fairbanks. This is a tool that will allow the City to have a greater grasp on the future.

Mr. Thompson stated that he does not think the City would qualify for the rewrite. One of the criteria is that there exists within the City mental health facilities to address alcohol abuse and dependency related issues. A comprehensive plan and zoning code would need to be adopted and other procedures. This requires the City to do a lot that he thinks the City may not be prepared to

do. He liked the idea of having liquor licenses approved by the Council and trying to address these issues locally.

Mayor Ward agreed that Mr. Thompson made a valid point and that additional clarification needs to be included. This is nothing that has to move at rocket speed so if there is a desire to add changes, that can be done.

Mr. Thompson stated that the Council should add the language so the City can actually participate in the re-write.

Mr. McGhee, Mr. Isaacson, Mr. Claus, Mr. Thompson would like to be added as co-sponsors.

Mr. Isaacson and Mr. Claus will not be at the next meeting.

PASSED

Yes: 7 – Skipps, Claus, McGhee, McCarthy, Isaacson, Thompson, Mayor Ward

No: 0

Absent: 0

Council Comments

Mr. Claus stated he will not be at the next meeting. He is going to Lake Tahoe. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mr. Skipps wished everyone Happy Holidays and a Merry Christmas

Mr. Isaacson stated that he will not be at the next meeting and will be visiting family. He apologized for having conversations during the Council meeting. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mr. McGhee stated that he just told Mr. Isaacson that he wasn't going to adjourn. Mr. McGhee wished everyone a Merry Christmas and to be safe in their travels. He commended the new Councilmen and looks forward to the New Year.

Mr. McCarthy stated that he thinks this is the best budget that he has seen the Council crank out in the time he has been here. He is very happy with it.

Mr. Thompson stated as a new Council member he thanks the Council with how well everyone & everything works very smoothly. He has enjoyed his time so far and expressed his appreciation for everyone. He was able to attend his son's band concert and apologized for being a little late. He wished a Merry Christmas to everyone.

Mayor Ward thanked the staff at City Hall for their efforts on the City's Facebook page and is excited about the growing likes of the page. He would like to do the Mannequin Challenge at the

next Council meeting. He talked about the Candlelight Ceremony and that Mayor Kassel was able to come and join them. They will affirm a Christmas Proclamation, a day of unity where everyone can come together. It will be a 3 page proclamation and be on display at City Hall. He is thankful to the other Mayors for their strong partnership.

Mr. McGhee *moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m.*

Seconded *by Mr. Isaacson*

The regular meeting of Monday, December 5, 2016 adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, December 19, 2016.

Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk