



**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, June 03, 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, June 03, 2019 to order at 7:00 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**  
**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 June 03, 2019**

**Seconded by Mr. Skipps**

**DISCUSSION**

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

**New Business:**

- b.** Request for Approval of the City of North Pole Advertising Contract with the Fairbanks Daily Newsminer.
- c.** Request to Approve Two Authorized Signers on Behalf of the City to Create an Interest-Earning Bank Account with Mount McKinley Bank to Hold Advance Payments to the City in Support of the Moose Creek Water System Expansion Project. Further, Authorize Ms. Fogarty to Transfer the Funds to-and-from the Bank Account to Pay Project Expenses Thru the City's Central Treasury Account.

**Seconded by Mr. Skipps**

**Discussion**

None

*On the amendment*

**PASSED**

Yes: 4 – Skipps, Thompson, Welch, Welch

No: 0

Absent: 3 – Isaacson, Cromer, Walley

*On the Agenda as amended*

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

Yes: 4 – Skipps, Thompson, Welch, Welch

No: 0

Absent: 3 – Isaacson, Cromer, Walley

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mr. Thompson moved to approve the Minutes of May 13, 2019**

**Seconded by Ms. Welch**

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

Yes: 4 – Skipps, Thompson, Welch, Welch

No: 0

Absent: 3 – Isaacson, Cromer, Walley

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR** (Audio 3:27)

- May 18 – North Pole Fire Department Open House, 1100-1400.
- May 18 – North Pole Lions “Crusin with Santa,” Hotel North Pole till 1600.
- May 20 – Met with Festival Committee at NPCH 1800-1915. Our 4<sup>th</sup> of July theme will be “Winter is Coming.”
- May 21 – IGU Meeting at Key Bank to introduce Mr. Mike Miller as the new North Pole

appointee.

- May 23 – Visit FNG to pick up documents. Attended the Eielson AFB 2020 Homecoming and Welcoming Committee meeting at FNSB.
- May 23 – Follow up with George Stefan at the FNSB Planning Department over the progress of issuance of a new permit to the Pagoda. Also met with Kellan Spillman.
- May 24 – Tiger Team Meeting at FNSB 1030-1221. Short visit with Jomo Stewart of FEDCO concerning projected housing issues for North Pole in 2020.
- The next North Pole 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival Committee meets next Monday, June 10, Council Chambers at 1800.
- Proclamation: NPHS May 2019 Student of the Month – Justin Peterson.

### **COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR**

None

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

#### **Police Dept., Chief Dutra** (Audio 9:15)

- Pinning of Sgt. McBroom – Congrats.
- Stats – Larceny a little high but all unrelated calls.
- Vacation next week. I will be available by phone if needed.
- Just received our asset forfeiture check for \$38,685.20.

#### **Fire Dept., Chief Coon** (Audio 11:17)

- We are currently taking applications for a Captain position. This is an expected vacancy and we hope to have the position filled by the end of July.
- Deputy Chief Heineken is beginning the recruiting process for both live-in and volunteer firefighters.
- Department is sending medics to the moto cross track for races.
- Burn permits are still required, they are available online at [www.forestry.alaska.gov/burn](http://www.forestry.alaska.gov/burn)
- Training:
  - One member is finishing up with a Fire Service Instructor class.
  - I will be attending a class at the National Fire Academy this month.
- Maintenance Report:
  - The third out ambulance was repaired at a cost of \$2000.00.
  - The training annex has two 40-year-old forced air furnaces and one is in need of replacing before winter. We will be getting some quotes and go out to bid to replace one of them this year and budget for the other one next year.
  - No additional work has been done on the replacement vehicle for the Suburban. We expect to get quotes in July.
  - We completed hose testing early and will move on to pump and hydrant testing.

**Director of City Services, Bill Butler** (Audio 15:40)

**Building Department**

- No new building permits issued or permit applications submitted.
- IGU regasification project will likely be reduced in scope and smaller than the original planned project due to funding issues.

**Public Works**

- Summer flower plantings in progress.
- Landscape management work will now predominate PW's activities.
- Cody has hired three part-time summer help.
- At the moment all our PW vehicles are working, though Cody is researching the state contract to replace our failing 34 year-old orange pickup truck.
- **Mayor Welch** asked if the three part-time summer hires are adequate. Mr. Butler replied it is not and wanted to discuss the potential of another one for this year. **Mayor Welch** also asked if Mr. Butler was satisfied with the progress going on in City Hall for the heating problem. Mr. Butler replied that it is too soon to make a determination. We will wait and see until winter to make a judgement.

**Utility Department**

- Sulfolane settlement.
  - Water main installation is ahead of schedule: 100% of Zone 4 water mains are in the ground and Zone 3 water main installation is approaching 90%.
  - Almost 85% of eligible property owners in Zones 1 & 2 have signed up for utility accounts as of May 31.
  - Installation of customer service lines started the week of May 20 and over 20 new customers have been connected to the system.
- Moose Creek Water System Expansion Project.
  - Progressing to the 35% design documents that are due June 10.
  - The USACE has approved the process to release advance funding to the City and has approved the first advanced payment.
  - All parties are anxiously awaiting the release of the Record of Decision (ROD) – the formal approval by EPA and ADEC of the plan to provide water to Moose Creek.
  - Discussions have begun with the USACE for the construction phase cooperative agreement. USAF is looking for a decision from the City by July 15 whether willing to construct the system. Approval from the City will require two affirmative votes from the Council. The USAF needs to know by July 15 so they have time to repurpose the project funding before September 30, 2019 if the City declines to proceed with the project.

- I am planning to make a presentation to the Council at the June 17 meeting providing information on the Moose Creek project including financial issues.

**Finance, Tricia Fogarty** (Audio 24:54)

- We are working on the audit and the auditors have been requesting quite a few more reports and we touched bas last week and they have a deadline for the end of the month. I will send emails out to let Council know how to contact Gary once that is arranged so Council can speak to the auditors. Hopefully we will have this on the next agenda. They did a federal single audit this year because of the Senior Center.

**Borough Representative**

None

**City Clerk's Office, Judy Binkley** (Audio 27:22)

- I will be out of the office next week as I will be at Professional Development 2 (aka PD 2) for the Northwest Clerks Institute at the University of Puget Sound. I attended PD 1 last year and am looking forward to my continued education this year.
- The 3 local municipal clerks' offices are preparing for the Candidate Open House that will take place Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at the Borough Assembly chambers. I will let Council know what the times are once we have finalized the event.

**ONGOING PROJECTS**

None

**CITIZENS COMMENTS – (Limited to Five (5) minutes per Citizen)** (Audio 28:50)

- **Frank Turney**, 1434 Lacey Street B, Fairbanks: Spoke to affirming the Alaska statehood act on the 90% oil royalties and asked Council to sponsor a resolution.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**Public Comment**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE RENEWAL OF THE 2019-2020 CITY OF NORTH POLE HEALTHCARE PLAN.** (Audio 35:52)

Craig Kestran with RISQ Consulting introduced the renewal.

**Public Comment**

None

**Mr. Thompson *moved to Approve the Renewal of the 2019-2020 City of North Pole Healthcare Plan as Recommended by Craig Kestran.***

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

Yes: 4 – Skipps, Thompson, Welch, Welch

No: 0

Absent: 3 – Isaacson, Cromer, Walley

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

None

**Mr. Thompson *moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.***

**Seconded by Mr. Skipps**

The regular meeting of Monday, June 03, 2019 adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

**These minutes passed and approved** by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, June 17, 2019.

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Michael W. Welch, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Judy L. Binkley, City Clerk