

**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  
WORK & REGULAR MEETING AGENDA  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2024 at 5:30/07:00 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

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

---

**WORK SESSION At 05:32PM**

A. Budget Discussion Presentation by Superintendent Burgess,

**ROLL CALL At 07:04PM**

Members Present: C. Johnson, C. Martinson, C. Piscoya, C. Henderson, C. Green;

Also Present: John K. Handeland, Mayor; Dan Grimmer, City Clerk; Brooks Chandler, Interim City Manager; Nickie Crowe, Finance Director

In the Audience: Diana Haecker, Anna Lionas, Brad Soske, Thomas Simonsson, Joy Baker, Jamie Burgess, Elizabeth Korneke-Johnson, Jon Gregg, Drew McCann,

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A Motion to approved agenda was made by C. Johnson and seconded by C. Henderson.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. October 28, 2024 Nome Common Council Meeting Minutes,

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

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

A. November 8, 2024 Memo from Marijuana Control Board re: Exterior Window Pickups,

B. November 8, 2024 Memo from Marijuana Control Board re: Edibles-Only onsite consumption,

C. Letter from Alaska Adult Education Association,

- D. December 04, 2024 Christmas Extravaganza Flyer,

### **CITIZEN'S COMMENTS**

There was collaboration with KNOM and XYZ this year to put on the Christmas Extravaganza. There was an invitation to the Council to participate in this years events.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Construction Estimate for Cover for Nome Ice Rink,

The estimate came in over 1M Dollars. The estimate was prepared as a response to interest from the community. This would be a significant capital project. The Rec Center Director is looking for other options that may be less expensive.

- B. O-24-11-01 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2.45.050 Relating to Per Diem SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL DISCUSSION,

The Council went into Public Hearing at 07:18PM

The Public Hearing ended at 07:18PM

A motion to approve this Ordinance was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Johnson.

At Discussion it was reviewed what the State and Federal Per Diem currently are in comparison to what the City's current practices. C.Johnson asked about the approval process for evaluating Hotels and costs which are paid in advance and separate from Per Diem.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- C. O-24-11-02 An Ordinance Amending Nome Municipal Code Section 18.20.010 By Adding Definition for Crew Camps; Sections 18.40.030, 18.60.030 and 18.70.020 by Adding Zoning Designations and Safeguards for Crew Camps and Updating Section 18.110.010 to Incorporate the New Use into the Use Matrix SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL DISCUSSION,

The Council went into Public Hearing at 07:22PM

The Public Hearing ended at 07:22PM

A motion to approve this Ordinance was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. Piscoya.

At Discussion it was reviewed by the City Manager that this Ordinance had already gone by the Planning Commission several times. The current use of Crew Camps is not permitted by current code and so this would establish the definition of Crew Camps and Zones for which they are permitted. There were questions that were brought up by the Council last meeting and the Planner had answered those questions in her Memo attached with the Ordinance within the packet.

C.Henderson asked if it made sense to establish within this ordinance how the Crew Camps could potentially be used for longer term housing after the use of the Crew Camps are complete.

Mayor Handeland responded that C. Henderson's concern is shared. He expressed that it would be nice if these Crew Camps were of a good enough quality to be able to be used after their use for the Crew Camps was complete. He recommended that the Ordinance be passed with commitment to have the City Planner work towards further clarification of future use of the Crew Camps.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. O-24-12-01 An Ordinance Authorizing the Disposal of Municipal Property by Lease to KAWERAK, Inc. For Use as a Recycling Facility,

A Motion to pass this Ordinance on to Second Reading was made by C.Henderson and Seconded by C. Martinson.

C.Piscoya declared a potential conflict and Mayor Handeland responded that it was okay for C.Piscoya to participate.

At Discussion it was noted that the building for the recycling center has been cleaned and this agreement has been in the works for some time. "More recycled is less in the landfill" (Mayor Handeland).

CM Chandler noted that this is a partnership with Kawerak and that the City would be covering the Utilities at the site which is over at the Monofill.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- B. O-24-12-02 An Ordinance Terminating A 55 Year Lease to the Alaska Army National Guard of the Property Identified as The West 10 Acres, More or Less, Within the "Municipal Expansion Lands",

A Motion to pass this Ordinance on to Second Reading was made by C.Johnson and Seconded by C. Martinson.

It was noted by CM Chandler that after an offer was made to purchase some land owned by the City of Nome; it was noted that there was an existing lease on one of the Parcels. It was brought up by CM Chandler that the lease requirements had not been met within the required timeframe outlined in the lease. The 60 days notice was sent out by CM Chandler and he is looking for the Council to make the ultimate decision to terminate the lease.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- C. O-24-12-03 An Ordinance Amending Section 17.10.100 of the Nome Code of Ordinances to Eliminate the Penalty for Late Filing of a Sales Tax Return if No Sales Tax is Due,

A Motion to pass this Ordinance on to Second Reading was made by C.Johnson and Seconded by C. Martinson.

At Discussion it was brought up by C.Johnson that it was brought to him by a community member that they were surprised by the fees associated with not filing a zero return. It was brought up that it is looked at as a nuisance and a penalty. It was noted that there is an option for quarterly return but not for tax payers that haven't been filing on time or that are new users.

It is the Clerk's Office opinion that removing the penalties would cause issues for the clerks office. It was also noted that the Clerk's Office does inform the tax payers that there is a need to file even if no sales are made (zero return).

It was noted by the Mayor that changes to the Code could be made to make provisions or exceptions if it is of interest.

At the roll call:

Aye: C.Green, C.Johnson

Nay: C.Martinson, C.Piscoya, C.Henderson

The motion **FAILED**.

- D. R-24-11-01 A Resolution to Open an Account for the Deposit of funds Pending Transfer to The United States Arm Corps of Engineers as Provided by Article IV C (1) of the Project Cooperation Agreement for the Port of Nome Modifications,

A Motion to adopt this Resolution was made by C.Johnson and Seconded by C. Martinson.

It was explained by CM Chandler that having this money in a City account would accrue interest to the benefit of the City. It was also explained that the interest would need to be used for the project that's defined in the grant agreement which is the Port Project.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- E. R-24-11-02 A Resolution Allocating the Use of the 2022 and 2023 Community Benefits Share Recovery Funds,

The Council recessed into Public Hearing at 08:10 to see if there was any public comments on the use of these funds.

The Public Hearing ended at 08:10.

A Motion to adopt this Resolution was made by C.Johnson and Seconded by C. Martinson.

The Finance Director noted that the funds would need to be allocated quickly in order to access the next years funds.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- F. R-24-11-03 A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Contract with PND Engineers, Inc. to Modify Phase 1 Design to Reflect a Reduced Scope of the Local Service Facilities now identified as Phase 1A Within The Port of Nome Modifications Project and Arctic Port Expansion,

A Motion to adopt this Resolution was made by C. Martinson and Seconded by C. Johnson.

Project Manager Baker explained the changes to the project. It was noted that the money to fund this projects comes from grants.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- G. R-24-11-04 A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute MOD #003 of Bristol Engineers' Task Order 54 to Engage Subcontractor Services to Provide Bid Support and Construction Administration to the Cape Nome Jetty Damaged by Typhoon Merbok- Disaster DR4672AK

A Motion to adopt this Resolution was made by C. Martinson and Seconded by C. Piscoya.

Project Manager Baker summarized that the Bids were released early November and due January 9<sup>th</sup>. FEMA is on board and is going to pay for the project. It is expected that the work will be done in 2025.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- H. Sponsorship Proposal for City of Nome and Iron Dog Race 2025,

Mayor Handeland noted that the proposal is consistent with previous years and the contribution had already been budgeted. CM Chandler did not feel comfortable with the 2 year contract and being obligated for funds beyond the current year. C. Henderson asked if there were ways to show the economic impact of this event. Mayor Handeland noted that this agreement should only be for 1 year.

- I. A Memo to the Common Council re: The Determination to Refund Penalties and Interest on Property Taxes Paid by Carol Piscoya,

A Motion to refund the Penalties and Interest was made by C. Henderson and Seconded by C. Martinson.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

### **UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Happy to have a new customer service agent. There are some vacancies that have been filled. Still looking for a line crew apprentice. Looking at the wind turbines. There have been some changes in the maintenance of the turbines. It is expected that one should be back online shortly and the other is being evaluated after being damaged.

C. Johnson asked about the status of the NJUS audits. Director Handeland noted that the 2023 Audits have been closed and the 2024 are being finalized and will be transmitted to the City Auditors.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

#### **A. City Manager's Report,**

Item 5, CM Chandler asked NSHC if they were interested in leasing the property that they are interested in buying and they said they were not. CM Chandler asked them to clarify the proposed use of that property and is waiting to hear back from them.

CM Chandler reviewed the CM Report with council.

C. Henderson asked about doing quarterly budgeting as we're looking at a City Budget deficiency. It was noted that we do not have sufficient staffing to do quarterly budgeting and we do not have software that can simply create the reports needed to supply this demand. C. Johnson expressed interest and an update on what this would entail and CM Chandler said he would look into it.

C. Piscoya asked about sewing of PD patches being done locally and passing along who could do that.

C. Johnson was informed by a community member about a complaint of noise. It was noted that there is not currently a noise ordinance. CM Chandler stated that this may be something that could be cited by Alaska Statute or we could look at changing the Ordinance to be based upon a decibal measure. Mayor Handeland and C. Johnson discussed that the Council removed the noise ordinance over 10 years ago. The Mayor asked if we could look into if we are covered under State Law which PD could cite.

#### **B. November 21, 2024 Port Projects Status Report,**

Snake River moorage grant proposal was not awarded but was considered a project of merit. It is possible that this project could be reconsidered and still awarded. Decisions are made by January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025. This would be a separate project from the Port Project with separate funding.

### **CITIZEN'S COMMENTS**

Brad Soske- Thanks to City Clerk for hiring Cyrilene Okitkun as a new Deputy City Clerk. Thanks to the Police Department for hosting the Clerk's Office during the City Hall HV Project.

Ben Townsend- Thanks to the City for allowing them to help with the Christmas Extravaganza. They will be live streaming the event.

Drew McCann- Thanks to the City for the opportunity to build partnerships with Northrim Bank.

**COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS**

C.Piscoya- No Comments

C.Martinson- No Comments

C.Green- Thanks to everyone for their comments and the opportunity to learn more.

C.Henderson- Good to be back in Council Chambers. He appreciated the local financial institution with helping the City. An issue of concern from the Nome Chamber of Commerce is about there being a plan in place for restroom facilities during times where we have high tourist activity.

C.Johnson- Thanks to Northrim Bank manager for sporting the new Bunny Boots designed in Alaska.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT**

The Mayor has been looking at the Boards and Commissions to find candidates to fill vacancies. He meet with the City Clerk to provide an appointment schedule that is offset so that all the seats do not become vacant simultaneously.

- A. Reappointment of Gay Sheffield to Seat "F" of the Nome Port Commission for a 3 year term,
  - B. Reappointment of Drew McCann to Seat "D" of the Nome Port Commission for a 1 Year Term
- A Motion was made to reappoint Seats D and F by C.Henderson and Seconded by C.Martinson

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION Recessed at 09:03PM**

- A. Matters for Which Discussion in Public Would Have an Adverse Impact on City Finances or Which Are Required to be Kept Confidential re: Union Negotiations
- B. Matters Which Involve Personal Reputation re: City Manager Recruitment

**Came out of Executive session and adjourned at 09:34PM**

**APPROVED and SIGNED THIS 25<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2024**

---

**JOHN K. HANDELAND**  
**MAYOR**

---

**DAN GRIMMER**  
**CITY CLERK**