



Mayor
John K. Handeland

City Clerk/Treasurer
Dan Grimmer

Nome Common Council
Kohren Green
Scot Henderson
Mark Johnson
Maggie Miller
Adam Martinson
Cameron Piscoya

**NOME COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2025 at 7:00 PM
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL

102 Division St. ▪ P.O. Box 281 . Nome, Alaska 99762 . Phone (907) 443-6663 . Fax (907) 443-5345

ROLL CALL AT 7:00P.M.

Members Present: C. Johnson, C. Piscoya, C. Green, C.Henderson, S.Lopez
Also Present: John K. Handeland, Mayor; Dan Grimmer, City Clerk/Acting City Manager;
In the Audience: Ben Townsend, Brad Soske, Diana Haecker, Thomas Simonsson, Rodney Jones,
AyyuSue Katchatag, Steve Longley, Wali Rana

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A Motion to approve the agenda was made by C.Henderson and seconded by C.Piscoya.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Miller, C.Henderson, C.Piscoya, C.Green, S.Lopez

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. 25-02-10 Nome Common Council Meeting Minutes,

A motion to approve the meeting minutes made by C.Henderson and seconded by C.Green.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Miller, C.Henderson, C.Piscoya, C.Green,

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Cards of Support for Bering Air Flight 445,

The City Clerk mentioned that the city is not sure where they came from and thought it was nice to share and know we have support.

B. KNOM Sponsorship Proposal,

The City Clerk stated there was a proposal during the last meeting and it was above our allocated budget for this fiscal year. It clarifies for KNOM covering the Port, Planning, PSAC and NJU regular meetings up through June 30, 2025. C.Green requested if this can be posted on the Nome website.

C. February 11, 2025 License Renewal (ABC) for Airport Pizzeria,

D. February 17, 2025 Quintillion Update,

The city is running a lot faster than before. Not at fiber optic speed but it is a lot better.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Rodney Jones-owner of checker cab for 30 years. RJ mentions he met all the demands, needs, and requirements. He appreciates the council for giving him this opportunity. There was no mechanical shop to use because no one wants to do business with them and there was no other shop available. He was then authorized to inspect his own vehicles.

The hospital is in the same situation as the cab service and they do not require a city mechanic to inspect their vehicles. They are doing the exact same thing as the cab company. He is asking if he can do his own inspections as he did in the past. The Clerk pointed out that mechanics have to be approved by the Police Chief and the Chief would not allow him to do his own inspections. The Clerk has been consulting with the attorney and is doing what he can. A council member asks RJ if he remembers when the previous manager told him he can do it on his own. RJ answers that it's been about 5 years. The Clerk said he has been patient with RJ and the council had decided to give him some time to get caught up.

Council says at one point when Glenn was working they had wanted to look into having the other companies that give rides for passengers the same obligation as the cab companies.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. R-25-02-05 A Resolution Designating Daniel Grimmer as Acting City Manager for February 24th Through April 14th 2025,

A motion to approve this Resolution was made by C.Henderson and seconded by C.Green.

DISCUSSION: Do we have an update on the city manager search? The Clerk mentions there is about a handful of applicants. Do we need to wait to have a special meeting to hire the city manager or do we have to wait until end of next month? The Clerk said he will look into it and let the council know.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Henderson, C.Piscoya, C.Green,

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- B. O-25-03-01 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY2025 General Fund Municipal Budget, FIRST READING/DISCUSSION

A motion to approve this Ordinance was made by C.Henderson and seconded by C.Green, to pass to the 2nd reading.

DISCUSSION: It was asked if the Finance Director was on the line. The Finance Director asked the Clerk if the bid can be reopened and yes it can. The money will be waiting in the city of Nome school bond fund until the City approves the budget. The Clerk said that the school bond fund has to be used for school projects. The Finance Director asked the Clerk if the project is going for rebid, and yes, it is.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Henderson, C.Piscoya, C.Miller, C.Green,

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- C. O-25-03-02 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY2025 School Debt Service Fund Budget, FIRST READING/DISCUSSION

A motion to approve this Ordinance was made by C.Piscoya and seconded by C.Green, to pass to the 2nd reading.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Henderson, C.Piscoya, C.Miller, C.Green,

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

D. O-25-03-03 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY2025 Special Revenue Fund Budget, FIRST READING/DISCUSSION

A motion to approve this Ordinance was made by C.Henderson and seconded by C.Green, to pass to the 2nd reading.

DISCUSSION: Finance is moving the funds of \$100,000 from FY2022 to FY2025. Allocated to the school pool.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Henderson, C.Piscoya, C.Miller, C.Green,

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

E. O-25-03-04 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY2025 Capital Projects Fund Budget, FIRST READING/DISCUSSION

A motion to approve this Ordinance was made by C.Green and seconded by C.Henderson, to pass to the 2nd reading.

DISCUSSION: It was asked if there is a match for the HUD 3D housing. The match the city has made is: donated a partial of land worth \$38,000 and there was a match for salary administration also.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Henderson, C. Martinson, C.Piscoya, C.Miller, C.Green,

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

F. O-25-03-05 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY2025 Construction Capital Projects Fund Budget, FIRST READING/DISCUSSION

A motion to approve this Ordinance was made by C.Green and seconded by C.Henderson, to pass to the 2nd reading.

DISCUSSION: The council asks the Finance Director how the money flows through this account. It was asked how the funding flowed. The city has been paying the invoices and I've been billing the school.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Henderson, C. Martinson, C.Piscoya, C.Miller, C.Green,

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

G. O-25-03-06 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2025 Port of Nome Fund Budget, FIRST READING/DISCUSSION

A motion to approve this Ordinance was made by C.Piscoya and seconded by C.Green, to pass to the 2nd reading.

DISCUSSION: general question, most adjustments happened under the causeway, is that correct? Nickie answers, Yes.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Henderson, C. Martinson, C.Piscoya, C.Miller, C.Green,

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

H. O-25-03-07 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2025 Port of Nome Capital Projects Fund Budget, FIRST READING/DISCUSSION

A motion to approve this Ordinance was made by C.Green and seconded by C.Henderson to pass to the 2nd reading.

DISCUSSION: C.Miller has a question and wanted to share something from community members about the escrow fund. There was concern about whether or not there was a conflict of interest with a member of the Port Commission working for the Bank where the escrow account was secured. It was determined that there was no conflict of interest as the Port Commissioner had no decision making responsibilities and City Administration had reached out to the Bank he represented and not the other way around.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Henderson, C. Martinson, C.Piscoya, C.Miller, C.Green,

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Thomas Simonsson mentions the NSEDC subsidy was closed on February 14th and we should be seeing the results in March. Dripping water is not always the right thing to do. The teams have been de-icing the powerlines. NJU wires are the on the top pole and the bottom is most likely GCI, so if you see a powerline down please contact the appropriate business.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Steve Longley says he read the newspaper last week to give RJ 60 days. RJ does not have the proper liability insurance. The way I'm looking at it, you are letting him break the law. He stated he started giving rides for donations to help his daughter. I am going to keep on doing what I'm doing unless the court says otherwise.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

S.Lopez – no comment

C.Miller – no comment

C.Piscoya – no comment

C.Green – thanks to everyone that spoke

C.Henderson- thanks to Nickie and Dan for the getting the budgets together.

C.Johnson – echo council member Henderson. One request for Nickie is to see a balance sheet to see what and where and how to use the money.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Note: We are not going to have a meeting during the Iditarod, the next council meeting will be March 24th. The city hall will be used for the Iditarod as well as the Mini and Old St. Joe's.

ADJOURNMENT AT 8:56P.M.

C.Piscoya makes a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by C.Green.

APPROVED and SIGNED THIS 24th DAY OF MARCH 2025

JOHN K. HANDELAND
MAYOR

DAN GRIMMER
CITY CLERK