



**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 16, 2018 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 16, 2018 to order at 7:00 p.m.

There were present:

Avery Thompson – *Mayor Pro Tem*
David Skipps – *Deputy Mayor Pro Tem*
Aino Welch – *Alt Dep Mayor Pro Tem*
Santa Claus
Doug Isaacson
Sharon Hedding
Mayor Ward

Absent/Excused

Excused

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Led by Mayor Ward

INVOCATION

Invocation was given by Mr. Isaacson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Skipps *moved to approve the agenda of April 16, 2018*

Seconded *by Ms. Hedding*

DISCUSSION

None

Mr. Skipps *moved to consent the following items:*

Old Business:

None

New Business:

- a. Ordinance 18-09, An Ordinance of the North Pole City Council Amending Chapter 02 Public Hazards to Title 8 Health and Safety.
- b. Request to Adopt the 2018 Cooperative Agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the City of North Pole for Law Enforcement Services.

Seconded by Ms. Welch

Discussion

None

On the amendment

PASSED

Yes: 6 – Skippis, Hedding, Claus, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Thompson

On the Agenda as amended

Discussion

None

PASSED

Yes: 6 – Skippis, Hedding, Claus, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Thompson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Skippis moved to approve the Minutes of April 02, 2018

Seconded by Mr. Claus

Discussion

None

PASSED

Yes: 6 – Skippis, Hedding, Claus, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Thompson

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR (Audio 3:27)

- April NPHS Student of the Month – Madison Earle
- The FNSB had a multi-jurisdictional meeting on April 3rd at the FNSB Assembly Chambers. Thank you to Councilmen Isaacson and Thompson for attending. The BACM control measures have the potential to cost the community over 50 million to implement to the stationary sources. It may behoove the City to take a position on the implementation measures.
- I am almost complete with the City’s Military Facility Zone Application. Once completed, the Council will be presented with a MFZ ordinance designating the boundaries and authorizing the MFZ. This will then be passed to the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs for approval.
- The IGU is meeting tomorrow to discuss the transition plan for the merger of FNG and IGU. The board meeting starts at 4pm in the Key Bank Building in the 5th floor IGU office.
- I did a walk through with the engineer on the water system project and was impressed at the scope and size of the project. It always has a different feel from viewing it on the map to actually being in the field. Thanks to the construction crews for the hard work.
- The USO at Ft. Wainwright had its grand opening on the 12th of April. The facility is highly used and the USO is doing great work supporting our military and their families. If you are interested in volunteering, they have operations at Eielson AFB and Ft. Wainwright.
- I was able to attend the Civilian Advisory Board (CAB) at Eielson AFB last week. The F-35 projects are well underway and the General assured the CAB that the Air Force is not asking for on-base housing and that they are depending on the community to meet that need. They also spoke about the need for additional retail and restaurants to serve the existing and incoming population.
- April 28th is the Mayors’ Charity Ball in support of the United Way. If you are interested in attending, please let me know or contact the United Way to purchase tickets for a table.
- May 2nd I will be hosting the first “North Pole Forum” from 6-8pm here at City Hall in the Chambers with Caleb Freeman, the young man who has been job shadowing me for the past few months. The forum has been developed by Caleb and has rules similar to the Roman and Greek forums. We will be talking about private property rights and I encourage all of you to attend and bring a friend.
- May 1st at 11am is the Memorial Park ceremony on Doughchee Ave. Council is requested to be in attendance, if you are able to make it.
- May 11th at the Memorial Park, we will be remembering National Police Week. The ceremony starts at 1pm and it would be great to have Council in attendance.
- May 3rd is the National Day of Prayer. The City will do a proclamation and there are several events happening around town if you are interested in attending.
- May 4th is the Military Appreciation Banquet put on by the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce. I will be in attendance with Rachel representing the City. If you are

interested in attending, tickets are available through the Fairbanks Chamber website.

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Fire Dept., Chief Coon (Audio 17:55)

- All members that took the Fire Officer I class passed and are awaiting certificates. This is quite an achievement to have nearly all of our officers certified at this level. It will help us on our next ISO inspection.
- I attended the Spring Preparedness Conference in Anchorage last week. This is paid for from grant funds and is required for continued grant funding.
- I will be attending the National Fire Academy in May for a management class. Only two percent of all firefighters in the United States are able to attend a course at the Academy.
- Our Open House will be on May 19th from 10-4. Captain Haywood is working hard to make it a great event. I have included a flyer and I encourage the Council to join our Facebook page for updates.
- Michelle is still working with Laserfiche to electronically store some of our fire, EMS, and training records. This is a slow process and I will be sure to keep the Council up to date on this project.
- Airpack Grant Update:
 - The North Pole Fire Department was able to secure \$197,883.32 through a regional grant to replace 36 airpacks and 72 air bottles. The City has a 10% match obligation which is \$19,783.44. The FD will require an additional \$19,232.57 for tools, parts, and accessories for a total of \$39,016.01. Once all of the new airpacks are online, we will be able to trade our existing airpacks for an estimated total of \$10,000. This puts us just below the \$30,000 mark that I have been briefing the Council on for months. This will come before Council at the next meeting.
 - Grant Match + Accessories – Trade In = Total
 - $\$19,783.44 + \$19,232.57 - \$10,000 = \$29,016.01$
- Fleet Maintenance Report:
 - D.C. Heineken, Captain Hamlin, and Engineer Rossow are working on a problem with Engine 21's pump transmission. There is a problem with the pump shifting in and out of pump gear. This rendered the engine out of service until repaired. The cost of the rebuild will be approximately \$5,000. It will be completed in-house and will take about a month. The cost of this repair is outside of our normal maintenance budget and will require a fiscal note in order to keep up with maintenance in 2018.
 - Medic 22 is down for repairs and maintenance. Medic 22 is our second out

ambulance. It is a 2006 and has 110,000 miles. Medic 22 went in for an alignment and it was found that it needed an extensive amount of steering parts. The repairs are expected to be \$2,000.

Police Dept., Chief Dutra (Audio 10:00)

- Terri Nelson has put in her resignation and is going to transfer to City Hall. We have already placed an ad to replace this open position.
- I have ALiCE presentations coming up on Thursday to PTA from West Valley.
- I have a second ALiCE presentation for the Noel Wien Library in May.
- 4-8-18 SDEU to include NP Officer was involved in the large meth ring and drug bust in Anchorage.
- APOA Crime Conference is May 7-11. We have 4 slots set aside.
- Police Memorial is May 11th at the Memorial Park.
- Fallen Heroes Memoria is May 1st at 11:00 am.
- We are rewriting job descriptions to help meet the changing job duties at the PD.
- Drug take-back is April 28th from 10-2.
- The Admin Assistant's desk is set to arrive this week.
- Defensive Tactics are occurring at the PD this week and next. We have modified hours to avoid OT.
- 3 plaques have arrived to be mounted on the Memorial Park wall by Public Works and we appreciate their help.
- 2 granite laser monuments of Trooper Rich and Trooper Johnson will hopefully arrive in time for the May 11th ceremony.
- **Mr. Isaacson** asked if Chief Dutra could take into account the Alaska National Lab Day at UAF when scheduling the ALiCE training for Council so the two don't conflict with each other. Chief Dutra replied that he would.

Finance, Tricia Fogarty (Audio 25:55)

- Last week we hired a new Accounts Payable Clerk. Terri Nelson will be coming over from the Police Department and I'm looking forward to working with her.
- Last week we sent the requested files to the auditors. They are scheduled to come out to the City on May 4th. They will also set some time aside to talk with Council. I encourage you to make the time to talk with them.
- I'm working with Judy to train her how to do payroll.
- We ordered a new computer for Sally because she has been having a lot of issues with her computer kicking her out of programs and crashing. We had budgeted for a computer replacement.
- We have online sales tax and payment option up and running. A letter will be going out to our customers this week to let them know.
- The Fire Department is the next department to come online for the online Timekeeping. It's working well – we had a couple issues last time but were able to work them out.

- We spoke with the JAG Grant folks and they did give us an extension.
- I reached out to the AML investment pool and we think it may be a way to invest the fleet funds.
- I am working on the bank rec for March and will send those out once that's been completed.
- **Mr. Claus** asked if the delinquent properties that have been on the delinquent report for quite some time are being addressed. Ms. Fogarty replied that they are and we are going through the foreclosure process with some of them.

Director of City Services, Bill Butler

None

Borough Representative

None

City Clerk's Office, Judy Binkley (Audio 32:02)

- I wanted to give you advance notice that prior to both Council meetings in May, there will be a presentation or work session:
 - May 7th: Spring 2018 Eielson Regional Growth Plan Community Presentation
 - May 21st: Source Water Protection Plan for North Pole Utility Drinking Wells Water
- We have put together a Personnel Policy Team made up of 4 employees who will be reviewing the personnel section of code for inconsistencies and discussing any ideas for updates. The first meeting will be this Thursday.
- I am learning how to do payroll over the next few weeks so that I can make sure I know how to do it when Trish is on vacation next month.
- The archive grant that was set to expire on 6/30 this year has been completely used. I worked with Mr. Butler and Chief Coon to incorporate Laserfiche into their departments and was able to use the grant for that.
- **Mr. Isaacson** asked if we had received a letter from Ft. Wainwright and Eielson inviting us to renew our passes. Madam Clerk replied that we have not received the letter at this time but would look into it.

ONGOING PROJECTS

None

CITIZENS COMMENTS – (Limited to Five (5) minutes per Citizen) (Audio 32:02)

- **Alan Corrick**, 4075 Teal Ave.: Spoke about the conditional use permit for the gravel pit and the upcoming hearing. Because the City is a landowner within 1000 feet of the property, Mayor Ward is able to speak at the conditional use permit hearing.
 - **Mr. Isaacson** asked if information could be forwarded to Council so they may be

able to speak or write in about this. Mr. Corrick replied that information would be sent to the Clerk to be distributed.

- **Ms. Welch** asked if only Mayor Ward could speak to this or if any citizen that lived within 1000 feet of the property could speak. Mr. Corrick replied that anyone who owns property within 1000 feet of the property could speak.
- **Andie Rice**, 3328 Virginia St.: Spoke about the National Day of Prayer. Thanked Council for what they do for the City and invited everyone to the National Day of Prayer on May 3rd at the NP Library.

OLD BUSINESS

None

Public Comment

None

NEW BUSINESS

LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL FOR PETRO STAR INC. DBA SOURDOUGH FUEL.

(Audio 46:28)

Mayor Ward made the introduction.

Public Comment

None

Mr. Isaacson *moved to not object to the liquor license renewal for Petro Star Inc. dba Sourdough Fuel.*

Seconded by Ms. Welch

Discussion

Mr. Claus stated he would object because a while back, a majority of North Pole voters decided they would ban dispensaries here. They claimed that North Pole is a family-friendly community and wanted to keep it safe for children. They falsely claimed that cannabis is the gateway drug. The absolute fact is that alcohol is the gateway drug. Alcohol use and abuse kills people. North Pole residents I've spoken with, especially those who supported the dispensary ban, believe that North Pole should be either a damp or dry city regarding alcohol sales, options allowed by the State of Alaska. Therefore, as a Councilman, I am inclined to vote NO on any new license or license renewal related to establishments that sell alcohol in North Pole. I anticipate that my stance may result in a loss of North Pole tax revenue, however, I'm sure it would reduce alcohol-related crimes, especially abuse throughout our City and lessen the burden on law enforcement, resulting in savings. Since the State of Alaska only requires that new and renewing licensees adhere to basic City requirements, my no vote may be moot today, however, North Pole does

retain the option of becoming a damp or dry city in the future.

PASSED

Yes: 5 – Skippis, Hedding, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 1 - Claus

Absent: 1 – Thompson

REQUEST TO APPROVE THE DEVELOPER AGREEMENT FOR THE BROOKSIDE PARK BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA AND AINLEY INTERNATIONAL MEMORIAL FUND, LLC (“AIMF”) DBA: NORTH STAR DEVELOPERS 2018. (Audio 49:40)

Mayor Ward and Jerry Koerner introduced the request.

Public Comment

None

Mr. Isaacson *moved to* approve the developer agreement for the Brookside Park by and between the City of North Pole, Alaska and Ainley International Memorial Fund, LLC (“AIMF”) DBA: North Star Developers 2018.

Seconded *by* Mr. Skippis

Discussion

Mr. Isaacson *moved to* amend the developer agreement for the Brookside Park by and between the City of North Pole, Alaska and Ainley International Memorial Fund, LLC (“AIMF”) DBA: North Star Developers 2018 by removing the language “and maximum of two years between phases” after “(minimum road base standard)” on page 19, Appendix C of the agreement.

Seconded *by* Mr. Claus

On the amendment

PASSED

Yes: 6 – Skippis, Hedding, Claus, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 1 – Thompson

Discussion on the motion as amended (1:07:57)

Ms. Welch stated that she would vote to approve this and urged her fellow Council members to do the same.

Mayor Ward spoke to the letter of objection the City wrote regarding the conditional use permit for the gravel pit due to lack of clarity.

On the motion as amended

PASSED

Yes: 6 – Skipps, Hedding, Claus, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 1 - Thompson

COUNCIL COMMENTS (Audio 1:11:22)

Mr. Claus – Was able to attend the wetlands meeting and they have our best interest at heart.

Ms. Hedding – Enjoy the warm weather and be safe as there's still ice out there.

Mr. Skipps – None

Ms. Welch – Thank you to the folks doing the Day of Prayer. Keep your eyes open as I saw my first batch of motorcycles out there.

Mr. Isaacson – Jan Thacker, former NP resident is featured on the magazine cover of Venue so kudos to her. During the last Council meeting, Jeff Cook spoke to memorializing Buzz Otis so I request that if you have any language or any idioms, please share them with us so we can include them in a resolution.

Mayor Ward – Our first 4th of July meeting is coming up on Monday, April 23rd at 6pm here at City Hall. Also May 2nd is the first North Pole Forum and I really encourage you to come and support this.

Ms. Welch *moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.*

Seconded by Mr. Skipps

The regular meeting of Monday, April 16, 2018 adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, May 7, 2018.

Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Judy Binkley, North Pole City Clerk