



# CITY OF NORTH POLE *Alaska*

## REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING Monday, March 3, 2014

**Committee of the Whole – 6:30 p.m.**  
**Regular City Council Meeting – 7:00 p.m.**

**MAYOR**

Bryce Ward 888-4444

**CITY CLERK**

Kathy Weber, MMC 488-8583

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Michael Welch- <i>Mayor Pro Tem</i>	488-5834
Sharron Hunter- <i>Dep Mayor Pro Tem</i>	488-4282
Elizabeth Holm – <i>Alt Dep Mayor Pro Tem</i>	488-6125
Kevin McCarthy-	590-0800
Thomas McGhee-	455-0010
Preston Smith -	488-8824

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag**  
*National Anthem sung by NPMS –*
3. **Invocation**
4. **Approval of the Agenda**
5. **Approval of the Minutes**
6. **Communications from the Mayor**
7. **Council Member Questions of the Mayor**
8. **Communications from Department Heads, Borough Representative and the City Clerk**

**9. Ongoing Projects Report**

**10. Citizens Comments (Limited to Five (5) minutes per Citizen)**

**11. Old Business**

**12. New Business**

- a. Ordinance 14-02, An Ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska amending Title 4, Chapter 4.10.010, User Fees
- b. Resolution 14-06, An ordinance of the of the City of North Pole accepting a maintenance agreement between the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities and the City of North Pole for thirty two decorative streetlights on Badger Road and Santa Claus Lane

**13. Council Comments**

**14. Adjournment**

*The City of North Pole will provide an interpreter at City Council meetings for hearing impaired individuals. The City does require at least 48 hours' notice to arrange for this service. All such requests are subject to the availability of an interpreter. All City Council meetings are recorded on CD. These CD's are available for listening or duplication at the City Clerk's Office during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or can be purchased for \$5.00 per CD. The City Clerk's Office is located in City Hall, 125 Snowman Lane, North Pole, Alaska.*

**Committee of the Whole – 6:30 P.M.  
Regular City Council Meeting – 7:00 P.M.**

A regular meeting of the North Pole City Council was held on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 125 Snowman Lane, North Pole, Alaska.

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Mayor Ward called the regular City Council meeting of Tuesday, February 18, 2014 to order at 7:00 p.m.

***There were present:***

**Ms. Holm  
Ms. Hunter  
Mr. McCarthy  
Mr. McGhee  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Welch  
Mayor Ward**

***Absent/Excused***

**Excused - Juneau**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE U.S. FLAG**

Led by Mayor Ward

**INVOCATION**

Invocation was given by Councilman McGhee

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Mr. McGhee *moved to* Approve the Agenda of February 18, 2014**

**Seconded *by* Mr. Smith**

**Discussion**

None

**Mr. McGhee *moved to* amend the agenda as follows:**

New Business – remove item

- a.** Ordinance 14-02, An ordinance of the City of North Pole, Alaska amending Title 4, Chapter 4.10.010, User Fees

New Business – consent

- b.** Resolution 14-04, A resolution requesting a State capital projects appropriation to address an act of nature that has caused the City of North

Pole Utility Department to be in violation of its Alaska Pollutant Discharge  
Elimination System permit

**Seconded by Mr. Smith**

**On the amendment**

**PASSED**

YES – 6 –Smith, Holm, McCarthy, Hunter, McGhee, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 1-Welch

**On the Agenda as amended**

**PASSED**

YES – 6 –Smith, Holm, McCarthy, Hunter, McGhee, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 1-Welch

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Ms. Hunter moved to Approve the minutes of February 18, 2014**

**Seconded by Ms. Holm**

**Discussion**

Ms. Hunter wanted her comments corrected under Council Comments pertaining to the National Anthem.

**PASSED**

YES – 6 –Smith, Holm, McCarthy, Hunter, McGhee, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 1-Welch

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR**

Mark your calendar for Muffins with the Mayor this week! As always the date is the third Friday of the Month from 8-10 AM at North Pole City Hall.

After discussions with Madam Clerk we have discussed calling committee of the whole meetings earlier if the agenda looks full. The idea is to make sure that the council has enough fact-finding time to gather information before we enter into discussion during the meeting. Please check your agendas to see if the Committee of the whole will start at 6 or 6:30.

Councilmen Mike Welch is in Juneau for the AML winter session as the North Pole representative. As the Mayor Pro Tem he will be meeting with the interior delegation and going over our capital request. We are doing something special this year by sending a video with Mike for our legislators, to explain the reason for our request and show what it will do for the city. You can find the videos on youtube, if you would like a link just send a request to either myself or the Clerk.

The announcement of the closure of Flint Hills Resources has been a troubling announcement and my heart goes out to the families affected by this action. The City has begun to quantify the effects a shutdown will have on the City's ability to provide its services and of the effects on the general fund revenue. Property tax projections are not susceptible in 2014, however long-term devaluation of the refinery may occur if it is not operational or if it is dismantled. The staff and I have compiled a list of questions regarding taxation and the use of utilities and have forwarded them on to FHR.

Flint Hills spokesperson Jeff Cook has responded to our questions stating:  
Tue 2/11/2014 2:33 PM

Mayor Ward,

Thank you for the questions. As you can imagine, we are in the beginning process of working on many of the details you asked about in your attachment. Only a very few employees were aware of the plan to shut down the refinery until the announcement last week, and that decision was not agreed upon only a short time before making the public announcement. So this path forward is very new to all of us at the refinery. It will probably be two months before we can sit down with you and your staff to give meaningful answers to the majority of your questions. The issues we will need to discuss in two months are:

- The questions on our seven utility accounts.
- Information on the IPP questions.
- Expected date wastewater flow will stop.
- The building permit to blast-proof our maintenance building.

**As to the question on Flint Hills paying for Sulfolane tests of City drinking water wells, our reply is:** *"We have enjoyed a cooperative relationship with the City of North Pole and in the spirit of that cooperative relationship we plan to continue our testing until the parties responsible for the contamination step up and assume their obligations."*

*On the question on devaluation of the refinery: “We have not yet considered the property tax implications of shutting down the refinery.”*

*I believe I have addresses all the questions you submitted. Let me know if I have missed something. Feel free to contact me around mid-April and we will set-up a meeting with your staff and our staff to discuss your questions when we will have more meaningful information to respond to those questions. Thank you.*

*Jeff Cook*

I was asked to speak at the National History Day fair at the Pioneer Park on February 13<sup>th</sup>. It was a great experience talking to almost 300 students many who went to some of the same schools I did and even had the same teachers. I left the students with this thought. “Today you learn about history, tomorrow you will be making it”.

Last Monday I was able to celebrate with FCVB the 10 year anniversary of Japan Airlines routes to Fairbanks (direct). Year to date Japan Airlines has brought over 56,000 guests to the interior.

I was asked to sit on the Fairbanks Chamber ad-hoc committee on the Flint Hills closure. The committee is working on a statement in a resolution form to state their position on the closure. I will include a copy of the resolution next meeting.

Met last week with the contractor selected to work for the Interior Gas Utility in regards to the gas distribution network, MWH. The city looks forward to helping facilitate gas to the City of North Pole in the first year build out.

I will be out of the office next week from Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup> for a BOSS Lift event. I was one of 16 people across the state selected for a trip to Guam to tour the facilities of the Air Force, Army and Navy. The trip is 10 hours one way and you cross the International Date Line. I have never gone back in time before.

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

Mr. Smith asked how the Pioneer Home enjoyed the fish tank. Mayor Ward stated that they had just picked it up this past weekend.

Ms. Hunter asked about a public meeting for the gas line. Mayor Ward stated that it was not a public meeting.

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

**Accountant, Lisa Vaughn**

- Council had before them the financial statements for January, 2014.
- Tax revenues have been accrued back to December, 2013
- Cash balance for January is a little over 3 million
- Working on audit and grants.
- Spoke with assessors at FNSB as FHR is 31% of property tax. The property tax revenues for 2014 will not be affected.

Mr. McGhee asked about property tax reduction for the City of North Pole.

Ms. Holm asked about utility dept. revenue decreases with the closure of FHR.

**Director of City Services, Bill Butler**

**Building Department**

- No new permit applications since last council meeting

**Public Works**

- Continuing to use rented truck for sanding streets while dump truck is repaired
- Oldest skid steer loader needed additional repairs to remain operational—work on lift arm
- Bus shelters, including one planned for Beaver Springs Mall, will go to bid on Tuesday
  - Borough Transportation's plan is to use an "off the shelf" model to hold down costs
- Submitting applications to the Department of Natural Resources to install wells for landscaping
  - Purpose is to reduce use of drinking water to irrigate landscaping
  - Currently, City's use of water is funded only by utility customers and not by the entire tax base

**Utility Department**

- Scheduled first meeting to negotiate a Compliance Order by Consent (COBC) for sewer system outfall
  - Meeting scheduled for February 27
  - Utility, City Attorney, wastewater consultant and wastewater engineer will represent City's interests
- Request before Council to purchase two parcels of land for wastewater treatment expansion
  - Process to purchase the land started 10 years ago
  - Purchase was anticipated and included in 2014 budget

- Additional land could be critical in resolving loss of regular river flow at sewer outfall
- Design documents submitted by USKH, Utility's wastewater engineer, for rehabilitation project at wastewater treatment plant
  - Hope to release request for bids in April
  - Project will be first significant rehabilitation work at the treatment plant in over 25 years.
  - Will fund project with mixture of state grant and loan and Utility reserve funds

#### **Natural Gas Utility Board**

- Gas utility has scheduled a Design Charrette at North Pole City Hall for Monday, February 24
  - Purpose of the Charrette is for entities responsible for permitting to discuss permitting, easements and rights of way issues
  - First of several proposed Charrettes to engage entities that will affect the construction and operation of the gas utility

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

- None

#### **Fire Department, Chief Lane**

- None

#### **Borough Representative, Mayor Ward**

- FNSB took action on the Ketchikan Gateway Borough on the funding of schools and the lawsuit.
- Ms. Hunter asked the FNSB for support of the Rasmusen grant in the amount of \$500,000 for the new North Pole branch library, contingent upon raising \$100,000 which the North Pole library is in the process of doing.
- The FNSB had a proposal to expand the community patrol service to the borough area and they did make a contribution to the City of Fairbanks so they could do that. She said it was very educational to hear all the effects on all the time that it takes for the emergency responders and police verses when a regular patrol can respond. This can end up saving quite a bit of money for the City of Fairbanks.



**City Clerk**

- Public Official Financial Disclosure Statements (POFD) are before you tonight. The deadline is March 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Reminder to those of you who have not turned in your old ipads that those need to be returned to me with all the cords and covers.

**ONGOING PROJECTS**

None

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION 14-03, A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA, SUPPORTING LEGISLATIVE ACTION TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED IN RESOLUTION 13 -01 OF THE ALASKA WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD**

Mayor Ward explained that this was postponed at the last meeting as council didn't feel they had enough information on the subject.

David Hale, of Hale and Associates, and Sarah Lefebvre, of Exclusive Landscaping, gave a presentation to council on the Workers' Compensation problem in Alaska and nationwide.

**Position Statement**

The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce encourages the Alaska State Legislature and the Governor to enact reform to the Workers' Compensation Statutes to improve the balance between providing quick, efficient and fair compensation to injured workers at a reasonable cost to employers. The current system is delivering benefits at exorbitantly high costs to employers, and ineffectively administers the claims of injured workers.

**Support for the Position**

- Alaska Workers' Compensation premium rates are the highest in the nation, having been #1 or #2 five times in the last 9 years;
- Medical benefit costs have risen 25% over the last five years, while the same time period showed a 14.2% decline in the frequency of workers' compensation claims. Significant cost factors include fees for services over-utilization of services, and changes in prescription drug use and dispensing. Medical costs are disproportionate to overall claim costs, and far exceed nationwide averages;
- While claim frequency declined 32.6% in the 10 year period through 2010, indemnity payment only declined 13.9% for the same time frame;

- Alaska's newly implemented Fee Schedule is the most generous in the nation, compensating some services at 400% + over private pay insurance rates;
- Legal costs related to workers' compensation claims rose 68.6% from 2000 – 2010, during which time disputed claims dropped 18.1%, scheduled hearings declined 8.3%, and issued Decision & Orders declined 21.7%;
- The Reemployment Benefits system completed retraining for only 8% of eligible employees, at a cost of \$12.9M in 2012.

### **Action Required for the Position**

Adopt legislation to address the major medical cost drivers – the medical fee schedule, over-utilization of services, opioid use, physician dispensing of pharmaceuticals.

Adopt legislation to improve the management of claims, addressing indemnity factors including an emphasis on Return-to-Work/Stay-at-Work, and the legal costs associated with workers' compensation claims.

Adopt legislation to address the Reemployment Benefits process, including a repeal of the 90 day mandatory reemployment evaluation, stricter criteria for reemployment specialist credentialing, implementation of reemployment specialist fee schedules, and an increase to the reemployment benefit limit.

### **Fiscal Impact of the Position**

The current trajectory in workers' compensation costs is unsustainable. The upward trends adversely impact Alaskan commerce, making Alaska businesses less competitive, and negatively affect the quality of life for injured workers. To ensure a viable economic environment, both businesses and employees need reform to occur. If business cannot compete with Outside competition, Alaskans can't be put to work.

### **Public Comment**

None

**Mr. McGhee *moved to* Approve Resolution 14-03, A Resolution of The Council of The City of North Pole, Alaska, Supporting Legislative Action To Adopt The Recommendation Contained in Resolution 13 -01 Of The Alaska Workers' Compensation Board**

**Seconded by Mr. Smith**

### **Discussion**

None

### **PASSED**

YES – 6 –Smith, Holm, McCarthy, Hunter, McGhee, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 1-Welch

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **RESOLUTION 14-05, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TRACT 1-1, ASLS 2006-70 AND TRACT F-1-B, ASLS 2003-50 FROM THE STATE OF ALASKA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$109,503 AND GRANTING THE MAYOR AUTHORITY TO SIGN ALL LEGAL DOCUMENTS FOR THE PURCHASE OF THESE PROPERTIES**

Mr. Butler stated that the City of North Pole has been in a process of buying this land for the past 10 years. He said there was a process in purchasing this property and had to be purchased at fair market value. The cost came in for 30 acres of land for \$109,503 which was substantially lower than expected. This is an opportune time with issue going on with the discharge of the water. It is critical to resolve the issue and reproduce the kind of requires low inputs and low staff time and functions on its own.

Mr. Smith asked if the land was considered wetlands. Mr. Butler said there would be permitting issues that the City would need to go through and possibly other unique situations.

Ms. Holm asked how many acres. Mr. Butler said approximately 5 acres. One of the situations is having our own drying beds.

Mr. Smith asked what capacity our sewer is at. Mr. Butler said that it could take some expansion now. He is pushing for ½ million gal a day and if we expand, the rehabilitation project would have more aeration and we could build out.

Ms. Hunter asked if they delayed the purchase of the property, and with the natural gas coming, the value of the property would go up and we would pay more in the future. Mr. Butler said value could go up and it has the potential that someone else could purchase it. The City was given first dibs on it.

Mr. Ward asked how long the appraisal would be good for. Mr. Butler stated that it is good for 2 years.

Mr. McGhee asked when it would actually be purchased. Mr. Butler said he would start on it right away. It would occur this calendar year.

Mr. Ward asked if Mr. Butler was comfortable with the cash flow of the utility. Mr. Butler said this is the best the cash flow has been.

### **Public Comment**

None

**Mr. McGhee *moved to Approve Resolution 14-05, A Resolution Of The City Of North Pole Authorizing The Purchase Of Tract 1-1, ASLS 2006-70 And Tract F-1-B, ASLS 2003-50 From The State Of Alaska In The Amount Of \$109,503 And Granting The Mayor Authority To Sign All Legal Documents For The Purchase Of These Properties***

**Seconded *by McCarthy***

**Discussion**

Ms. Holm said she didn't feel that there has been enough discussion on what FHR is doing and would like to see this postponed. She felt this was a paranoid decision and that we have the State to see what other solutions we could come up with.

Ms. Hunter said she saw it as a series of carefully planned out steps to get to this point. She felt it was important for this process to go forward and plan for the future. She also thought it was a solution for the outflow process and expansion and would be difficult to repeat these steps and get a new appraisal and was in support of the resolution.

Mr. McCarthy said he recalled that when he was on the City Council last time that Mr. Butler had come before the council asking if the council should be spending time looking at this. At the time the council looked at it and thought it was a good idea and needed to go ahead and get the ball rolling. He agreed that it was a touchy time financially now but the City won't regret purchasing this.

Ms. Holm said she was curious if any of the other council members saw the article in the Newsminer about the subdivision that they wanted to build off of Repp Rd. and she knows that this idea of building more into our sewer department has to do with expanding the City. She commented that the subdivision that they wanted to build off of Repp Rd. was totally terminated because of the air quality issues. She said the council needs to take into consideration how much EPA is going to let our City expand. She said it may sound silly but EPA is going to penalize us if we keep on building. If they City is planning on having additional homes built here and expand our sewer department the City may be doing it without a reason. She stated that was what happened on Repp Rd and what the borough had to face. She said this didn't sound planned to her and it didn't sound like an organized idea.

Mr. McGhee said that with 21 years of experience and it is not unplanned. It has been brought forward by previous councils. They have been concerned about the growth of the City limits, and not outside the City limits. Right now money is in the coffers and best price of the land and Flint Hills Resources quietly going into its own recession and this clarifies it more and we need to start to plan to expand. Currently it is outdated and is time to upgrade. He supports the resolution feels this needs to be a proactive movement not reactive.

Mayor Ward responded to the Repp Rd expansion (Lazelle Estates) and that it is completely different than what was being discussed tonight and didn't pertain to this. He stated that Lazelle Estates was a large plot of land that was owned by the borough that was up for zoning/plotting and up for sale. There is a difference between the two. He said that in the

City when they talk about expansion they talk about flows to the system and have many properties that have been plotted out and planned out. Ford Subdivision is one of those. A lot of the infrastructure is still in place, it just has not been tapped in to. In reference to the EPA comment and their ability to restrict zoning, that was not done by EPA but was done by a citizens initiative. Zoning already exists within the City and EPA has no say on it. He said that when we talk about expansion of our system, when Mr. Butler got here we were reaching our maximum capacity. Since then we have made improvement to our system and now we can take on our new customers and have the ability to expand the system. He said that when we talk about 30 acres of land, it boils down to about \$3600 per acre and is a killer buy. This process goes back a number of years. Mayor Ward said his concern was the cash flow and that we have a healthy utility, thinking ahead to the future and the value of our dollar and making good choices for the utility. He emphasize that this is a good value to the City.

Ms. Holm said that she is aware of the situation and did speak with the assembly about the subdivision on Repp Rd. and how much more pollution each additional house makes. She said not that it's going to make a huge impact but the City is going to add communities into those, even Ford Subdivision, and that council needs to take into consideration. She knows that EPA did not get involved in the assembly meeting but he EPA is the one that regulates that. Without the City having that information on how many more houses they can have condensed in the City limits, that is an important question that we can have. Ms. Holm said the council didn't have the information.

Mr. McCarthy called point of order.

Ms. Holm said she felt that moving forward without having an educated council is going to hurt our population. She said we already feel it in our GVEA bill, and in our water bills as we already have highest water in the nation and no wonder we have such nice cushion.

**Ms. Holm moved to postpone Resolution 14-05, A Resolution of The City Of North Pole Authorizing The Purchase Of Tract 1-1, ASLS 2006-70 And Tract F-1-B, ASLS 2003-50 From The State of Alaska In The Amount of \$109,503 And Granting The Mayor Authority To Sign All Legal Documents For The Purchase Of These Properties to April 21, 2014 so the council can have more time to make an educated decision.**

*Failed for a lack of a second*

On Resolution 14-05

**PASSED**

YES – 5 –Smith, McCarthy, Hunter, McGhee, Ward

NO – 1 – Holm

Absent – 1-Welch

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

**Mr. McCarthy** – there is a solar flare tonight and we should be out watching it. Thanked Mr. McGhee for bringing up subjects and bringing it forward.

**Mr. Smith** - thanked everyone for coming out tonight. Glad it is getting lighter.

**Ms. Hunter** – thanked everyone for coming out tonight. This is one of the few times we've gone into executive session and then have the public return. Good night to council members.

**Ms. Holm** – congratulated Nicholas Taylor for advancing to Eagle Scout and that it is a huge accomplishment that takes time and commitment. North Pole is making national news on two topics with Flint Hills Resources being number one and two, a woman association with criminal activity. If you witness any criminal activity or asked to recruit any criminal activity please contact the North Pole Police Department or Alaska State Troopers.

**Mr. McGhee** –he said to drive defensive and avoid accidents as Springs not here yet and roads are treacherous. He thanked council for the meeting tonight and all city employees.

**Mayor Ward** – reminded council that staff is here to work for you and answer any questions or concerns that they may have. Friday is “Muffins with the Mayor” and he makes his time available for the citizens of North Pole. The muffins are made by his wonderful wife.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. McGhee adjourned the meeting at 10:02 p.m.**

**Seconded by Ms. Holm**

The regular meeting of February 18, 2014 adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

**These minutes passed and approved** by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Monday, March 3, 2014.

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Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Kathryn M. Weber, MMC  
North Pole City Clerk

|  
*February 18, 2014*



**North Pole Police Dept.  
125 Snowman Ln.  
North Pole, AK 99705**

**Chief Steve Dutra  
Phone: 907-488-8459  
Fax: 907-488-5299**

## Letter of Commendation

January 28, 2014

To: Officer Steve Fisher

The North Pole Police Department would like to congratulate you for a job well done. During 2013 you made a significant contribution to the department's success. You conducted 302 traffic stops and wrote 140 citations; you were primary on 763 events.

You also did a great job while working the Chena Lakes contract. On numerous occasions I received compliments on your professionalism and your work ethic.

Thank you for your efforts we appreciate what you do for the citizens of our community.

  
Chief Steve Dutra

## FRIENDS OF THE NORTH POLE BRANCH LIBRARY

February 12, 2014

Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly

Dear Assembly Members,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Friends of the North Pole Branch regarding the acceptance of the \$500,000 Rasmuson Grant for the new North Pole Branch Library.

The Friends of the North Pole Branch Library was organized in 2011 to provide advocacy and begin raising funds to help toward the construction of a new library. We are pleased we are able to provide \$30,000 towards the \$100,000 matching funds needed for the grant.

We've received donations from various organizations and individuals, but the major portion of our funds have come from the many events we've attended and the willingness of our volunteers to help. When asked we say "We've done it one penny at a time".

Over the past 2 years we have participated in North Pole Events, such as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, Mayor's Picnic, Christmas in July, Winter Bazaar, North Pole Middle School Bazaar, and Santa Senior's Book Sale, Trunk Sale and Bazaar.

We participated in the 2013 Charity Walk also joined the Fairbanks Library Foundation at the Holiday Market Place, Tanana Valley Fair and the Foundation Book Sales.

Then there are the "1,000,000 Penny Jars". Today, we only need 72,692 more pennies to reach the goal. We've had 31 business participate in this campaign. There has been a penny jar at many of the events we've attended.

We would not have been able to accomplish all we've done without the support of the North Pole Community, especially 17-Mile Homemakers - FCE, North Pole Santa Senior Center Corporation, Inc. and North Pole Grange Art Gallery.

In 1976, 17-Mile Homemakers - FCE was a significant force in obtaining the first North Pole Library. Over the years they have continued to support the library in various ways and have been a major contributor in this latest venture.

North Pole Santa Senior Center Corporation, has not only made donations, but has sponsored several fund raisers for us, provided meeting space and encouragement when needed.



"From Brushes to Books" a gala celebration of art was sponsored by the North Pole Grange Gallery.

As I was leaving our library this morning, parents were bringing their children for Pre-School Story time. It reinforced the importance the library in these children's lives, as well as others.

We hope you will look favorable on this grant proposal. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Thurman, Secretary  
Friends of the North Pole Branch Library  
2874 Nelson Road  
North Pole, AK 99705

Invite friends, neighbors and relatives!

## **Free Community Forum**

# **Legacy Planning in Practical Terms: Hospice Care – When, Where & Why**

Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>

3:00 – 5:00 pm

Santa's Senior Center, 101 E 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, North Pole

Panel: Kim Huffington, Hospice Manager

Karen Wood, Gerontologist and Ramey Wood, Nine One Ten

For more information, please contact Karen at 458-9110



## Interior Alaska – The “Place” To Do Business

100 Cushman St., Suite 102 | Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4665

Phone (907) 452-1105 | Fax (907) 456-6968 | [www.FairbanksChamber.org](http://www.FairbanksChamber.org)

Introduced By: Flint Hills Resources Ad Hoc Committee  
Date Introduced: Monday, February 24, 2014  
Date Passed: Monday, February 24, 2014  
Date Transmitted: Tuesday, February 25, 2014

### RESOLUTION 14-0224B

#### A RESOLUTION BY THE GREATER FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO SUPPORT THE IN-STATE OIL REFINING INDUSTRY

**WHEREAS**, the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce represents its members by advocating for a healthy economic environment that promotes the greater Fairbanks area as an attractive place for both business and community; and

**WHEREAS**, the closure of the Flint Hills Resources refinery is of grave concern to the Chamber because of the significant negative impacts to the local and state economies.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Fairbanks Chamber:

1. Supports the efforts underway by government and industry leaders to engage directly and immediately to take all prudent actions necessary to preserve and expand whatever in-state value added oil refining is feasible.
2. Recommends that all responsible parties work to segregate the refinery surface estate from the legacy environmental issues if possible in order to improve the opportunity for successful restructuring that might allow future refinery operations by a new owner to proceed, while ensuring that the environmental issues are properly addressed.
3. Acknowledges the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's responsibility to manage the environmental issues, which must be based on transparent, defensible, peer reviewed science and site specific risk assessment.
4. Recommends continued efforts to lower the cost of energy into the Interior to improve the opportunity for refinery operations to be competitive.
5. Recommends a thorough reevaluation of the state royalty contracts in the context of overall statewide benefit to citizens to include: railroad, tax base, jobs, re-investment of local energy dollars instead of exporting those dollars, and state revenue.
6. Recommends that local governments take appropriate actions necessary to support the local refinery industry.

#### INVESTORS

##### DIAMOND

BP Exploration  
ConocoPhillips  
ExxonMobil  
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner  
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital & Denali Center  
Flint Hills Resources Alaska  
Mt. McKinley Bank

##### PLATINUM

Alaska Pipeline Service Co.  
Doyon, Limited  
Fred Meyer Stores  
Golden Heart Utilities  
Wells Fargo Bank Alaska

##### GOLD

Birchwood Homes  
Carlson Center  
Denali State Bank  
Design Alaska  
Doyon Utilities LLC  
First National Bank Alaska  
GCI  
Kinross Fort Knox Mine  
Lynden  
Northrim Bank  
Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo LLC  
Usibelli Coal Mine  
WAL-MART Stores, Inc.

##### SILVER

Alaska Communications  
Alaska Airlines  
Alaska Railroad  
Alaska USA  
Dr. Christopher Henry – Henry Orthodontics  
Everts Air Cargo, Everts Air AK  
Exclusive Paving/Univ. Redi-Mix  
Fairbanks Natural Gas  
Flowline Alaska  
General Teamsters Local 959  
Golden Valley Electric Association  
Hale & Associates, Inc.  
JL Properties, Inc.  
Key Bank  
MAC Federal Credit Union  
Personnel Plus  
Sam's Club  
Shell Exploration & Production Co.  
Spirit of Alaska FCU  
Tanana Valley Clinic  
TDL Staffing  
Tower Hill Mines-Livengood Gold Project  
University of Alaska Fairbanks  
Verizon Wireless  
Vivamore Companies  
Yukon Title Company

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be distributed to:

Governor Sean Parnell, State of Alaska  
Lieutenant Governor Mead Treadwell, State of Alaska  
Mike Nizich, Chief of Staff, Governor Parnell  
Randy Ruaro, Deputy Chief of Staff, Governor Parnell  
Alaska State Legislature  
Commissioner Joe Balash, Alaska Department of Natural Resources  
Commissioner Larry Hartig, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation  
Fairbanks North Star Borough  
City of Fairbanks  
City of North Pole  
Alaska Chamber  
Resource Development Council of Alaska  
Alaska Oil & Gas Association  
The Alliance  
Consumer Energy Alliance - Alaska  
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner  
Membership of the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce

**THE GREATER FAIRBANKS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**



Steve Lundgren  
Board of Directors, Chair



Lisa Herbert  
Executive Director

**Mead Treadwell**

*Lieutenant Governor*

550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1700

Anchorage, AK 99501

**Press Release**

**STATE OF ALASKA**

**OFFICE OF THE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

**Michelle Toohey**

*Chief of Staff*

907.269.7460

fax: 907.269.0263

[www.ltgov.alaska.gov](http://www.ltgov.alaska.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**No. 14-004**

### **Lt. Gov. Treadwell Certifies Marijuana, Minimum Wage Initiatives**

February 26, 2014, Juneau, AK – Lt. Governor Mead Treadwell announced the certification of the citizen initiatives 13PSUM, "An Act to tax and regulate the production, sale, and use of marijuana"; and 13MINW, "An Act increasing the Alaska minimum wage to \$8.75 per hour effective January 1, 2015, \$9.75 per hour effective January 1, 2016, and thereafter adjusted annually for inflation."

The Division of Elections completed its review of signatures of each initiative and determined they meet constitutional and statutory requirements for initiative petitions.

Treadwell notified the primary sponsor of 13PSUM, Timothy Hinterberger of Anchorage, the primary sponsor of 13MINW, Ed Flanagan of Juneau, as well as the Senate President and the Speaker of the House.

The lieutenant governor signed the certificates after consultation with the Division of Elections, which determined the signature booklets included a sufficient number of sponsor signatures, and the Department of Law, which concluded that the proposed bills are in the proper form under Article XI of the Alaska Constitution and AS 15.45.

Under Article XI, section 4 of the Alaska Constitution and AS 15.45.190, if the Alaska State Legislature does not enact 'substantially similar' legislation next session, the initiatives will appear on the ballot of the August 19, 2014 Primary Election, which is the next statewide general, special, or primary election that is held 120 days after a legislative session has convened and adjourned.

For all citizen initiatives to appear on the ballot, the lieutenant governor must conduct two public hearings in each of the four judicial districts at least 30 days before the election.

The bill proposed by 13PSUM would provide for the taxation and regulation of the production, sale, and use of marijuana. The bill provides for the personal use of marijuana and imposes various restrictions on personal cultivation, public use, and the operation of marijuana-related facilities. The bill also allows the legislature to create a Marijuana Control Board in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, provides for the adoption of regulations, and allows for local control of the manufacture and sale of marijuana. Finally, the bill imposes an

excise tax on the sale or transfer of marijuana, and provides for the enforcement and administration of that tax.

The bill proposed by 13MINW would provide for an increase in Alaska's minimum wage. Specifically, the bill would increase the Alaska minimum wage to \$8.75 per hour effective January 1, 2015, \$9.75 per hour effective January 1, 2016, and thereafter adjusted annually for inflation.

Final certification documents are available online:

13PSUM: <http://notice.alaska.gov/171435>

13MINW: <http://notice.alaska.gov/171436>

# # #





**Mead Treadwell**

*Lieutenant Governor*

550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1700

Anchorage, AK 99501

**Press Release**

**STATE OF ALASKA**

**OFFICE OF THE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

**Michelle Toohey**

*Chief of Staff*

907.269.7460

fax: 907.269.0263

[www.ltgov.alaska.gov](http://www.ltgov.alaska.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**No. 14-005**

**Alaska's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Calls for Celebration, Resolution Says**

February 26, 2014, Juneau, AK – Alaska will celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Alaska Purchase in 2017.

The Senate Rules Committee, chaired by Senator Lesil McGuire, introduced Senate Concurrent Resolution 17 today, commemorating the Alaska Purchase. The Alaska Historical Commission (AHC), chaired by Lt. Governor Mead Treadwell, requested the resolution to recognize the historic significance of the anniversary and encourage Alaskan communities to participate in celebrations statewide.

The United States purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867 for \$7.2 million, or about two cents an acre. All Alaskans are invited to join in celebrating the anniversary: communities, schools, universities, libraries, museums, businesses, civic and historical groups, government agencies, and the U.S. Congress. The resolution asks AHC to seek opportunities to engage support and coordinate events.

"Then chided for his folly, today Seward should be considered a visionary," Sen. McGuire said. "As Alaskans we all share a unique and special pride for our great state – from our rich Alaska Native heritage, to our unparalleled natural resources, our majestic landscapes, to our diverse communities full of some of the most caring and resilient people in the country. This resolution gives us the opportunity to share with the rest of the nation what makes Alaska so strong."

"This resolution will show the nation that Alaska is worth it," Lt. Gov. Treadwell said. "It will help young Alaskans understand our history and our geography. It will help show the world what Native Alaskans have known for thousands of years and what they taught those of us who arrived after – that this frontier is replete with cultural richness, environmental beauty and abundance, and strong, resilient people."

SCR 17 was read and referred to the Senate State Affairs Committee.

###

**CITY OF NORTH POLE**

**ORDINANCE 14-02**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE, ALASKA  
AMENDING TITLE 4, CHAPTER 4.10.010, USER FEES**

**WHEREAS**, changes to the North Pole Municipal Code is a continually changing requirement;  
and

**WHEREAS**, the City of North Pole Municipal Code should be amended to conform to the requirements of the City and to provide clarification as needed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of North Pole:

Section 1. This ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and shall be codified.

Section 2. General Provisions of the North Pole Municipal Code of Ordinances are amended as follows:

**4.10.010 Establishment of User Fees.**

The mayor shall examine the services provided by the city and establish a user fee schedule with council concurrence. The council shall periodically review the user fee schedule and set user fees as appropriate.(Ord.03-10 §2, 2003), (Ord.05-17 §2,2005)

**4.10.020 User Fee Schedule**

Ambulance Fee	\$ 800.00
Ambulance Fee Discount for North Pole Residents	\$ 400.00
Ambulance/Patient transport mileage (loaded miles)	\$ 11.00 per mile
Ambulance/Patient transport mileage (loaded miles) Discount for North Pole Residents	\$ 5.50 per mile
Fire/Ambulance Run Reports	\$ 25.00
Audio Recording of Public Meetings or any other CD/DVD(fee collected when ordering, per tape)	\$ 10.00
Building Permit Fees	Based on building evaluation and 1997 Uniform Administrative Code
City Annual Business License	\$ 50.00
City Business/Sales Tax Mailing Labels (fee collected when ordering)	\$ 25.00
Copies of Public Records	\$1.00 1st pg; \$0.25 thereafter
City Newsletter Mailing Labels	\$ 25.00
Declaration of Candidacy Filing Fee	\$ 25.00
Faxes send/receive local calling area (per page)	\$ 1.00
Faxes send long distance in U.S. only (per page)	\$ 2.00
Fingerprinting per card	\$ 20.00
Fireworks Annual Permit to Retail Vendor of Class "C" Fireworks	\$3,000.00
Hydrant Meter Charge	\$ 50.00/mo.(min)



Hydrant Meter Water Usage Rate	\$ 0.02/Gallon
<b><i>Made in North Pole- permit is \$50 per product line with a maximum of \$100 per permit application</i></b> <b><i>Waive fee, up to \$50 per application for 1<sup>st</sup> 20 approved applications</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 50.00</i></b>
Notary Services per document	\$ 5.00
Plan Specifications Copies (per set)	\$ 25.00
Police Reports	\$ 25.00
Photo Copy Fee (per page)	\$ 0.25
Water/Sewer Connection Inspection Fee	\$ 50.00 each
Residential and commercial properties water and sewer fees shall be the following (per NPMC 13.08.090 B)	
Water tie-in fee - ¾ inches to 2 inches	\$ 200.00
Sewer tie-in fee – ¾ inches to 2 inches	\$ 200.00
Water tie-in fee - Greater than 2 inches up to 4 inches	\$ 250.00
Sewer tie-in fee – Greater than 2 inches up to 4 inches	\$ 250.00
Water - Greater than 4 inches	\$ 300.00
Sewer – Greater than 4 inches	\$ 300.00
Residential Water Meter Replacement	\$ 100.00
Commercial Water Meter Replacement	At replacement cost
Water meter monitor replacement	\$ 100.00

(Ord.03-10 Chapter 4.10, 2003), (Ord.06-11 §2(part), 2006), (Ord.11-06 §2 (part), 2011), (Ord 14-02 §2(part), 2014)

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective at 5:00 pm on the first City business day following its adoption.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn M. Weber, MMC  
North Pole City Clerk

PASS/FAIL

Yes:

No:

Absent:



# City of North Pole, Alaska

**Fiscal Note Year:** 2014

Accompanying Ordinance/Resolution #: Ordinance 14-02

Originator / Sponsor Name: Mayor Bryce Ward

Date: 2-20-14

Does the Ordinance or Resolution have a fiscal impact?    yes ☒    no ☐

Fund- Dept. Title	Account Description	Account #	Increase/(Decrease)
Fund 1 Admin	Promotion	01-01-00-7003	-\$ 1,000.00
Fund 1 Revenue	Made In North Pole	01-00-00-4045	-\$ 1,000.00

**Summary:** (Brief description of proposed alterations as defined by accompanying ordinance or resolution. Where did the money come from and how will it be used).

First 20 approved applications for a single product line are promotional (free, up to \$50 per application) maximum 20 applications. Revenues will be offset by decrease in promotional line item in Admin.

Prepared By: [Signature]    Date: 2/21/14

Finance Approval: [Signature]    Date: 2-21-14

**NOTE-** Fiscal notes attached to an ordinance are considered amendments to the budget and do not require an additional approval for insertion into the budget document.

**CITY OF NORTH POLE**

**RESOLUTION 14-06**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE ACCEPTING A MAINTENANCE  
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES AND THE CITY OF  
NORTH POLE FOR THIRTY TWO DECORATIVE STREETLIGHTS  
ON BADGER ROAD AND SANTA CLAUS LANE**

**WHEREAS**, the City of North Pole is interested in providing safe and convenient transportation throughout the City; and

**WHEREAS**, Santa Claus Lane/Badger Road is owned by the State of Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2007 the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) installed three roundabouts and repaved Santa Claus Lane/Badger Road from Hurst Road to Saint Nickolas Drive/Cross Way, and

**WHEREAS**, the ADOT&PF installed 32 specialty candy cane streetlights at the City's request; and

**WHEREAS**, the ADOT&PF has agreed to provide and maintain electricity to the streetlights;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the City Council authorizes a Maintenance Agreement on behalf of the City and the ADOT&PF where the City accepts responsibility for maintenance of the 32 streetlights.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn M. Weber, MMC  
North Pole City Clerk

PASSED/FAILED

Yes:

No:

Absent:





# CITY OF NORTH POLE

*Alaska*

*"Where the Spirit of Christmas Lives Year Round"*

125 Snowman Lane • North Pole, Alaska 99705-7708  
E-mail: [mayor@northpolealaska.com](mailto:mayor@northpolealaska.com) • Website: [www.northpolealaska.com](http://www.northpolealaska.com)

City Hall  
907-488-2281  
Fax: 907-488-3002

Police  
Department  
907-488-6902

Fire  
Department  
907-488-2232

Utilities  
907-488-6111

City Clerk  
907-488-2281

City Engineer  
907-488-2281

July 21, 2004

Mark Neidhold  
2301 Peger Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709

Dear Mark,

I want to thank you for your interest and active role in North Pole transportation issues. I am putting in writing my comments that I earlier shared with you on the phone regarding Richardson Highway MP 350.

- As part of the gateway to North Pole the roundabouts and raised medians should be red pigmented pressed textured Portland concrete.
- The city requests that all sidewalks extend fully to the curb without any green space in between.
- Any landscaping shrubs, trees, flowers should be low maintenance which the City of North Pole will maintain.
- Light posts from the Badger Road Overpass to St. Nicholas Drive should be replaced with the candy cane motif light posts. The City of North Pole will assume maintenance responsibility for the light posts.

Again, I thank you for discussing with me transportation issues in North Pole.

Sincerely,

JEFFREY JAMES JACOBSON, Mayor



## **Maintenance Agreement**

### **Between**

**The State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities  
(DOT&PF)**

### **And**

**The City of North Pole  
(City)**

### **For**

**Thirty-two Decorative Electroliers on Badger Road and Santa Claus Lane**

#### **Definitions:**

- Electrolier. The complete assembly of pole, mast arm, luminaire, ballast, and lamp. The decorative electroliers that are the subject of this agreement are shaped and painted to resemble red and white striped candy canes.
- Luminaire. The assembly which houses the light source and controls the light emitted from the light source. Luminaires consist of the hood (including socket), reflector, and glass globe.

The 32 decorative electroliers along Badger Road and Santa Claus lane were installed, at the request of the City, under two projects. 13 were installed in 1999 under the Santa Claus Lane Upgrade project. 19 were installed in 2007 under the Richardson Highway MP 350 Badger Interchange Ramps and Intersection Improvements (Roundabouts) project.

**The above parties have cooperated to provide for the ownership and all maintenance of the two projects listed above.**

#### **I. DOT&PF DOES HEREBY AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:**

- As owner of Badger Road and Santa Claus Lane, DOT&PF will provide and maintain the electricity to the decorative electroliers on Badger Road and Santa Claus Lane. DOT&PF will maintain the electrical system from the Golden Valley Electric Association service to the junction box in the ground at the base of each pole.

#### **II. THE CITY HEREBY AGREES TO THE FOLLOWING:**

- Accepts maintenance and replacement responsibilities for the 32 decorative electroliers. This includes but is not limited to maintaining the function and appearance of these electroliers.

*"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."*

III. IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED THAT

- Each party agrees that it will be responsible for its own acts and result thereof, and each party shall not be responsible for the acts of the other agency.
- This agreement may be revised as needed by issuance of a written amendment that is agreed to and signed by the affected parties.

---

Steve Titus, P.E., Regional Director  
Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

---

Date

---

Bryce Ward, Mayor  
City of North Pole

---

Date

*"Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."*