



NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, July 20, 2020
NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
125 SNOWMAN LANE, NORTH POLE, ALASKA

Mayor Welch called the regular City Council meeting of Monday, July 20, 2020 to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following Council Members in attendance:

Council Members Present: Santa Claus
Thomas McGhee
David Skippis
Aino Welch
DeJohn Cromer – Attending Via Zoom
Perry Walley
Mayor Welch

Absent:

Excused:

Also Present: William Butler, Director of City Services
Tricia Fogarty, Chief Financial Officer
Steve Dutra, Police Chief
Aaron M. Rhoades, Temporary City Clerk/HR Manager
Geoff Coon, Fire Chief

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 Mrs. Welch.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Walley *moved to* approve the agenda of July 20, 2020.

Seconded by Mrs. Welch.

Discussion

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

Old Business:

None

New Business:

- a. Request for Lateral Hire to North Pole Police Department
- b. Ordinance 20-14 An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to Amend the 2019 Water

Utility Operating Budget

e. Request to Approve the Recommendation to Authorize Hubbard Excavation to do \$23,704.00 of Road Patch Work.

Seconded by Mrs. Welch

Discussion

None

On the amendment.

PASSED

YES: 7 – Mr. McGhee, Mr. Skipp, Mr. Claus, Mrs. Welch, Mr. Cromer, Mr. Walley Mayor Welch

NO: 0

ABSTAIN:

Mayor Welch declared the MOTION CARRIED

On the Agenda as amended.

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES: 7 – Mr. McGhee, Mr. Skipp, Mr. Claus, Mrs. Welch, Mr. Cromer, Mr. Walley Mayor Welch

NO: 0

ABSTAIN:

Mayor Welch declared the MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes were lost due to technology failure and power outage. Working on recovery

Discussion

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

- a. July 7, 2020 Met with Secretary of the USAF, Dr. Barbara Barrett with U.S. Senators Sullivan and Murkowski, and Lt. Gen Krumm.
- b. July 8, 2020 Change of Command at EAFB 354th LRS with outgoing Commander Lt. Col. Derick Williamson and incoming Commander Major Adam Starkey.
- c. July 14, 2020 Energy for Alaska Task Force Zoom meeting.
- d. July 15, 2020 Three Mayors Zoom Meeting
- e. July 15, 2020 Fast Planning Policy Meeting
- f. July 17, 2020 FNSB Mayor Bryce Ward Discussion about CARES Act MOU.
- g. July 17 KSH Met with Gary Hutcheson about Mayor's response to recommendations to increase accounting staff. Will have response ready no later than July 22, 2020.
- h. July 18, 2020 Saturday KJNP Over the Coffee Cup Call-In 0810-0835
- i. July 18, 2020 Update on Status of City Hall Screens and Cares Act

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

Mr. Walley– Would the screens be part of the Covid – 19 Grant?

Mayor Welch – Yes it will.

Mrs. Welch – What happened to the idea of the screen hanging down in the middle?

Mayor Welch – There were safety issues with the potential of people hitting their heads.

Mr. Walley – What about the zoom camera?

Mayor Welch – Yes we discussed two cameras and the cost was around \$12,000 dollars. The 85 inch screen may not have the resolution to see it all the way on the back wall.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Building Department, Bill Butler

- Two residential building permits issued.
- One permit application for a 4-plex submitted and anticipate permit application for a 3-plex.
- Tanks are being moved from Fairbanks to the North Pole IGU site.

Public Works

- Public Works activities continue to focus on landscaping efforts.
- Request to fund asphalt patching contract is on tonight's agenda.

Utility Department

- Utility Department is engaged in routine summer maintenance—lift station cleaning, exercising valves, supporting Moose Creek project activities.

North Pole Expansion Project

- Of the 479 possible connections in Zones 3 & 4, 436 (91%) have applied for service.
- 200 (46%) of new account applications' services have been installed in Zones 3 & 4.

Moose Creek Water System Expansion Project.

- High groundwater in Moose Creek is slowly dropping.
- Areas with deep excavations are still a problem when in PFAS contaminated area.
 - Requesting EPA & DEC to approve alternative means to dispose of de-watering water.
 - Water tank is erected.
 - Pump house is roofed and interior work has begun.
 - Installing water mains in the northern section of Moose Creek
 - DNR Critical Water Management public meeting was held on July 14.
 - 16 Moose creek property owners attended.

City Services Office Space

- Released request for proposals on July 10.
- Bid submission date currently set of August 3.

Finance, Tricia Fogarty

- AML Investment Fund has declined considerably in the last several months
- Received a notice form insurance up our collateral accounts to \$30,000

- Need direction on the Clerk Position. 1 application

Fire Department, Deputy Chief Heineken

Fire Department report to council 7-20-20

(Submitted on 7-16-20)

Chief Coon updated the council on Fire Department activities.

- Fire danger not included due to early submittal.
- We have gone on 731 emergency calls this year. We are averaging 3.6 calls per day.
- Alaska has had 1693 Covid-19 cases with 688 total recovered and 17 deaths.
- The FNSB area has had 317 cases total.
 - These numbers are sent out daily from Alaska Department of Health and Social Services.
- Please continue to work on those three ICS classes. Instruction sheet attached.
- The new Command truck is scheduled to be done in August.
- Immunization clinic July 16th at North Pole Fire Department

has been cancelled . Training:

- Two members working through their FADO (fire apparatus driver operator) certificate training.
- We are just over a month away from starting a state of Alaska FFI class.
- A hybrid online and in person EMT basic class is on the schedule. See Deputy Chief Heineken if you have anyone that would like to volunteer and get training.

Maintenance Report:

- No change with the leak with the Platform. Still waiting to get it in the shop for repairs and maintenance.

Pay Scale Project and Recommendation:

Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions related to the pay scale or anything discussed at the workshop.

Geoffrey L. Coon Fire Chief

Memo

To: North Pole City
Council From: Chief
Coon
Date: 4/2/20



Re: NIMS compliance and FD briefing

In order for the city of North Pole to be in compliance with grant funding and Emergency Management guidelines all Council members must complete the three classes listed on this page. First get a FEMA SID number- then take the classes. Bring a copy of your cert to the city clerk for your records.

Directi
ons

You need a FEMA SID number in order to take the quiz. Please begin by clicking on <https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid> Click on the blue tab at the top of the page that is marked Register for a FEMA SID and follow the instructions.

It is important to save your SID Number as you will probably use it again if you stay in public service. Now take the classes.

IS-100 All Personnel

1. GO TO: <https://emilms.fema.gov/IS0100c/curriculum/1.html>
2. There are left and right arrows at the bottom of the page to guide you to the end of the course
3. After taking course, scroll down to: **Take Final Exam**

IS-800.c Council Members

1. GO TO <https://emilms.fema.gov/IS.800c/curriculum/1.html>
2. There are left and right arrows at the bottom of the page to guide you to the end of the course
3. After taking course, scroll down to: **Take Final Exam**

IS-908 Emergency Management for Senior Officials

1. GO TO: <https://emilms.fema.gov/150908/curriculum/1.html>
2. There are left and right arrows at the bottom of the page to guide you to the end of the course
3. After taking course, scroll down to: **Take Final Exam**

Any questions contact the Fire Chief.

Geoff Coon Fire Chief

Police Department, Chief Dutra

- Incredible amount of support still pouring in thanking our officers for the work they do. One officer stopped 3 times in one hour by motorists. Officers from other jurisdictions putting in applications based on our Facebook.
- Tent pitching - complaints
- June Stats –
- Police Magazine has asked to do an article on our department
- Hiring still down 3 positions causing enormous issues due to max vacation hours for several
- Vehicle – cost reduction proposals coming
- VFW / AACOP Raffle for a rifle – see me if you are interested

Borough Representative

None

City Clerk

- AML Conference VIA Zoom Welch and Claus
- Election issues. If City is closed where will Citizen vote?
- Open Meetings Act requires 5 Days Notice. New Deadline for Agenda Items Tuesday.
 - A thorough discussion followed about what possible alternatives could work for voting.

ONGOING PROJECTS

None

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

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUISNESS

- c. Ordinance 20-15 An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska Amending Title 2, Chapter 2.36 Personnel Code, Section. 470 Pay
- d. Ordinance 20-16 An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to Oppose Passage of Legislation that Would Restrict Individual Rights Protected by the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution and Declaring the City of North Pole a Second Amendment Sanctuary

MOTION TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE 20-15, AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL AMENDING TITLE 2, CHAPTER 2.36 PERSONNEL CODE, SECTION. 470 PAY

Mr. McGhee *moved to Postpone till August 3, 2020.*

Seconded by Mrs. Welch.

Discussion

- Discussion was held regarding the request to approve Ordinance 20-15.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE 20-15, AN ORDINANCE OF THE NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL AMENDING TITLE 2, CHAPTER 2.36 PERSONNEL CODE, SECTION. 470 PAY:

YES: 7 – Mr. McGhee, Mr. Skipps, Mr. Walley, Mr. Claus, Mrs. Welch, Mr. Cromer, Mayor Welch

NO: 0

ABSTAIN:

Mayor Welch declared the MOTION CARRIED

MOTION TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE 20-16, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA TO OPPOSE PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION THAT WOULD RESTRICT INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS PROTECTED BY THE SECOND AMENDMENT OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION AND DECLARING THE CITY OF NORTH POLE A SECOND AMENDMENT SANCTUARY

Mr. McGhee *moved to Approve Ordinance 20-16.*

Seconded by Mrs. Welch.

Discussion

- Discussion was held regarding the request to approve Ordinance 20-16.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE 20-16, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA TO OPPOSE PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION THAT WOULD RESTRICT INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS PROTECTED BY THE SECOND AMENDMENT OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION AND DECLARING THE CITY OF NORTH POLE A SECOND AMENDMENT SANCTUARY

YES: 7 – Mr. McGhee, Mr. Skipps, Mr. Walley, Mrs. Welch, Mayor Welch

NO: 0 - Mr. Claus, Mr. Cromer

ABSTAIN:

Mayor Welch declared the MOTION CARRIED

Mr. McGhee *moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m.*

Seconded by Mrs. Welch

The regular meeting of Monday, July 20, 2020 adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Michael W. Welch, Mayor

ATTEST:

Aaron M. Rhoades, City Clerk