



**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, March 18, 2019 in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 125 Snowman Lane, North Pole, Alaska.

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Mayor Welch called the regular City Council meeting of Monday, March 18, 2019 to order at 7:002 p.m.

***There were present:***

**Doug Isaacson – Mayor Pro Tem**  
**Avery Thompson – Deputy Mayor Pro Tem**  
**Perry Walley – Alt Dep Mayor Pro Tem**  
**DeJohn Cromer**  
**Aino Welch**  
**David Skipps**  
**Mayor Welch**

***Absent/Excused***

**Excused**

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

Led by Mayor Welch

**INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Ms. Welch

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Mr. Thompson *moved to* approve the agenda of March 18, 2019**

**Seconded *by* Ms. Welch**

**DISCUSSION**

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

**New Business:**

- c.** Request to Approve a Matching Contribution of \$78,585 for the Construction of the Homestead Road Pedestrian Path Extension.
- d.** Request to Authorize the Order of One New Police Department Patrol Car in the Amount of \$36,290.00.
- e.** Ordinance 19-05, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to Amend the 2019 Operating Budget and Other Funds.

- f. Ordinance 19-06, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to Amend the 2019 Operating Budget and Other Funds.

**Seconded by Mr. Skipps**

**Discussion**

None

*On the amendment*

**PASSED**

Yes: 6 – Skipps, Thompson, Cromer, Walley, Welch, Welch

No: 0

Absent: 1 – Isaacson

*On the Agenda as amended*

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

Yes: 6 – Skipps, Thompson, Cromer, Walley, Welch, Welch

No: 0

Absent: 1 – Isaacson

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mr. Thompson moved to approve the Minutes of March 04, 2019**

**Seconded by Ms. Welch**

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

Yes: 6 – Skipps, Thompson, Cromer, Walley, Welch, Welch

No: 0

Absent: 1 – Isaacson

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR** (Audio 4:20)

- Student of the Month Proclamation – Sarah Price.
- March 7 – Attended Military Civilian Meeting at FNSB to discuss economic impacts stemming from the proposed Alaska State Budget from Governor Dunleavy. Met with Mr. Jim Dodson of FEDCO to discuss Housing Task Force.
- March 8 – Attended the Tiger Team Meeting where the Badger Salcha Expansion Draft Plan was unveiled to the stakeholders.
- March 9 – Attended and participated in the meeting of Senator Coghill and Representative Wilson’s constituent meeting at the North Pole Library from 1100-1345. There were 77 citizens crammed into standing room only, yet the meeting was very civil and productive. Attended and testified at the FNSB Town Hall Meeting at West Valley High School from 1500-1730. There were approximately 400 in attendance.
- March 11 – Gave a welcoming speech to the Tanana Chiefs Conference at the Westmark Hotel and participated from 1100-1600. Dined with the TCC at Chief Salmon Tribal Hall from 1730-1930.
- March 13 – Met with NORCOM Commander Lt. Gen Bussiere at Lavelle’s Bistro from 1800-2000.
- Formal briefing with Lt. Gen Bussiere and his staff on March 14 from 1400-1545 at FNSB Salcha Room with Mayors Bryce Ward and Jim Matherly.
- March 15 – Attended the North Pole Police Department Annual Awards Banquet at the North Pole Senior Center from 1800-2020.
- March 18 – Guest of FWA Garrison Commander Colonel Sean Fisher for Elected Officials Briefing and Tour of the post facilities. Everyone was invited.

**COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR**

None

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

**Police Dept., Chief Dutra** (Audio 14:21)

- Just completed our Sergeant testing for the May departure of Sgt. Stevenson.
- Had our awards banquet – I will go over names and awards at next meeting.
- Swear in Brett Welborn – Welcome aboard.
- I made it through House Judiciary and Senate Judiciary. No blood drawn.
- New Officer James Kuplack will start April 1.

**Fire Dept., Chief Coon** (Audio 18:23)

- The department met with Fairbanks Natural Gas and our Automatic Aid fire department to discuss training, truck routes, and emergency response to the new North Pole Facility

going in on H&H Lane.

- I have included a copy of the Fire Department shift schedule. The schedule only has staff members and shift fill personnel. This schedule does not take into account the three administrative personnel, three live-in members, or volunteer members.
- Training:
  - Five members of the department will be attending the EMS symposium next week in Fairbanks.
  - EMT II training is ongoing until the end of the month.
  - Four members of the department are taking an active shooter class next week. The cost of training is paid out of SHSP grant funds.
  - All three of our Captains are taking a State of Alaska Company Officer II class next month. This is a new certification for the state and first delivery in our town.
  - Council is invited to attend the PER-356 Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) for First Care Providers class held on March 21 at the North Pole Library from noon until 5pm.
- Maintenance Report:
  - Still awaiting the new ambulance. No delivery date set.
  - The Department will be working with our auction company to auction off the 1990 Suburban and Engine 23 (1980) this year. I am including a copy of the City of North Pole's vehicle list. This is the same report that was prepared by our insurance company and presented by the Fire Department at our budget workshop last year.
  - Chief Coon thanked the Council for the small increase to the fleet fund for 2019 but this is yet another reminder that the City must be diligent about increasing fleet funds for the Fire Department and transferring any unexpended funds from 2018 into the fleet fund so we can afford to replace our rolling stock.
- **Mr. Thompson** asked if there is a state contract or anything similar for the purchase of emergency equipment when it comes to fire service. Chief Coon replied there is and the Fire Department recently used the Houston Galveston contract for the new ambulance.

**Finance, Tricia Fogarty** (Audio 26:11)

- The sales tax and mill rate chart is on the dais for you. What was put in the budget books was not correct.
- Financials are also on the dais this evening.
- **Mr. Thompson** asked about insurance for each department because going through the financials, it looks like the majority is paid at the beginning of the year. Ms. Fogarty replied that yes, insurance is paid for the year at the beginning of the year and departments can use what is left in their budget throughout the year if needed via a fiscal note or budget amendment.

**Director of City Services, Bill Butler** (Audio 31:29)

- Moose Creek Update Presentation to Council.

- **Ms. Welch** asked what options we have if we cannot get an easement from somebody. Mr. Butler replied that there mechanisms in place. We can take someone to court but we prefer not to. We prefer to work with the individuals.
- **Mr. Walley** asked if the best case scenario meant water delivery by 2022. Mr. Butler replied that the absolute best case delivery is 2020.

**Borough Representative**

None

**City Clerk's Office, Judy Binkley** (Audio 1:07:07)

- Thank you to all Council Members for submitting your APOC POFD filings on time!
- I have been working on the health insurance plan renewal and am working with our brokers to explore options to keep the plan affordable while maintaining the benefits we currently have.
- I will be on vacation for a week and a half immediately following our meeting this evening.

**ONGOING PROJECTS**

None

**CITIZENS COMMENTS – (Limited to Five (5) minutes per Citizen)** (Audio 1:10:32)

- **Jeanne Olson**, 1891 Hollowell Road, North Pole – Spoke about air quality and the ESP (electrostatic precipitators). Ms. Olson offered to do a presentation to Council at their convenience about the ESPs because there is a lot of misinformation about them but they are one of the biggest solutions to the air quality issues.
- **Jeff Bartlett**, 1170 Salina Street, North Pole – Spoke about the launch of a new church.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**Public Comment**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESTAURANT DESIGNATION PERMIT APPLICATION FOR MOODY BREWS BBQ & CATERING.** (Audio 1:32:55)

Mayor Welch introduced the application.

**Public Comment**

None

**Mr. Thompson** *moved to Approve the Restaurant Designation Permit Application for Moody Brews BBQ & Catering.*

**Seconded by Ms. Welch**

**Discussion**

**Mr. Walley** asked about the time period that the delinquent utility amount covered. Ms. Fogarty replied that is for December and January as February isn't due until the end of this month. **Mr. Walley** asked if this customer has had issues in the past. Ms. Fogarty replied she did not pull the entire history but they have been behind previously, though not this badly. **Mr. Walley** asked about their taxes. Ms. Fogarty explained that they have not filed their December or January taxes and we do not know those dollar amounts because they have not filed. About a year and a half ago, we ended up serving a cease and desist because they had not filed their taxes.

**Ms. Welch** asked if they have come forward to explain their situation or ask for assistance of any kind. Ms. Fogarty replied that they have come in and left messages for the Mayor but he has not been successful in contacting them.

**Mr. Walley** *moved to Postpone the Restaurant Designation Permit Application for Moody Brews BBQ & Catering to the April 01, 2019 Council Meeting.*

**Seconded by Ms. Welch**

**Discussion on the Postponement**

**Mr. Skipp**s asked if there was a deadline. Clerk Binkley replied that AMCO requires a response within 60 days of receipt.

**PASSED**

Yes: 6 – Skipp, Thompson, Cromer, Walley, Welch, Welch

No: 0

Absent: 1 – Isaacson

**LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL FOR MOODY BREWS BBQ & CATERING.** (Audio 1:49:11)

Mayor Welch introduced the renewal.

**Public Comment**

None

**Mr. Thompson** *moved to Not File a Protest for the Liquor License Renewal for Moody*

**Brews BBQ & Catering.**

**Seconded by Mr. Walley**

**Discussion**

**Mr. Walley moved to Postpone the Liquor License Renewal for Moody Brews BBQ & Catering to the April 01, 2019 Council Meeting.**

**Seconded by Mr. Thompson**

**Discussion on the Postponement**

None

**PASSED**

Yes: 6 – Skippis, Thompson, Cromer, Walley, Welch, Welch

No: 0

Absent: 1 – Isaacson

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

None

**Mr. Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m.**

**Seconded by Mr. Cromer**

The regular meeting of Monday, March 18, 2019 adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

**These minutes passed and approved** by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, April 01, 2019.

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Michael W. Welch, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Judy L. Binkley, City Clerk