



CITY OF NORTH POLE *Alaska*

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING Tuesday, February 18, 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**

Proclamations

Nicholas Taylor – Eagle Scout Rank
Women's Heart Health Month

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

- a. 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

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 14-04, 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
- c. 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.

13. Executive Session

To discuss personnel issues and Flint Hills Resources

14. Council Comments

15. 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 Monday, February 3, 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 Monday, February 3, 2014 to order at 7:03 p.m.

There were present:

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

Absent/Excused

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 3, 2014

Seconded by Mr. Welch

Discussion

None

Mr. McGhee moved to consent the following items on the agenda:

- a. Request from NPEDC for 3rd and 4th quarter 2013 bed tax
- b. Request for tuition reimbursement for Kalen Middleton in the amount of \$504
- c. Request for University Student Ride Along Agreement
- d. Recommendation to purchase a 1 ton pickup truck based upon the State of Alaska Light Duty Truck Invitation to Bid and to add a snowplow to the vehicle.
- e. Request to lease a copy machine from Arctic Office

Seconded by Mr. Welch

On the amendment

PASSED

YES – 7 –Smith, Welch, Holm, McCarthy, Hunter, McGhee, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 0

On the Agenda as amended

PASSED

YES – 7 –Smith, Welch, Holm, McCarthy, Hunter, McGhee, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Welch *moved to Approve* the minutes of January 21, 2014

Seconded by Mr. McGhee

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES – 7 –Smith, Welch, Holm, McCarthy, Hunter, McGhee, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 0

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

I will be out of the office Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, if you have questions or concerns feel free to email me or call me on my cell phone, 907-888-4444

Mark your calendar for Muffins with the Mayor this February! As always the date is the third Friday of the Month from 8-10 am at North Pole City Hall. This month's event falls on the 21st.

I will be calling a workshop on how we structure our committee of the whole and council meetings and look forward to council input. I will be presenting a new format on the structure of our meetings to help foster better discussion and transparency with our agenda items. For reference I encourage a review of how the City of Fairbanks and the Fairbanks North Star Borough go about their own prospective meetings. The workshop date is yet to be determined.

Special recognition to Police Chief Steve Dutra, at the APOA dinner last week, Chief was awarded the Chief/Commander of the Year for his diligent effort to serve his department and the City of North Pole.

Mike Welch will be traveling to 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 Councilman Welch for our legislators, to explain the reason for our request and show what it will do for the city. AML is during the week of February 17th-21st.

I was asked to speak at the National History Day fair at the Pioneer Park on February 13th. I will be speaking about how history has influenced my life and how important it is to understanding life and making good decisions.

I was honored to be asked to introduce Governor Sean Parnell to North Pole during a dinner this upcoming Saturday night and look forward to representing North Pole.

COUNCIL MEMBER QUESTIONS OF THE MAYOR

None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, BOROUGH REPRESENTATIVE AND THE CITY CLERK

Accountant, Lisa Vaughn

None

Director of City Services, Bill Butler

Building Department

- No new permit applications since last council meeting

Public Works

- Public Works capitalized on warm weather and scheduled a city-wide hard park removal
- Dump truck requires significant maintenance
 - Transmission needs to be rebuilt
 - Rear end needs to be repaired
 - Combined repairs will cost more than \$12,000
 - Dump truck repairs will expend all of vehicle maintenance budget

- Working with FNSB mayor's office to amend 2004 parks and recreation agreement adding exercise trail and dog park to parks and recreational facilities managed by City
 - Current agreement with FNSB includes Terry Miller Park, Skate Board Park, Beaver Springs Trail; Dougchee Park (undeveloped) and HIPPO Park

Utility Department

- On January 27 had a preliminary meeting with ADEC to discuss sewer outfall
 - Discussed next steps in developing a Compliance Order by Consent (COBC)
 - COBC will be a legally binding agreement outlining requirements of City and ADEC
 - Timeline for drafting COBC is end of February beginning of March 2014
 - Timeline for resolution of outfall 3 to 5 years
 - Continuing with special request to state legislature to help fund effort to find a solution for sewer outfall and engineering; asking for \$500,000
- Utility has a request before Council for a replacement truck with snow plow

Natural Gas Utility Board

IGU is proposing to conduct a meeting in North Pole that will invite parties that will play a role in making gas utility a reality. Parties to be invited include, but are not limited to, Alaska Energy Authority, Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority, Fairbanks Natural Gas, GVEA and municipal representatives.

Police Department, Chief Dutra

- Talk about award given to me by APOA Farthest North Chapter. Council should be aware the award was given to me but it is a direct reflection of the employees and their hard work. They are the ones who deserve recognition for hard work and dedication to the department's image.
- Two additional awards given out during ceremony were Officer of the Year for North Pole Police = Lt. Chad Rathbun. Award given for service above and beyond for case related investigations and dedication to the success of department
- Employee of the Year = Sgt. Dave Stevenson. This award was given for always completing tasks as assigned, always ready for work, dedicated and committed to the success of others. Sgt. Stevenson is a true professional and excellent example for others to follow.
- I gave out letters of commendation to the following officers.
 - * Sgt. Randy Binkley,
 - * Officer Jed Smith, Officer Bruce Milne,
 - * Officer Amanda Bean, and
 - * Officer Steve Fisher

I reviewed 2013 statistical data with council. See attached sheets.

Fire Department, Chief Lane

None

Borough Representative, Mayor Ward

There was an ordinance changing the historic commission so that now a North Pole area resident can serve on the board instead of a North Pole resident which will be chosen by the Borough Mayor.

City Clerk

- Public Official Financial Disclosure Statements (POFD)

ONGOING PROJECTS

Arctic Winter Games, Mike Welch

The last time Alaska hosted the games was 1996. They are looking for someone who would be able to write about the games every day.

North Pole Economic Development Corporation, Nadine Winters

Ms. Winters gave a short update on the EIS and F-35's. She said that March 7, 8, and 9th is the date for the North American Sled Dog races. The Congressional Delegation made appropriations for training at JPARK.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Kalen Middleton, 1801 Mount Wrangle St, North Pole

Ms. Middleton thanked the council for allowing her to take classes at the university.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 14-01, A RESOLUTION URGING THE SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, AND THE COMMANDER OF THE PACIFIC AIR FORCES TO BASE F-35 AIRCRAFT ASSIGNED TO THE PACIFIC AIR FORCES AT EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE

Mayor Ward introduced the resolution. These aircraft are top of the line in the sky and the Mayor urged council to pass this resolution. EAFB is part of the base selection for these aircraft.

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee moved to approve Resolution 14-01, a Resolution urging the Secretary of the United States Air Force, the Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force, and the Commander of the Pacific Air Forces to Base F-35 aircraft assigned to the Pacific Air Forces at Eielson Air Force Base

Seconded by Mr. McCarthy

Discussion

None

PASSED

YES – 7 –Smith, Welch, Holm, McCarthy, Hunter, McGhee, Ward

NO – 0 –

Absent – 0

RESOLUTION 14-02, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THIS GENERATION MINISTRIES (TGMS) REQUEST FOR STATE FUNDING TO PURCHASE AND RENOVATE AN OFFICE BUILDING IN THE NORTH POLE AREA

Ron Pratt of This Generation Ministries informed the council of the State Capital request to purchase and renovate property on 5th Ave. TGM has been working effectively for years to prevent suicide through building relationship and reaching young people through their focused community outreaches statewide since 2006. They are looking at property and an 11,878 sf building in North Pole. The property has been on and off the market for the past 8 years and needs renovations. The last recent list price for the building was \$375,000. Mr. Pratt asked the council for their support in the State Capital request to insure that their suicide-prevention efforts continue in our state with greater success.

Mr. Welch asked how far the program reached, whether it was locally or statewide. Mr. Pratt stated that it was statewide.

Mr. McGhee asked if he had spoken with any of the neighbors and if he was aware of the zoning with that building. Mr. Pratt said that he had lived in the neighborhood for many years and had not talked with the neighbor directly behind the building.

Ms. Hunter asked if this was a faith based group. Mr. Pratt acknowledged that it was.

Mr. Smith asked if they had looked at a smaller building such as at the North Pole Worship Center. Mr. Pratt stated that they had looked around but the space at North Pole Worship Center would not be big enough for their needs.

Ms. Holm asked if they would be working within the city limits and what churches they have worked with. Mr. Pratt said that at some time they have worked with all of them and eventually would like get them more involved. He said they also work with different state agencies.

Ms. Holm asked what they had to offer North Pole. Mr. Pratt said they hoped to get involved with the schools doing workshops and assemblies. There are a lot of people that come through North Pole, work teams, etc. that shop and eat in North Pole.

Ms. Hunter said she worked at the high school and isn't familiar with their program. She wanted to hear more about it. Mr. Pratt stated that now that they are here that the high school and other schools will be seeing more of them. He said they are trying to establish a relationship with the schools and administration. By having a facility it opens a door for them.

Public Comment

None

Mr. McGhee *moved to* approve Resolution 14-02, a Resolution supporting this Generation Ministries (TGMS) request for state funding to purchase and renovate an office building in the North Pole area

Seconded by Mr. Welch

Discussion

Mr. McGhee had no issue with an organization that provided a service to youth. The program was vague on the suicide prevention and that it was faith based. He was also concerned with the neighborhood and zoning. He said he wouldn't want this in his neighborhood and hopes that they will interview the people in the area. He said he would support the resolution.

Ms. Hunter said that she had a problem that it was faith based and felt that was no different than if a church was wanting to purchase it.

Mr. McCarthy said he didn't have a problem with it and that this group was pretty neutral with what they wanted to do. He felt it was a program that was needed in this state.

Mr. Welch said he didn't have any concerns with this organization.

Ms. Holm said TGM had a great program. Her concern was that \$425,000 from the state funneled into North Pole that the State may not give us any funding in the future for a community center or other things. She would like to see this resolution brought before Representative Isaacson, Representative Wilson, and Senator Coghill.

Mr. Smith said he is in support of the purchase and this resolution.

Ms. Holm said that this would be a home for multiple people according to the resolution.

Mayor Ward said that he has worked with this organization in the past and knows Mr. Pratt and his family. He said there has been interesting conversation tonight.

Ms. Hunter called point of order as she felt there was a conflict of interest with the fact that Mayor Ward had been involved with the group.

Mr. McGhee said he didn't see any conflict of interest since Mayor Ward had no financial interest.

Mayor Ward overruled there was no conflict of interest.

Ms. Holm stated that since Mayor Ward had a history with the group there was a conflict.

Mr. Welch said that there may be others who have been involved with something.

On the conflict of interest. Is there a conflict of interest for Mayor Ward in which he would recuse himself

Yes: 2 - Holm, Hunter

No: 4 - Welch, McGhee, McCarthy, Smith

Mr. McGhee called the question.

PASSED

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

NO – 2 – Hunter, Holm

Absent – 0

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

Sarah LaFebvre of Exclusive Landscaping and a member of the State Workers' Compensation Board gave the council a presentation and information on the Workers' Compensation Reform and asked the City Council to support and pass a resolution addressing the system costs under the Alaska Workers' Compensation Act. She stated that the State of Alaska had the highest work comp rates in the nation.

Mr. Welch asked the medical rates and how much higher they were. Ms. LeFebvre stated that they are 4 times higher than the national average.

Mr. Smith asked if she was on the board locally. Ms. LeFebvre stated that she was from this area and on the state board.

Ms. Hunter said there were a number of Whereas's on the Compensation Board and how they would make decisions on the medical portion. Ms. LeFebvre said that intention now is to work on a fee schedule and link it to the Medicaide fee schedule and modify it. She went on to inform council more on the subject.

Public Comment

None

Mr. Welch *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* McGhee

Discussion

Ms. Hunter said there were so many pieces of the resolution that she had no idea of what it meant. She said she was inclined to not vote for it as it was very involved and technical and she didn't have enough information.

Mr. McGhee said he agreed with Ms. Hunter that he hasn't had a enough time to make an educated vote.

Mayor Ward said that there is a lot of information here and that there is an issue with the Workers Compensation and that there have been meetings at the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce on this subject. He said that instead of voting it down we should postpone it and look at it the next meeting. If you're not comfortable with it then we should postpone.

Mr. McGhee *moved to* postpone Resolution 14-03 to the meeting of Tuesday, February 18, 2014

Seconded *by* Mr. McCarthy

On the motion to postpone to Tuesday, February 18, 2014

Yes: 7 - McCarthy, McGhee, Holm, Smith, Hunter, Welch, Ward

No: 0

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Smith – thanked everyone for coming out tonight.

Mr. McCarthy – no comment

Mr. McGhee – the weather is deceiving and roads are deceiving. He asked everyone to be careful out there. He was happy that the ministry came out and the work that they will be doing in the community.

Mr. Welch – had a good meeting and looking forward to going home and seeing the swimsuit edition of Sports Illustrated this year.

Ms. Holm – congratulations to Chief Dutra on his award.

Ms. Hunter – congratulations to Chief Dutra on his award and also for the combination of other awards for his department. She thanked NPMS for coming out and singing the National Anthem and to the young girl who sang the National Anthem at the Super Bowl. She had practiced for 8 hours a day for a week as the National Anthem is a very hard song to sing.

Mayor Ward – thanked council for another productive meeting and their dedication to the community. He also reminded them that if they have any questions to contact him or the staff so they are educated in the decisions they make. He said he is looking for a date for a workshop to make changes on the agenda so we have better meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Seconded by Mr. Welch

The regular meeting of February 3, 2014 adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

These minutes passed and approved by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on Tuesday, February 18, 2014.

Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk

Contact: Mayor Bryce Ward
City of North Pole
Phone 907-488-8584
Fax 907-488-3002
Bryce.ward@northpolealaska.org

125 Snowman Ln
North Pole, Alaska
99705

City of North Pole

Press Release

City of North Pole troubled by Flint Hills Resource's decision to shut down North Pole Refinery

North Pole, Alaska, February 4, 2014: City of North Pole officials were notified at 2pm Tuesday, February 4, 2014, by Jeff Cook, Regional Director of External Affairs with Flint Hills Resources LLC that the North Pole Refinery will be shutting down and by mid-2014, will be repurposed as a rack facility. A rack facility is simply a distribution point for imported fuel to be transferred into delivery trucks.

Citing high crude prices, high energy costs, and increasing costs associated with cleanup of the Sulfolane contamination in the groundwater, Flint Hills has made the decision to close the North Pole Refinery. In a statement, Mayor Bryce Ward said, "I am extremely troubled and disappointed that increased cost and regulation has caused Flint Hills to close their doors to business in interior Alaska. I fear that the stringent Sulfolane cleanup level of 14 parts per billion may be too much of a burden for the refinery to achieve in an area where all residents have been given an alternative source of drinking water.

My heart goes out to the employees that were notified today that their seemingly stable jobs at the refinery will be eliminated by late 2014. The City of North Pole, as well as the surrounding North Pole community, has just been dealt a double whammy after the many challenges we faced keeping the F-16s at Eielson Air Force Base.

It is my hope that through reorganizing, the Refinery may again become viable sometime soon."

In a Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation study, it was estimated that the Flint Hills Resources Refinery in North Pole attributed 1600 indirect jobs to the community with an average salary of \$60,000.00 per year. As well as being an economic driver in North Pole as part of the Sulfolane cleanup process, Flint Hills has spent nearly \$8,000,000.00 in infrastructure upgrades to the water and sewer utility system to ensure North Pole City residents have a dedicated clean source of drinking water.

Further questions for the City of North Pole can be directed to Mayor Ward via email and telephone.

For Release: Immediate



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

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
February 5, 2014

FAIRBANKS CHAMBER RESPONDS TO FLINT HILLS RESOURCES REFINERY CLOSURE ANNOUNCEMENT

"The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce is deeply concerned about the recent announcement from Flint Hills Resources (FHR) and the impacts that the closure of the refinery will have on the Interior Alaska community, the FHR employees and their families, and on the State of Alaska.

We encourage Flint Hills Resources and the State to work cooperatively towards a solution that could keep the refinery operating. The refinery adds value to one of Alaska's greatest natural resources and is a major economic driver in the Interior.

"The majority of Interior Alaska relies on oil as their primary heat source and as Alaska's second largest city, the residents and businesses are already facing some of the state's and nation's highest energy prices," said Steve Lundgren, Chairman of the Fairbanks Chamber's Board of Directors.

For the last several years, "Reducing the High Cost of Energy" has been the Chamber's number one legislative priority. Members of the Board of Directors, committees and staff received the news from Flint Hills shortly before they arrived at the Fairbanks airport yesterday to travel to Juneau to advocate the Chamber's 2014 priorities.

Many questions are being raised about the potential negative impacts the closure will have on the availability of heating oil, gasoline and jet fuel as well as the broader impacts on the community. The Board of Directors will discuss the issue and any role the Chamber can play in mitigating those impacts this Monday, February 10, at their regularly scheduled meeting."

####

OUR MISSION: *The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce represents our members by advocating for a healthy economic environment and by building partnerships that promote the greater Fairbanks area as an attractive place for business and community.*

For more information, please contact Lisa Herbert at:
Phone: 374-6706 | Email: lisa@fairbankschamber.org | FairbanksChamber.org

INVESTORS

DIAMOND

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

PLATINUM

Alyeska 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
Kinross Fort Knox Mine
Lynden
Northrim Bank
Sumitomo Metal Mining Pogo LLC
Usibelli Coal Mine

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
GCI
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
WAL-MART Stores, Inc.
Yukon Title Company

Kathy Weber

From: Kathie Wasserman <kathie@akml.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 9:59 AM
Subject: PILT PARTY!!!!!!

To All.....

As many of you already know, yesterday afternoon, the U.S. Senate voted 68-32 to send the 5-year farm bill to the President's desk where later this week, it will PROBABLY be signed into law. The House had already passed the conference report at the end of January, 251-166.

Now, all you Alaska farmers (this IS the farm bill, after all) can jump for joy. Beyond all the "farming" stuff in the bill, it also included FY14 funding for Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT). The PILT program, after the President's signature, will be fully funded for one more year (why is this always on a year-by-year basis) to the tune of \$425 million. The amount of money that is paid to Alaska's municipalities totals approximately \$26.5 million.

Just to let those know who might not be familiar with how this money keeps flowing.....this is an issue on which AML spends MUCH effort and lobbying funds. This is one of the issues that your dues provide to strong lobbying efforts.

Good Work!!!!

Kathie Wasserman
Executive Director
Alaska Municipal League
217 2nd Street, Suite 200
Juneau, Alaska 99801
907-586-1325
fax 907-463-5480

February 2014 FNSB Public Libraries Report

TO: Library staff
Jeff Jacobson
Friends of North Pole Branch
Library Foundation
Library Commission

FROM: Mary Ellen Baker (2-2-14)

Hello, everyone. Boy! January seems like a blur looking back. Thank you so much for all the help you have provided in so many ways, and to staff for all the work you are doing and the services and programs you are providing.

RFID / Self-Checkout / Automated Materials Handling (AMH)

Sirsi/Dynix is the company that is partnering with Bibliotecha to provide the equipment and installation for this project. Library staff met with representatives to discuss the best equipment and configurations for us to move in this direction. We estimate it will take 4 months to convert the library collection to RFID tags. We expect self-checkout and AMH equipment will be functioning at the Noel Wien Library by August. We expect the equipment will be working at the new North Pole Branch by the time of the grand opening. This will be a time-intensive project, but I believe it will allow us to improve service, efficiency, and to improve the allocation of our staff and time resources. I certainly will keep you updated on this project.

The new North Pole Branch is really looking like a wonderfully designed and inviting library, even without furniture, a collection and people. Lots of people are focusing lots of attention on the myriad of details that need attention prior to opening.

Nova Timekeeping

Staff have been training on the Borough's new electronic timekeeping system. We have started to use it, and the Payroll staff are assisting with the transition.

David Peck, Library Security Assistant, was recognized as the January FNSB Employee of the Month.

Preparation for the FY 15 Borough budget is well underway. Library staff have been working on their parts of the library budget, and Mayor Hopkins held meetings with departments this past week. I'll keep updating you as the process continues.

April and I attended training on the Open Meetings Act. It was presented by Rene Broker, Borough Attorney.

Design of the new bookmobile continues.

Several staff will be attending the Alaska Library Association conference (Feb 27-Mar2). Renee Van Nort and Jacob Cole, our new Public Services Manager, will be attending the Public Library Association Conference in Indiana in March. The Alaska State Library has provided 6 continuing education grants, which greatly help with conference attendance costs.

The appropriating ordinance for the Rasmuson Grant and local contingency funds is on the Borough Assembly agenda in the next couple of weeks. The Foundation and Friends are working very hard on the local fundraising effort. The Foundation designed, printed, and mailed wonderful post cards to North Pole area residents to encourage donations to the Pick.Click.Give. program.

The Library will again participate in the annual Biz Bee on February 20 at 7pm at the Westmark.

I will be visiting with my mother – flying out the eve of Feb 5, and returning Feb 15 – back to work on the 18th.

Office of the Mayor
City of North Pole

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Nicholas James Taylor (Nick) has accomplished all requirements required for the advancement to the rank of Eagle Scout; and

WHEREAS, Nick began scouting with Pack 49 in September 2006 and earned his "Arrow of Light" before crossing over to troop 42 to become a Boy Scout; and

WHEREAS, Nick served in the following leadership positions as a Boy Scout; Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Troop Librarian, and Raven Patrol Guide; and

WHEREAS, to date Nick has earned 31 merit badges, including all 4 historical merit badges offered during scouting's 100th year anniversary, automotive maintenance, aviation, camping, carpentry, citizenship in the community, citizenship in the nation, citizenship in the world, communications, cooking, cycling, emergency preparedness, environmental science, family life, fire safety, fly fishing, gardening, law, path finding, personal fitness, personal management, reading, rowing, scouting heritage, signaling, small boat sailing, snow sports, swimming, tracking, weather, wilderness survival, woodwork; and

WHEREAS, Nick currently holds the "Golden Skillet Award", a title which he has successfully defended consecutively for the last 3 camporees; and

WHEREAS, Nick has earned both the -40 and -100 patch in one winter, while camping in a snow shelter at Hanson Pond where a cumulative below zero camping achievement is -166 degrees. Nick and his family were the first family in the interior to earn the -40 patch together, as a family, camping at -56 degrees; and

Whereas, Nick has successfully completed his Eagle Scout Project, building 4 handicap accessible planter beds for Santa's Senior Center.

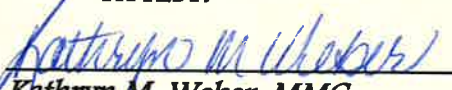
Now Therefor, I, Bryce J. Ward, mayor of the City of North Pole, on behalf of the Citizens and City Council of the City of North Pole, Alaska do hereby recognize and congratulate

Nicholas James Taylor for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bryce J. Ward, Mayor of the City of North Pole, on behalf of the citizens and City Council of the City of North Pole, Alaska do hereby recognize and congratulate, Nicholas James Taylor, for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.


Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:


Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk



Office of the Mayor
City of North Pole

Proclamation

***WHEREAS,** Heart Disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, it affects men and women of every age and race; and*

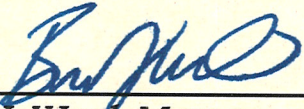
***WHEREAS,** more than 64 million Americans suffer from one or more forms of cardiovascular disease, including high blood pressure, coronary heart disease, congestive heart failure, stroke, and congenital heart defects that can lead to heart disease; and*

***WHEREAS,** by developing good eating habits, being physically active, and taking advantage of preventive screenings, and avoiding drugs, tobacco, and excessive use of alcohol, individuals and families can significantly reduce the onset and burden of heart disease; and*

***WHEREAS,** many heart attack victims do not recognize the sign until it is too late, only one in five is able to reach a hospital quickly enough to benefit fully from treatment; and*

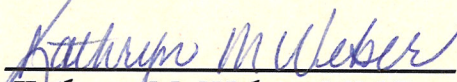
***WHEREAS,** far too many Americans are unaware of the danger of cardio arrest, about 95 percent of sudden cardiac arrest victims die before reaching the hospital.*

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the North Pole City Council hereby encourages citizens to learn more about its risk factors, its various warning signs, and lifesaving emergency response techniques by joining with the American Heart Association and Women's Heart Health Month.*



Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk





**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 Amanda Bean

The North Pole Police Department would like to congratulate you for a job well done. During 2013 you did a great job even though you were only on the road just over six months. You conducted 310 traffic stops; you were third in arrests, and pulled 71 reports. You were primary officer on 595 events and were back up officer on 95 others.

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

Chief Steve Dutra

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SDutra", written over the printed name "Chief Steve Dutra".



**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 Bruce Milne

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 277 traffic stops; you were second highest in events with 550, and pulled 82 reports.

You also came out of the CTC academy as the number one officer and that is an impressive accomplishment.

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


Chief Steve Dutra

CITY OF NORTH POLE

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.**

WHEREAS, the Alaska Workers' Compensation Board is a public organization that is accountable to the residents, Legislature and Governor of Alaska and that acts as the lead agency for adjudicating disputes under the Alaska Worker's Compensation Act, to ensure quick, efficient and fair payments of benefits to injured workers at a reasonable cost to employers; and,

WHEREAS, despite a 14.2% decline in the frequency of worker's compensation claims over the past 5 years, Alaska has seen its workers' compensation premium rates climb to the highest in the nation; and,

WHEREAS, workers' compensation medical costs have increased 25% over the last 5 years and are the primary driver in the increase in premium with \$0. 75 of every \$ 1. 00 spent on workers' compensation benefits being spent on medical cost; and,

WHEREAS, identical medical services paid by a workers' compensation claim versus private insurance or self -pay is often multiples higher; and,

WHEREAS, Resolution 13 -01 of the Alaska Workers' Compensation Board identifies changes needed to address the escalating workers' compensation costs while protecting the rights of workers to fair and reasonable compensation when injured while working; and,

WHEREAS, legislative action to implement the changes recommended in Resolution 13 -01 of the Alaska Workers' Compensation Board is in the best interest of the City of North Pole, its residents, and its employers.

BE IT RESOLVED the North Pole City Council supports legislative action to adopt the recommended changes outlined in Resolution 13 -01 of the Alaska Workers' Compensation Board.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council this 3rd day of February, 2014

Bryce J Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk

Yes:
No:
Absent:

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

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
Impound Administrative fees	\$ 384.00
Made in North Pole (waive fee for initial 61 approved applications)	\$ 100.00
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 Tie-in 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.05-17 §2,2005), (Ord.06-11 §2(part), 2), (Ord.11-06 §2 (part), 2), (Ord. 12-17 §2(part), 2), (Ord 14-02 §(part),2)

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 3rd day of March, 2014.

Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk

PASSED/FAILED
YES:
NO:
Absent:

125 Snowman Ln
North Pole AK
99705
(O) 907-488-8584
(M) 907-888-4444

**City of North Pole
Office of the Mayor**

Memo

To: City Council
From: Mayor Bryce Ward
CC: Kathy Weber
Date: 2/12/2014
Re: Made in North Pole, Alaska wavier

Dear City Council,

Please consider allowing modification of our fee schedule to encourage local businesses to take advantage of our Made in North Pole Program. As a method to encourage use and notoriety I am asking to waive the fee for the initial 61 approved applications. 61 is the number of years North Pole has been incorporated as a city.

We have support from the following organizations in our efforts to develop this program: North Pole Economic Development Corp, Fairbanks Economic Development Corp, Fairbanks North Star Borough Economic Development Commission, and Alaska Small Business Development Center. The Alaska Small Business Development Center has agreed to send out a postcard to its members in the North Pole area (over 600) to help increase notoriety of our program.

Thank you

Mayor, Bryce Ward

**CITY OF NORTH POLE
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**

WHEREAS, the City of North Pole created its Utility to provide residents with the sanitation, protection and convenience afforded by a public utility system and to promote an improved community environment; and

WHEREAS, the Utility is required to have an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (APDES) to discharge treated wastewater to the Tanana River; and

WHEREAS, the Utility's APDES permit requires that the Utility have a mixing zone in the Tanana River to disperse its treated wastewater; and,

WHEREAS, the natural environment is dynamic and constantly changing which can affect the operation of facilities and process dependent upon the natural environment; and

WHEREAS, the recent loss of river flow to the channel of the Tanana River where the Utility discharges treated wastewater has caused the Utility to lose its mixing zone and be in ongoing violation of its APDES discharge permit; and,

WHEREAS, this act of nature has caused a threat to public health by exposing the public to an open channel of treated wastewater; and,

WHEREAS, the Utility is negotiating a Compliance Order by Consent with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation to find a solution to the loss of the mixing zone; and,

WHEREAS, finding a solution for the loss of mixing zone will require expensive engineering and wastewater consultations; site assessments, and technology assessments; and,

WHEREAS, this unpredictable act of nature that caused the Utility to lose its mixing zone will place an undue burden upon utility rate payers and the City of North Pole to find a solution to the loss of the mixing zone; and

41
42 **WHEREAS**, the City of North Pole is requesting a State of Alaska legislative
43 appropriation to assist the Utility to find a solution to it loss of mixing zone ; and,
44
45 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the North Pole City Council is
46 requesting a Legislative Capital Projects Appropriation of \$500,000 to find a solution to
47 the Utility's loss of its mixing zone in the Tanana River in support of a Compliance Order
48 by Consent with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.
49
50 **PASSED AND APPROVED** by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City
51 Council on this 18th day of February, 2014
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53
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Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

58 ATTEST:
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62 Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
63 North Pole City Clerk
64

CITY OF NORTH POLE

RESOLUTION 14-05

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORTH POLE AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE
OF TRACT I-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**

WHEREAS, the City of North Pole Home Rule Charter outlines the authority and responsibility of the City Council and Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the Charter allocates power to authorize the making of contracts on behalf of the City with the Council; and,

WHEREAS, the Charter provides that all contracts, except as otherwise provided in Section 12.2 of the Charter¹, shall be authorized by the Council and shall be signed on behalf of the City by the Mayor and the City Clerk, after having been approved as to form by the City Attorney; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of North Pole City Council authorizes the purchase of Tract I-1, ASLS 2006-70 and Tract F-1-B, ASLA 2003-50 from the State of Alaska in the amount of \$109,503 and further grants the Mayor authority to sign all legal documents for the purchase of these properties on behalf of the City. The funding for the purchase of these properties was appropriated in the 2014 Utility Department Capital Budget.

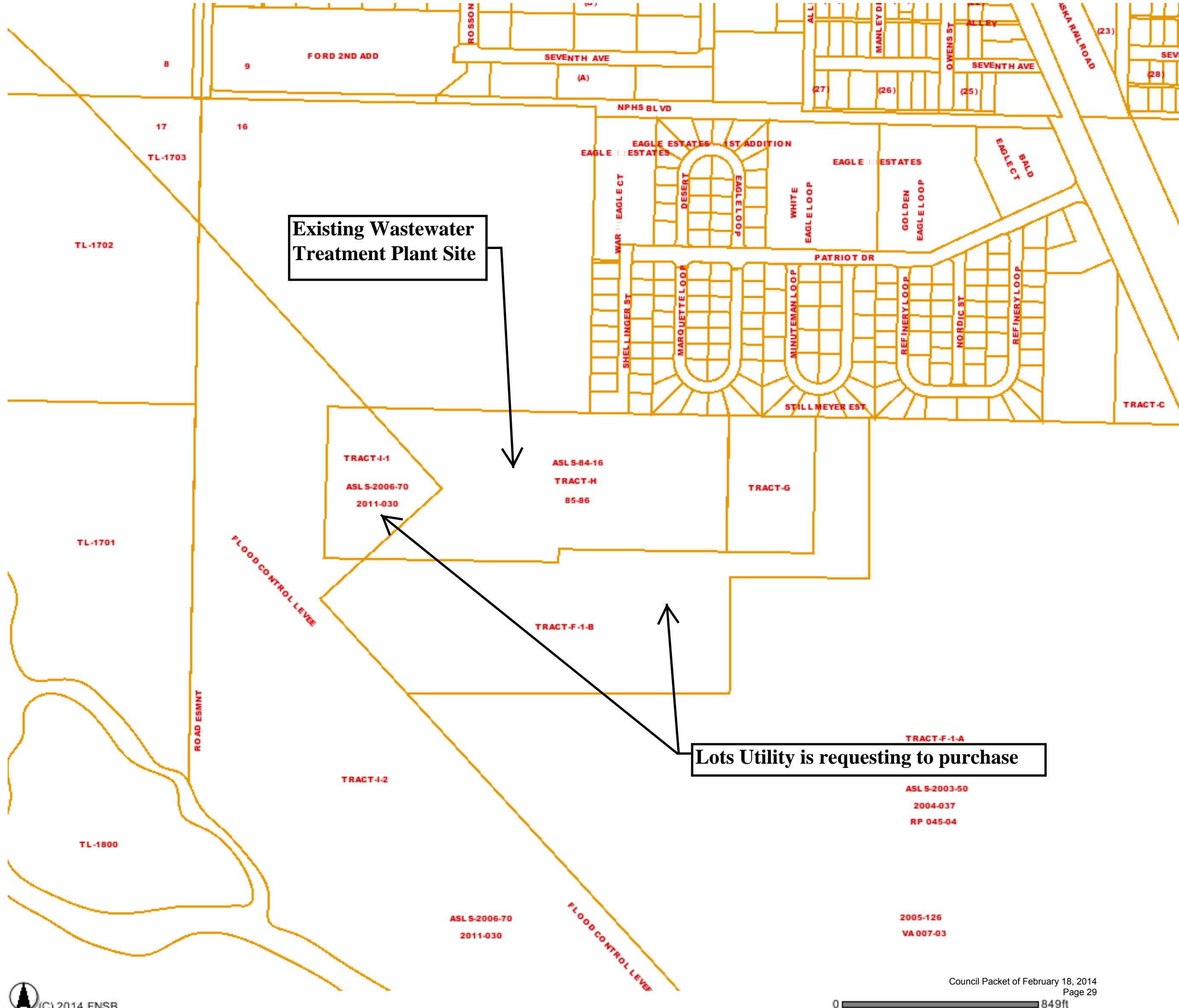
PASSED AND APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the North Pole City Council on this 18th day of February, 2014.

Bryce J. Ward, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn M. Weber, MMC
North Pole City Clerk

¹ Home Rule Charter, Section 12.2. The Council shall establish by ordinance the procedure for the purchase and sale of personal property. Such procedures shall include a provision for centralized purchasing on behalf of the City. The procedures shall also provide the dollar limit within which purchase and sales of personal property may be made without securing competitive bids, and the dollar limit within which purchases may be made without specific Council approval. Such procedures shall also provide for the making of emergency purchases and contracts which shall not be subject to Section 12.3(c) of this Chapter when an emergency exists.



Existing Wastewater
Treatment Plant Site

Lots Utility is requesting to purchase