



**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 19, 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 19, 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

Excused

Excused

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Led by Mayor Ward

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Councilman McGhee

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McGhee moved to approve the agenda of December 19, 2016

Seconded by Mr. McCarthy

DISCUSSION

None

Mr. McGhee moved to amend under New Business to consent the following items:

- b. Liquor License renewal for First Security Investments, Inc dba Pagoda Restaurant
 - c. Ordinance 16-29, An Ordinance of the North Pole City Council amending the 2016 Operating Budget
- Remove item 13 – Executive Session

Seconded by Mr. McCarthy

On the amendment

Discussion

None

PASSED

Yes: 5 – McGhee, McCarthy, Thompson, Skipps, Mayor Ward

No: 0

Absent: 2- Isaacson, Claus

On the Agenda as amended

PASSED

Yes: 5 – McGhee, McCarthy, Thompson, Skipps, Mayor Ward

No: 0

Absent: 2- Isaacson, Claus

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Seconded by Mr. McCarthy

Discussion

None

PASSED

Yes: 5 – McGhee, McCarthy, Thompson, Skipps, Mayor Ward

No: 0

Absent: 2- Isaacson, Claus

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

December 17th was the Politicians with Power tools event at Christmas in Ice. The three local interior mayors were all present and had a grand old time carving ice. Please go vote for your favorite carving, all proceeds will go to the winning mayors non-profit of choice!

I was asked to participate in a phone interview with a radio station in New York City, they have called in the past and it was lots of fun, the unfortunate thing is that it was 5am Alaska time in order to be on the program.

The three local governments gave a presentation to the Interior Legislators at the Borough building on the 6th of December, Thank you to councilman Isaacson for being there to support the City of North Pole. Legislators have a big task in front of them this year with the budget.

The Borough had a Fire-EMS meeting last week where they went over changes for the future of the Fire-EMS contracts. To begin they stated they would not change anything this next year but that the year after that they are looking to make substantial changes. This will most likely not affect the City as we are the gold standard when it comes to EMS contracts. The City of North Pole provides its own ambulance, insurance and acts as a true contractor to the Borough. I will keep the council posted on changes.

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, see you all in January!

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

- None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Fire Dept., Deputy Chief Coon

- Elected secretary of the Fire Fighter Association.
- Volunteer received EMT status.
- Responded to the Ice Alaska fire on Friday morning.

Finance, Tricia Fogarty

- Financials are on the dais for the councilmembers.
- Wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Director of City Services, Bill Butler

Building Department

- No new projects submitted to the Building Department.

Public Works

- Public Works has begun building additional light decorations for the roundabouts--snowmen.
- Public Works is in need of a new boiler—they recently had another failure of their boiler.

- Quotes have been requested from three mechanical contractors.
- The Public Works shop is critical infrastructure necessary for the City's emergency response and a reliable boiler is critical.
- Public Works is also investigating the cost of an emergency generator to power the Public Works shop in to keep the facility operational in an emergency.

Utility Department

- Last week, the Utility received its first state audit of the Industrial Pretreatment Program
- Because the Utility accepts wastewater from industries it is mandated by the Clean Water Act to have an IPP program.
- The IPP program provides a framework for the Utility to place restrictions on industrial customers to reduce negative impacts upon the treatment system.
- Will receive feedback from the state in 60 to 90 days.
 - Utility's two new emergency generators were delivered on Friday.
- Contractor (Totem) provided 45 KW generators versus the 35 KW we ordered.
- The larger generators provide the Utility with greater flexibility

Natural Gas Utility Board

- IGU is still in tough negotiations with AIDEA concerning the merger with Fairbanks Natural Gas (FNG)
 - Major sticking point is AIDEA's position that they must receive immediate repayment of the ~\$60M paid for FNG to allow the Interior Energy Project to proceed.
 - Immediate payment of the \$60M will consume the flexible state funding needed by IGU to construct Phases 2 & 3.
 - Without Phases 2 & 3, the customer base for IGU may be too small for IGU to be a successful utility that can provide gas at the promised \$15/mcf and with no path for future expansion to construct Phases 4, 5, & 6.

Borough Representative

- Ordinance 2016-60 Amending the Boroughs complaint ordinance passed. This ordinance removes the need for someone to have "standing" in order to report a violation of Borough Code. Interestingly the old code restricted a code enforcement officer from being able to enforce a Borough code violation even if they witnessed the violation unless they had standing or lived in the neighborhood.

- Ordinance 2016-68 reauthorized the Economic Development Commission, of which the Mayors all are members.

City Clerk's Office, Kathy Weber

City Clerk-

- Presented certificates of appreciation to the election workers in October:
 1. Jo Small
 2. Barbara Sevier
 3. Sharon Kubacki
 4. Dianne Doody
 5. Agens Beavers
 6. Terry Huissman
- We will be bringing housekeeping ordinances to council in the New Year to bring our code into compliance. There are sections of the code that reference marijuana that will need to be deleted since the passing of the initiative in October.
- Year end is fast approaching and we are already in the process of packing up 2016 and getting ready for the 2017 files.
- We now have over 2,335 Facebook followers.
- New Year's Baby- People have been bringing in items for the News Year's Baby. Those items include a diaper bag, burp clothes, sparkling cider, receiving blankets, book, diaper cake. Contest rules are posted on Facebook.
- Upcycle design challenge is where you take old things and make them into something new. Participants are asked to send a picture of their upcycle design so we can post it online. Instructions are posted on Facebook. The prize is a gift card to Michael's.
- Will be attending the Senior Luncheon on Wednesday to swear in officers for 2017.
- Last day of school is tomorrow and it is early outs so kids will be dismissed early.
 - Elementary – 2:00
 - NPMS - 1:00
 - NPHS - 12:45

HR-

- We have many employees that will be gone through the New Year for vacation with family. Please be patient with those of us that are here.
- We have two positions open with the City. In the Fire Department we have a Lt. position and in the Police Department there is a Police Officer position. Both positions are open until filled.

- Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.
- Wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
- 6 days until Christmas.

ONGOING PROJECTS

- None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

RECOMMENDATION TO AWARD FUEL BID TO ALASKA FUEL DISTRIBUTORS DUE TO SOURDOUGH FUEL WITHDRAWING THEIR BID.

Mr. Butler said that there were problems with the insurance request from Soughdough Fuel. The 2nd bidder is Alaska Fuel Services and Mr. Butler asked the council to award to them.

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee *moved to* approve recommendation to award fuel bid to Alaska Fuel Services due to Sourdough Fuel withdrawing their bid

Seconded *by* Mr. McCarthy

Discussion

None

PASSED

Yes: 5 – McGhee, McCarthy, Thompson, Skipps, Mayor Ward

No: 0

Absent: 2- Isaacson, Claus

Council Comments

Mr. Skipps – Thanked everyone on the council and will become more involved.

Mr. McGhee – wished everyone and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He encouraged everyone to drive by his house and see the lights and music.

Mr. McCarthy – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. Thompson – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mayor Ward - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. McGhee moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Skipps

The regular meeting of Monday, December 19, 2016 adjourned at 8:09p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk