



NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, JULY 15, 2019
NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
125 SNOWMAN LANE, NORTH POLE, ALASKA

Mayor Michael Welch called the regular City Council meeting of Monday, July 15, 2019 to order at 7:00 p.m with the following Council Members in attendance:

Council Members Present: Doug Isaacson, Mayor Pro Tem
Avery Thompson, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Perry Walley, Alt Dep Mayor Pro Tem
Aino Welch
David Skipps

Excused: DeJohn Cromer

Also Present: Judy Binkley, City Clerk/HR Manager
William Butler, Director of City Services
Geoff Coon, Fire Chief
Bill Bellant, Police Sergeant

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Welch asked everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by City Council Member Welch.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Isaacson *moved to* approve the agenda of July 15, 2019.

Seconded by Ms. Welch.

Discussion

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

Old Business:

- a. Ordinance 19-11, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to Approve Phases 1 and 2 Remedial Action Construction Cooperative Agreements with the US Army Corps of Engineers.

- b. Ordinance 19-12, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to Amend the 2019 Operating Budget and Other Funds to Purchase an Equipped Command Vehicle.

New Business:

- a. Request for Approval to Write-Off Utility Account 5776.02.
- b. Request for Approval to Move SeneGence from Monthly to Annual Filing Status.
- c. Ordinance 19-13, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole to Accept a \$10,000 Grant from the Fairbanks North Star Borough to Support Economic Development Activities in the City.

Seconded by Ms. Welch

Discussion

None

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA OF JULY 15, 2019 AS FOLLOWS:

YES: 6 – Skipps, Thompson, Isaacson, Walley, Welch, Welch

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Mayor Welch declared the MOTION CARRIED

Discussion on the agenda as amended

None

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA OF JULY 15, 2019 AS FOLLOWS:

YES: 6 – Skipps, Thompson, Isaacson, Walley, Welch, Welch

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Mayor Welch declared the MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Isaacson *moved to* **approve the Minutes of July 01, 2019.**

Seconded by Ms. Welch.

Discussion

None

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 01, 2019 AS FOLLOWS:

YES: 6 – Skipps, Thompson, Isaacson, Walley, Welch, Welch

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Mayor Welch declared the MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR (Audio 4:45)

- June 24, 2019 – Met with Alaska Economic Development Commissioner, Julie Anderson to discuss Governor Dunleavy’s plan for the state and our FNSB region. I provided her the latest and final executive version of the Salcha-Badger Corridor plan, as well a short tour of the CNP.
- June 26, 2019 – Met with Deputy Matt Fagnani of the Department of Economic Development for his overview of the state-wide plan and area specific plans for North Pole and FNSB. Provided him with the Salcha-Badger Corridor Executive Summary.
- July 2, 2019 – Met with Fred Meyer Airport Way General Manager, Randy Mitchell to establish contact with Fred Meyer to consider a store here in the 2020-2021 time frame. He will work with me through the Anchorage management before going to Oregon Headquarters. Also received a discount on a 50-inch Samsung flat screen and a gift card for the 4th of July prize raffle.
- July 4th – Had a great 4th of July celebration and parade. Started with a pancake breakfast at Santa Senior Center at 8 a.m. Judged the floats for Best Theme, Most Patriotic, and Mayor’s Choice awards. Presented Pastors Teffonie and Phillip Wyman with a proclamation honoring them as the Grand Marshalls of the 2019 CNP Parade and Festival.
- July 12, 2019 – Met with Tom Wickham and ACS state-wide account manager, Scott Johnson to inquire about a VOIP based telephone upgrade for our CNP. I should have more information by our next Council meeting in August.
- July 13, 2019 – It was a great day after all to perform the Arctic Lightning Airshow at Eielson AFB. The aerial demonstrations were quite impressive, and the crowd was estimated to be circa 13,000 strong. It sure will be nice if the next airshow comes sooner than later, as the last show was in 2008.

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR (Audio 8:42)

- **Mr. Isaacson** asked about VOIP systems and making emergency calls. **Mayor Welch** replied that the Borough is running simulated emergencies and are finding out 20% of the calls are not from where the phone says they are at. This is because when a phone is moved, it needs to be relocated electronically as well.

- **Mr. Isaacson** asked about the welcome party on August 3rd good bye party on August 8th for the sister city visitors. **Mayor Welch** replied that he would stay in touch with Council regarding the events as he is provided the information.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Police Department, Sgt. Bellant (Audio 13:25)

- We participated in the guns vs hoses game on the 4th of July.
- Officer Chris Terry's last day was yesterday. He is returning to the Troopers.
- Officer James Kuplack is headed out to the academy soon for a few months so technically we're down two officers but only down one position.

Fire Department, Chief Coon (Audio 18:12)

- The Lieutenant position has closed and we have seven applicants for the position.
- The Fire Department set up a public education booth at the air show. Our members distributed fire prevention education materials, volunteer applications, and signed up more community members on Pulsepoint.
- The Department received praise at the Interior Fire Chief's Association meeting for signing up 80 new people on the Pulsepoint app at our Open House last May.
- Department is continuing to send medics to the moto cross track for races.
- Engine 23 did sell at the auction but we do not know how much it went for yet. We are continuing to clean up and will probably have one more load of file cabinets and some out dated fire equipment to go to the auction this summer.
- Training:
 - We have some members assisting with the UAF/CTC academy. We are preparing for our own FF-1 class this September.
- Maintenance Report:
 - It has been determined that we are unable to repair our two leaking steering gear boxes in-house and we will be sending them in one at a time for repairs to Kenworth.

Director of City Services, Bill Butler (Audio 29:42)

Building Department

- One new residential building permit application submitted, plans submitted for two 4-plexes on Cross Way.
- One residential building permit issued.
- Over \$5.5 million of new construction permitted or in process of permitting.
 - Removed IGU regasification project (\$9 million) from list of active projects.

Public Works

- Hired a new temporary summer hire thanks to the Council approving a budget modification. Lost one summer hire to the Fire Department.
- Authorization to accept the \$10,000 Economic Development Grant from the FNSB is before the Council this evening.
- FAST Planning repaving project of 5th Avenue largely completed.

Utility Department

- Sulfolane settlement.
 - Approximately 90 new customers have been connected to the system to date.
- Moose Creek Water System Expansion Project.
 - Second vote on cooperative agreements for the construction of the Moose Creek Water System Expansion is before Council this evening.
 - Public Open House on Wednesday, July 24 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM to be held at the Moose Creek Fire House; Mayor and all City Council members are invited to attend.

City Clerk, Judy Binkley (Audio 38:05)

- The three local municipal clerks’ offices will be participating in Golden days this year with our new “Vote Local” campaign. We will be passing out candy and “Vote Local” swag. Golden Days is Saturday, July 20th.
- The Candidate Filing period opened today and the information is on our website. The unofficial candidate list is on the website and I will keep that updated. The filing period will run through 5pm Monday, July 29th.
- **Ms. Welch** asked if any candidates have filed yet. City Clerk Binkley replied Thomas McGhee filed this afternoon.

ONGOING PROJECTS

None

CITIZEN’S COMMENTS – (Limited to Five (5) minutes per Citizen

None

OLD BUSINESS

Consented

Public Comment

None

NEW BUSINESS

REQUEST TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICE FOR THE MOOSE CREEK WATER SYSTEM

EXPANSION PROJECT AS PART OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OWNER AND ENGINEER FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITH PDC ENGINEERS.

Mr. Butler introduced the request.

Public Comment

None

Mr. Isaacson *moved to Approve the Amendment to Provide Construction Management Service for the Moose Creek Water System Expansion Project as Part of the Agreement Between Owner and Engineer for Professional Services with PDC Engineers.*

Seconded *by Ms. Welch*

Discussion

None

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICE FOR THE MOOSE CREEK WATER SYSTEM EXPANSION PROJECT AS PART OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OWNER AND ENGINEER FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITH PDC ENGINEERS AS FOLLOWS:

YES: - 6 – Skipp, Thompson, Isaacson, Walley, Welch, Welch

NO: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Mayor Welch declared the MOTION CARRIED

COUNCIL COMMENTS

None

Mr. Isaacson *moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.*

Seconded *by Mr. Thompson.*

The regular meeting of Monday, July 15, 2019 adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, August 05, 2019.

Michael W. Welch, Mayor

ATTEST:

Judy L. Binkley, City Clerk