



**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, October 1, 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, October 1, 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**  
**Perry Walley**  
**Mayor Ward**

***Absent/Excused***

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG**

Led by Mayor Ward

**INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Mr. Isaacson

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Mr. Thompson** *moved to* **approve the agenda of October 1, 2018**

**Seconded by Mr. Skipps**

**DISCUSSION**

None

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

**New Business:**

- a. Request to Approve the Purchase of a 2019 4x4 Ambulance.
- b. Request to Accept the 2018 Emergency Management Performance Grant, EMS-2018-EP-00002-S01 State Grant No.: 20EMPG-GY18.
- c. Request to Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Deed Transferring Ownership of the Land

and Building at 101 East 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Lot 20, Block 31 Davis Subdivision – to the North Pole Santa’s Senior Center.

- d. Request to Approve the Proposal for Professional Services with Degerlund Engineering, LLC to Provide Professional Surveying Services for the City of North Pole Police Department.
- f. Resolution 18-12, A Resolution of the City of North Pole Authorizing Full Payoff of District 1 Proceeds in Advancement of Collection to the Utility Account to Fulfill Obligations Listed in Ordinance 96-11.

**Seconded by Mr. Skipp**

**Discussion**

None

*On the amendment*

**PASSED**

Yes: 7 – Skipp, Walley, Thompson, Claus, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 0

*On the Agenda as amended*

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

Yes: 7 – Skipp, Walley, Thompson, Claus, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 0

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Ms. Welch moved to approve the Minutes of September 17, 2018**

**Seconded by Mr. Skipp**

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

Yes: 7 – Skipp, Walley, Thompson, Claus, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 0  
Absent: 0

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR** (Audio 3:28)

- September 21<sup>st</sup> I was privileged to attend the POW MIA ceremony at the Heritage Park at Eielson AFB. The ceremony was a tribute to our prisoners of war and missing in action. There are over 8000 members of our armed forces still unaccounted for.
- Staff is in preparation for the transition to the new mayor. The staff and I have a 4 day transition planned for the incoming mayor from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> of October.
- October 5<sup>th</sup> at 7am, I will be giving the State of the City to the Sunrisers Rotary of Fairbanks. They meet at the Carlson Center.
- The MFZ for the City was approved by the Commissioner last week. We are expecting to do the signing of sorts in the City next week and are awaiting confirmation from the Commissioner and the Governor's office.
- Proclamation: Classic Santa Forever Stamp Day.

**COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR**

None

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK**

**Director of City Services, Bill Butler** (Audio 7:19)

**Building Department**

- No new building permits issued since the September 17<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

**Public Works**

- Public Works has retained three temporary summer hires into the fall due to good weather conditions and ongoing landscaping needs.

**Utility Department**

- Sulfolane settlement
  - Project dashboard attached to provide snapshot of project status.
  - Interim Approval to Operate issued for Zone 1 (12 Mile Village area).
  - Brush cutting in Zones 3 & 4 began last week.
  - Peridot Pump House tank filled this past weekend and undergoing required 14-days of leak testing.
- Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) detected in local groundwater.
  - ADEC announced revised Action Level for PFAS in groundwater and surface water:

- Combined Action Level of 70 parts per trillion (ppt) for the sum of five compounds and 2 ppb for a sixth compound. (See attached Technical Memo.)
- ADEC has detected PFAS compounds above the new Action Level of determination within the city limits and in the 12 Mile Village area.
- The Utility has previously detected one of these compounds in the Utility's drinking water wells just above the detection limit (2ppt).
- The most recent test of City wells was non-detect (March 2018).
- Scheduled sampling of City wells this week.
- PFAS are considered emerging contaminate and determining how to respond is rapidly evolving. (See attached Frequently Asked Questions fact sheet issued by ADEC).
- Plan to sample wastewater influent and effluent for PFAS compounds as a proactive measure.
- **Mr. Isaacson** asked since 12 mile has had detect and Bradly Sky Ranch isn't a facility where they necessarily use that foam, what about the unprotected areas such has Morningstar, Baker, Northstar? Mr. Butler replied that we are in the process of developing a source water protection plan and figuring out the best way we can start detecting and possibly have monitoring wells.

### **Natural Gas Utility Board**

- IGU has engaged in negotiations with Siemens Corporation to determine if they can provide gas to Fairbanks cheaper than IGU.
- **Mayor Ward** asked when they expect to come to terms on negotiations with Siemens. Mr. Butler replied there is a meeting tomorrow and hopefully they'll announce something.
- **Mr. Walley** asked about the projected price and wholesale price and has heard numbers for the last 2 years. Mr. Butler replied that the FNG negotiated price from Cook Inlet comes in at about \$8 so consumers are paying \$17-\$18. Hopefully with the Siemens approach, the cost to homeowners could be reduced to \$15.
- **Mr. Isaacson** asked for clarification that the AIEDA board might object to this because FNG was purchased and its parent companies were purchased by IGU and conceivably if Siemens comes in, you no longer have value in FNG. Mr. Butler replied that IGU is FNG. Nothing stops IGU from continuing to operate that plant. It's part of the mix and continues to exist and IGU could use it for backup.
- **Mr. Walley** stated that IGU wouldn't have to produce so that that's a huge cost savings.

### **Fire Dept., Chief Coon** (Audio 27:03)

- FF-1 class is still ongoing. The class will test out on December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- I attended the 2018 Alaska State Fire Conference this last week. While there, I attended training on state and federal grants, leadership, communications, and a seminar from ISO. I also attended a vendor show where several apparatus manufacturers were present.
- At the conference I participated in Alaska Fire Chiefs Association board meetings. I was elected to another two-year term as a board member.
- Michelle is working with Laserfiche to electronically store some of our fire, EMS, and training records.
- I gave a presentation to the Santa Seniors last month on SMART911 and talked to them about bleeding control kits that will become more common on public assembly and educational facilities in and around our borough. A lot of the seniors made it a point to talk to me about our medics and how thankful they were that we have such amazing people at the fire department.
- The department did some bleeding control training for the school district admin last Friday. It was well received and we are looking forward to doing more of this training for the district and members of the public.
- FD budget looks good and we are expecting to be under budget in several areas. It would be good to transfer any under budget funds into the fleet replacement fund as we are expecting to spend everything in the fund to replace an ambulance this year.
- Maintenance Report:

<u>Medic 21</u>	<u>98,257 miles</u>
<u>Medic</u>	<u>120,527 miles</u>
<u>Medic 23</u>	<u>140,165 miles</u>
<u>Command 21</u>	<u>94,439 miles</u>
<u>Engine 21</u>	<u>15 years old</u>
<u>Engine 22</u>	<u>25 years old</u>
<u>Squad 21</u>	<u>28 years old</u>
- **Mr. Isaacson** asked about the ISO rating. Chief Coon replied that we have gone from a 3 to a 2 and dropping to a ISO 2 is actually a good thing. It has to do with water dispatch and personnel.

**Finance, Tricia Fogarty** (Audio 33:20)

- We are starting to work on budgets and last week, the department heads met with the Mayor and myself.
- Terri and I have been doing some research and looking at other Cities' budgets and taking some ideas from them. For starters, we are putting together a glossary.
- **Ms. Welch** asked what the SHSP grant was. Ms. Fogarty replied it stands for a State Homeland Security Program grant.

**Police Dept., Chief Dutra** (Audio 35:14)

- Stats – no major increases or decreases to note.

- New conex - \$2200 for our trade-in on old conex and paid \$6700 for the new one. Old one had leaks and water infiltration issues.
- Gutters – are done and please take a look after our meeting. ABC Inc. did a great job.
- Hope you get to look at our new police cars tonight. Happy to show you insides if you wish. Complicated equipment integration to say the least. Half of the lights were donated thanks to Lt. Lindhag. Saved money where we could reuse radios, radars, and other items.
- Guys Read at NPE and Tikasuk Brown.
- ALiCE presentation at Ryan Middle School – LT and I received major thanks from VP.
- A package containing 4.1 pounds of methamphetamine from an out of state source was seized. Subsequent investigation/searches also produced approximately 4 ounces of heroin in the local drug trafficker’s residence.
- SHSP 2018 grant was approved for \$67,323.00: \$35,000 for cameras for City Hall and Police; \$27,475 for radios for cars; \$4848 for OT for 2019 AK Shield. Worked hard on these grants trying to make sure we received funding for critical projects.
- Sgt. Bellant – teaching GREAT at NPMS and still getting great feedback from school.
- SRO Officer McBroom worked the homecoming dance. No issues reported.
- IPCC discussed issues affecting local LEO – all are facing shortages and lack of qualified applications. Training coordination and other matters.
- \$8527 from State forfeiture.
- Had a meeting with SOA – HIDTA about funding of drug unit/augmented drug enforcement. Chief Jewkes sits on the board and represents our interest.
- Backgrounds – moving through. These are extremely time intensive. Dt. Gibson has been hard at work conducting these.
- CTC Academy – we supplied volunteers, proctors, and instructors for DUI, SFST, and radar.
- I was nominated to sit on state-wide interoperability group but I had to decline – honored by AACOP nomination.
- Received \$3000 for 3 cars at auction. An additional \$400 approximately for miscellaneous items from evidence.
- We are donating gunlocks to a town hall meeting promoting ALiCE and safety. We purchased these a couple years ago out of drug money. Like getting them out to the public and supporting schools.
- FTO module – Mayor has authorized us to share in the development costs associated with a new FTO module for our training - \$3640 shared development costs and approximately \$720 a year for high end training module that will lead to reduced liability in one of the most difficult phases of a police officer’s career. It is my opinion this is critical.
- Our reserve store now has PayPal credit card processing. This is reducing costs.
- **Ms. Welch** thanked Chief Dutra for sending her the notes and that it was a lot of fun to see the ALiCE training at Hunter.

**Borough Representative**

None

**City Clerk's Office, Judy Binkley** (Audio 53:02)

- The election is tomorrow! Please stay after the Council meeting tonight to help set up.
- We are working on coordinating a health fair for our employees. This is a new benefit and we are very excited about it. It will be November 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 – 10:30 in the morning.
- We are now accepting applications for the 2019 Hotel/Motel Bed Tax Grant until October 31<sup>st</sup> at 5pm. The application is on the website.
- I will be out of the office next Tuesday-Thursday for Caselle Training. They will be training on the HR modules which doesn't happen very often so I need to take advantage of this opportunity.
- **Mr. Isaacson** asked if the health fair was just for employees. City Clerk Binkley replied that it's for employees and their spouses. It's in conjunction with the Alaska Health Fair and they do not do testing on dependents under the age of 18.
- **Mr. Claus** stated that he usually goes to the health fair once a year and it's a cost savings. The hospital charges significantly more than the health fair for the same tests.
- **Mr. Walley** asked if this was the first time for the health fair. City Clerk Binkley replied that it is for the City.

**ONGOING PROJECTS**

None

**CITIZENS COMMENTS – (Limited to Five (5) minutes per Citizen)** (Audio 56:53)

- **Dawn Murphy**, 2644 Diamond Street: Spoke about Explore Fairbanks. The final report for the 2018 bed tax grant was turned in last week. Also gave an update on the marketing contract with Asia.
- **Jerry Koerner**, 1141 Lake Drive: Spoke about the progress on Brookside Park. Stated they are having some interest from some large organizations on the commercial side. **Mr. Isaacson** asked if the commercial interests are capable of selling underwear and things like that. Mr. Koerner replied that as a real estate broker and accountant, he's capable of doing that too.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**ORDINANCE 18-22, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA TO AMEND THE 2018 OPERATING BUDGET.** (Audio 1:07:22)

Mayor Ward introduced the ordinance.

**Public Comment**

None

**Mr. Thompson *moved to adopt Ordinance 18-22, an Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to Adopt the 2018 Operating Budget.***

**Seconded *by Ms. Welch***

**Discussion** (Audio 1:09:04)

**Mr. Isaacson *moved to amend Ordinance 18-22, an Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to Adopt the 2018 Operating Budget by adding \$1,000 to 01-51-1-020 Temp/Overhire line and Change Alcohol Tax 01-00-3-300 from \$3,255.74 to \$2,255.74.***

**Seconded *by Mr. Walley***

**Discussion on the amendment**

None

***On the amendment***

**PASSED**

Yes: 7 – Skippis, Walley, Thompson, Claus, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 0

**Discussion on the motion as amended**

None

***On the motion as amended***

**PASSED**

Yes: 7 – Skippis, Walley, Thompson, Claus, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 0

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 18-11, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING THE FORMATION OF A NONPROFIT CORPORATION KNOWN AS FAST PLANNING TO SERVE AS THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION.** (Audio 1:10:16)



Mayor Ward introduced the resolution.

**Public Comment**

None

**Mr. Thompson** *moved to introduce and adopt Resolution 18-11, a Resolution of the City of North Pole Authorizing and Ratifying the Formation of a Nonprofit Corporation Known as FAST Planning to Serve as the Metropolitan Planning Organization.*

**Seconded by Ms. Welch**

**Discussion** (Audio 1:11:44)

**Mr. Isaacson** *moved to amend Resolution 18-11, a Resolution of the City of North Pole Authorizing and Ratifying the Formation of a Nonprofit Corporation Known as FAST Planning to Serve as the Metropolitan Planning Organization by removing “and ratifies” on line 28.*

**Seconded by Ms. Welch**

**Discussion on the amendment** (Audio 1:12:24)

**Mr. Walley** asked for clarification if this has already been done. **Mayor Ward** replied that it has. **Mr. Walley** stated this is a “cart before the horse” kind of thing so recommended to remove the word “authorizes” since this has already been done.

**Mr. Isaacson** stated that when creating businesses, there should be documents for the operating agreement, or charter, and the bylaws and everything else that goes with that. It wouldn't be prudent for the City to ratify something that hasn't been read.

**Mayor Ward** provided clarification and stated that the language was drafted by the Borough attorney in order to satisfy any question as to the authority in which the MPO has operated in the past 18 months to go to a non-profit model.

**Mr. Isaacson** asked if the documents have been brought to the Council in the past. **Mayor Ward** replied that they had not.

**Mr. Thompson** stated that it's important to not take line 28 all by itself. It's part of a paragraph and when read as a whole, it shows the intent of the whole paragraph.

**Mr. Isaacson** stated the amendment reads better by saying the Council authorizes because we can't ratify what we don't see.

**Mr. Thompson** stated that he googled definitions of both ratification and authorization and it

appears they are pretty similar in nature.

*On the amendment*

**PASSED**

Yes: 5 – Skipps, Walley, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 2 – Thompson, Claus

Absent: 0

**Discussion on the motion as amended** (Audio 1:26:09)

**Mr. Walley moved to amend 18-11, a Resolution of the City of North Pole Authorizing and Ratifying the Formation of a Nonprofit Corporation Known as FAST Planning to Serve as the Metropolitan Planning Organization by removing “and ratifies” on line 3.**

**Seconded by Mr. Thompson**

**Discussion on the amendment**

None

*On the amendment*

**PASSED**

Yes: 7 – Skipps, Walley, Thompson, Claus, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 0

**Discussion on the motion as amended**

None

*On the motion as amended*

**PASSED**

Yes: 7 – Skipps, Walley, Thompson, Claus, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 0

**Mr. Thompson moved to adjourn into executive session to discuss personnel issues in the Police Department at 8:31 p.m.**

**Seconded by Mr. Claus**

**Mayor Ward brought the meeting back to order at 9:04 p.m.**

**Mr. Thompson** *moved to approve the actions as approved in the executive session.*

**Seconded by Ms. Welch**

**PASSED**

Yes: 7 – Skipps, Walley, Thompson, Claus, Isaacson, Welch, Ward

No: 0

Absent: 0

**COUNCIL COMMENTS** (Audio 1:29:02)

**Ms. Welch** – Get out and vote tomorrow. Every vote counts.

**Mr. Isaacson** – I echo that. We have Alaska units being deployed right now and people from our community, so I appreciate them and keep them in your prayers.

**Mr. Claus** – As they used to say in Chicago, vote early, vote often. I hope you will go out and vote at least once tomorrow.

**Mr. Thompson** – None

**Mr. Walley** – I’ve participated in health fairs in the past and it’s a pretty good deal. I apologize for missing the last meeting. Get out and vote, there’s a lot of very important propositions out there.

**Mr. Skipps** – None

**Mayor Ward** – It’s been an honor to serve on the Council. Next Council meeting will be my last Council meeting as Mayor here and it’s hard to believe but 6 years have flown by. I hope we can hand the City off on a good transition to our new Mayor and give him a good warm welcome at our next Council meeting.

**Ms. Welch** *moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 p.m.*

**Seconded by Mr. Skipps**

The regular meeting of Monday, October 1, 2018 adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

**These minutes passed and approved** by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, October 15, 2018.

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Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Judy Binkley, North Pole City Clerk