



NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 16, 2021
NORTH POLE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
125 SNOWMAN LANE, NORTH POLE, ALASKA

Mayor Welch called the regular City Council meeting of Monday, February 16, 2021 to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following Council Members in attendance:

Council Members Present: Mayor Welch – Zooming In
Santa Claus - Zooming In
Thomas McGhee - Zooming In
David Skipps - Zooming In
Aino Welch - Zooming In
DeJohn Cromer - Zooming In
Perry Walley – Zooming In

Absent:

Excused:

Also Present: Steve Dutra, Police Chief – Zooming In
Chad Heineken, Fire Chief – Zooming In
William Butler, Director of City Services– Abs/Exc
Tricia Fogarty, Chief Financial Officer – Abs/Exc
Aaron M. Rhoades, City Clerk/HR Manager – Zooming In

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Clerk Rhoades asked everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

The Invocation was given by Mr. Walley.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McGhee moved to approve the agenda of February 16, 2021.

Seconded by Mrs. Welch

Seconded by Mrs. Welch

Discussion

None

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMMENDED:

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

NO: 0

ABSTAIN:

Mayor Welch declared the MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. McGhee *moved to approve the Minutes of February 1, 2020.*

Seconded by Mrs. Welch

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

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

NO: 0

ABSTAIN:

Mayor Welch declared the MOTION CARRIED

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

- Joel Denham February 2021 North Pole High School Student of the Month
- Refinery Lounge Re-Opened by Benny Lin

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

- Mr. Claus asked if progress had been made on the City Manager position description and Form of Government.
 - Mayor Welch explained that he had been working on this and was going to meet with the City Attorney.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Police Department, Chief Dutra

- None

Fire Department, Chief Heineken

- COVID update.
 - Most FD staff are past the second dose of COVID Vaccination. Although we still have risk of exposure to COVID positive patients, being vaccinated now leaves the fire department less vulnerable.
 - The eligibility for vaccination has expanded recently, more City employees are now eligible. You can check eligibility at covidvax.alaska.gov
- Open Firefighter Position
 - Firefighter Calla Westcott has taken a position with a local clinic, this move will help her meet her career goals of becoming a registered nurse. FF Westcott has been a great employee and we wish her well.
 - The open Firefighter position was immediately posted, and we are currently in the process of testing and interviews to find qualified individuals for the position.
- Captain/Training officer Position
 - Application period has closed and we are in the process of testing and interviews. Both the Firefighter and Captain position should be filled within the next month.
- The Fire Department will have two items that will be on the March 1st agenda and would like to make council aware of these upcoming agenda items.
 - The Fire Department through its relationship with the International Fire Chiefs Association qualifies for using SourceWell cooperative purchasing to order a new fire department Pumper/Tanker. The use of this cooperative purchasing contract will be of benefit for North Pole by making the process more efficient and cost effective.
 - The ventilation System for the fire department has been evaluated by three different contractors to determine the best procedure for replacement or repairs. We will have a proposal and recommendation on the March 1st agenda for council approval.

City Services, Bill Butler

- None

Finance, Tricia Fogarty

- None

Borough Representative

- None

City Clerk

- Provided Total Compensation Project Committee more information on benefits.
- Continue to learn Clerk Role. Figured out number for Online Sales Tax Code Change.

- Working with insurance Broker RISQ to ensure City gets value for Benefits being offered.

ONGOING PROJECTS

- Total Compensation Project Committee Meeting Report
 - I. Municipal Solutions Inc. was approved for additional work not to exceed \$10,800.00 regarding job descriptions and classification system.
- NPPD Covid Processing/Decontamination Facility
- Alaska Housing and Finance Corporation Renter Assistance Program

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

- None

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION TO INTRODUCE AND ADVANCE ORDINANCE 21 – 01 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA TO AMEND TITLE 4 REVENUE AND FINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE'S CODE BY ADOPTING SECTION 4.08.200 – 4.08.500 THE UNIFORM ALASKA REMOTE SELLERS TAX CODE

Mr. McGhee *moved to* Introduce and Advance Ordinance 21 – 01 An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska to Amend Title 4 Revenue and Finance of the City of North Pole's Code by Adopting Section 4.08.200 – 4.08.500 The Uniform Alaska Remote Sellers Tax Code.

Seconded by Mrs. Welch

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO INTRODUCE AND ADVANCE ORDINANCE 21 – 01 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA TO AMEND TITLE 4 REVENUE AND FINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE'S CODE BY ADOPTING SECTION 4.08.200 – 4.08.500 THE UNIFORM ALASKA REMOTE SELLERS TAX CODE:

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

NO: 0

ABSTAIN:

Mayor Welch declared the MOTION CARRIED

A MOTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION 21 – 02 A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO INTRODUCE A BALLOT MEASURE FOR THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA TO EXERCISE THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO VOTE ON TERM LIMITS FOR ALASKA STATE REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS

Mr. Walley *moved to Amend Resolution 21 – 02 A Resolution Encouraging the Alaska State Legislature to Introduce a Ballot Measure for the People of Alaska to Exercise Their Constitutional Right to Vote on Term Limits for Alaska State Representatives and Senators.*

Seconded by Mrs. Welch

Amend Line 26 by removing “Senator Murkowski, Senator Sullivan, Representative Young” and replacing it with “Senator Mike Meyers and Representative Mike Prax”

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION 21 – 02 A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO INTRODUCE A BALLOT MEASURE FOR THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA TO EXERCISE THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO VOTE ON TERM LIMITS FOR ALASKA STATE REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS:

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

NO: 0

ABSTAIN:

Mayor Welch declared the MOTION CARRIED

A MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 21 – 02 A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO INTRODUCE A BALLOT MEASURE FOR THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA TO EXERCISE THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO VOTE ON TERM LIMITS FOR ALASKA STATE REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS

Mr. Walley *moved to Approve Resolution 21 – 02 A Resolution Encouraging the Alaska State Legislature to Introduce a Ballot Measure for the People of Alaska to Exercise Their Constitutional Right to Vote on Term Limits for Alaska State Representatives and Senators.*

Seconded by Mrs. Welch

Discussion

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 21 – 02 A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE TO INTRODUCE A BALLOT MEASURE FOR THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA TO EXERCISE THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO VOTE ON TERM LIMITS FOR ALASKA STATE REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS:

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

NO: 0

ABSTAIN:

Mayor Welch declared the MOTION CARRIED

Mr. McGhee *moved to Adjourn*

The regular meeting of Tuesday, February 16, 2021 adjourned at 8:01p.m.

Michael Welch, Mayor

ATTEST:

Aaron M. Rhoades, City Clerk