



Special City Council Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

A special meeting of the North Pole City Council was held on Monday, December 22, 2021 via Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Welch called the special City Council meeting of Monday, December 22, 2021, to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present:

Michael Welch – Mayor
Santa Claus - Mayor Pro Tem
Aino Welch – Alternate Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Thomas McGhee
Anton Keller
David Skippis

Late:

DeJohn Cromer - Deputy Mayor Pro Tem

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG

Led by Mayor Welch

INVOCATION

Given by Ms. Welch

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McGhee *moved to* approve the agenda of December 22, 2021

Seconded *by* Ms. Welch

On the amendment

DISCUSSION

None

PASSED

Yes: 6 – A. Welch, Claus, Keller, McGhee, Skippis, Welch

No: 0

Late: Cromer

CITIZENS COMMENTS – (Limited to Five (5) minutes per Citizen)

- None

NEW BUSINESS

a. Resolution 21-11, A Resolution to Establish the 2021 City of North Pole Bed Tax Grant Distribution

Mr. McGhee *moved* to introduce Resolution 21-11

Seconded *by* Mr. Claus/Ms. Welch

DISCUSSION

- Mr. McGhee wanted to point out the NPCCC has not done anything within the city for almost years. They also did not provide any details on how they spent last years funds that were earmarked for their visitor’s cabin. Mr. McGhee feels because they did not meet the criteria for last year’s funds, that NPCCC is not eligible for this years funds.
- Mr. Claus agreed with this assessment.
- The Mayor also agreed that NPCCC did not properly spend last years money and he believes that they are not showing a path forward. He explained how the committee came up with the \$4255.61 that they had agreed to give to NPCCC. He also feels that the city should look into possibly recouping last years funds from them.

Mr. McGhee *moved* to amend Resolution 21-11

Seconded *by* Mr. Claus

Mr. McGhee would like to change the total on line 25 given to NPCCC to \$0 and to add the \$4255.61 to Explore Fairbanks making their total \$34,635.61.

On the amendment as amended

DISCUSSION

None

FAILED

Yes: 0

No: A. Welch, Claus, Keller, McGhee, Skippis, Welch

b. Resolution 21-12, A Resolution to Distribute CARES ACT Funds to Love, Inc. and KJNP

Mr. Claus *moved* to introduce Resolution 21-12

Seconded *by* Mr. McGhee/Ms. Welch

DISCUSSION

- Love, Inc. and KJNP both spoke about the need for the additional CARES Act Funds. They submitted letters and financial statements as back up to the requests.
- Mr. McGhee gave a brief history of the CARES Act when it was in front of the Council previously. He feels that Love, Inc. poorly handled some of the CARES Act Funds that they had received. He also said that previously there was a Resolution that passed that was going to divide the remaining money in the funds between all the citizens of NP. Due to lack of support in the ability to properly do this, that resolution was rescinded. He said that the city did not do anything with the money for an entire year due to a variety of reasons. He shared with the Council that he had gotten a list of all the current, active businesses in the City of North Pole, what they were and who they were. The list included restaurants, daycares and the 2 locally owned firework stands. His criteria for this list were businesses that he knew were affected by COVID. He also took out any businesses that had a drive thru.

Mr. McGhee *moved* to amend Resolution 21-12

To remove from line 17 '\$84,000 to Love, In. and \$48,000 to KJNP' and changing it to distribute the \$132,000 equally to the 31 businesses on the list provided adding in KJNP and Love, Inc., equaling \$4,000 each. Also removing from line 20 'KJNP and Love, Inc.' and changing it to 'the City of North Pole's businesses'.

The amendment received no second.

On the amendment

DISCUSSION

None

FAILED

Yes: A. Welch, Claus, Keller, Cromer, Skipps, Welch

No: McGhee

COUNCIL COMMENTS

The council wished everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Mr. McGhee *moved* to adjourn

Seconded *by* Mr. Skipps

The special meeting of Wednesday, December 22, 2021 adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Wednesday, December 22, 2021.

ATTEST:

Melissa Dionne, City Clerk