



NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 1, 2020  
NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
125 SNOWMAN LANE, NORTH POLE, ALASKA

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Mayor Welch called the regular City Council meeting of Monday, June 1, 2020 to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following Council Members in attendance:

Council Members Present: Santa Claus  
Thomas McGhee  
David Skipps  
Aino Welch  
Mayor Welch  
Perry Walley

Absent: DeJohn Cromer

Excused:

Also Present: Tricia Fogarty, Chief Financial Officer  
Steve Dutra, Police Chief  
Kim Kiehl, City Clerk/HR Manager  
Geoff Coon, Fire Chief  
Chad Heineken, Deputy Fire Chief  
Kurt Lockwood, Detective

**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 Mr. Walley.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Mr. McGhee moved to approve the agenda of June 1, 2020.**

**Seconded by Mr. Walley.**

**Discussion**

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

**Old Business:**

- a. Ordinance 20-12, An Ordinance of the North Pole City Council to Establish the Rate of Tax Levy of 2020 Real Property of the City of North Pole.

**New Business:**

- a. Request to Approve the ALMR FY21 Membership Agreement for the City of North Pole.
- c. Request to Approve the Fire Mutual Aid Agreement.
- d. Request to Approve the Forestry Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement.
- f. Resolution 20-05, A Resolution of the North Pole City Council Designating City Officials Authorization to Sign on City of North Pole Accounts.

**Seconded by Mr. Skippis.**

**Discussion**

Remove New Business Agenda Item “e.” Ordinance 20-13, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska Amending Title 2, Administration and Personnel, Section 2.36.400 Holidays.

*On the amendment.*

**PASSED**

YES: 6 – Mr. McGhee, Mr. Skippis, Mr. Claus, Mrs. Welch, Mr. Walley, Mayor Welch

NO: 0

ABSTAIN:

**Mayor Welch** declared the MOTION CARRIED

*On the Agenda as amended.*

**Discussion**

None

**PASSED**

YES: 6 – Mr. McGhee, Mr. Skippis, Mr. Claus, Mrs. Welch, Mr. Walley, Mayor Welch

NO: 0

ABSTAIN:

**Mayor Welch** declared the MOTION CARRIED

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mrs. Welch** *moved to approve the Minutes of May 18, 2020*

**Seconded by Mr. Skippis.**

**Discussion**

None

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 18, 2020 AS FOLLOWS:

YES: 6 – Mr. McGhee, Mr. Skippis, Mr. Claus, Mrs. Welch, Mr. Walley, Mayor Welch

NO: 0

ABSTAIN:

**Mayor Welch** declared the MOTION CARRIED

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

- a. Eielson Air Force Base Economic Impact Statement.
- b. Explore Fairbanks request for CARES Act funds.
- c. Meeting with FNSB Mayor Ward regarding CARES Act.
  - a. Common Contract Service Provider without abrogating our rights as a political subdivision.
  - b. FNSB Assembly meeting June 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. Mr. Claus discussed liability matters.
  - d. Mr. McGhee indicated he will have questions at the June 15<sup>th</sup> Council meeting regarding how much participation we might anticipate from businesses and residents under our utilities within the City.
  - e. Request for Board members to be on a committee.

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

- a. Mr. McGhee requested the Mayor pay Madam CFO for the reimbursement he was provided for a computer he purchased on his personal card and then returned.

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

#### **Police Department, Chief Dutra**

- Department is doing well – below budget projections.
- Hired one officer, will start June 10<sup>th</sup>. Second officer should start in a couple days.
- RFP – ITF has been awarded and Notice to Proceed has been given.
- Long has started wiring installation for camera systems in City Hall and NPPD.
- Stats ending May 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - Total Calls – 366
- RFP for range is complete and initial site locating has begun. DOWL from Anchorage has won the bid.
- June 6<sup>th</sup> from 10-1 we will be working on dirt and grass at NP Memorial Park. Please join us with a shovel and rake if you would like to help. Please RSVP if you plan on helping.
- Replaced water heater since the on-demand system went down again.
- Skateboard park – working to see about a camera set-up to help keep lid on things.

#### **Finance, Tricia Fogarty**

- Uploaded Sales Tax for April, YTD this year over last up \$79,000.00.
- Onboarding call with Clear.Gov
  - Set up timeline, up and running by mid to late July.

- KSH here tomorrow for second time.
  - Looking at grant files and Moose Creek project.
  - Please answer email.
- Sorry to see City Clerk to leave.

**Fire Department, Chief Coon**

- Fire danger is moderate and burning is allowed.
- 557 emergency calls this year, average of 3.6 per day.
- Alaska has had 467 COVID-19 cases with 368 total recovered, 10 deaths.
  - FNSB are has had 85 total cases (unchanged from last report).
- Please continue to work on the ICS classes.
- The Command truck is scheduled to be done in August.
- NPDF is fully staffed at this time.
  - Request the Council to look at and revise the pay scale.
- Training – One member completed their FF-2 testing and is awaiting results.
- Maintenance Report – Half way done with testing over 200 fire hydrants.

Mr. McGhee – Task Chief Coon and Chief Dutra to bring pay recommendations to next meeting.

**Borough Representative**

- Mrs. Welch – No Borough meeting attended since first meeting of the month.
- Gave report for the Economic Development Commission meeting attended on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

**City Clerk**

- Open enrollment June 1-20, 2020.
  - Email to all staff May 27, 2020 providing information and required forms.
  - Changes go into effect July 1, 2020.
- Mr. Claus – Reads letter addressed to Madam Clerk into the record.

**ONGOING PROJECTS**

- Mayor Welch discussed IGU regarding gas line.
  - IGU representative here for July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

- Steve Dutra, 125 Snowman Ln North Pole AK 99705
  - Thank you to City Clerk.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- b. Request to Approve the Borough Ambulance Contract.

**MOTION TO APPROVE REQUEST TO APPROVE THE BOROUGH AMBULANCE CONTRACT.**

**Mr. McGhee moved to Approve the Request to Approve the Borough Ambulance Contract.**

**Seconded by Mrs. Welch.**

**Discussion**

- Discussion was held regarding the request to approve the Borough ambulance contract.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO APPROVE THE BOROUGH AMBULANCE CONTRACT.

YES: 3 –Mrs. Welch, Mr. Walley, Mayor Welch

NO: 3 – Mr. McGhee, Mr. Skipps, Mr. Claus

ABSTAIN:

**Mayor Welch** declared the MOTION FAILED.

**Council Comments**

Mr. McGhee, Mr. Skipps, Mr. Walley, Mr. Claus, and Mrs. Welch thanked the outgoing City Clerk.

**Mr. McGhee** *moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m.*

**Seconded by Mr. Walley.**

The regular meeting of Monday, June 1, 2020 adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

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Michael W. Welch, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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, City Clerk