

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 10, 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 07:01PM

Members Present: C.Henderson, C.Johnson, C.Green, C.Miller, C.Piscoya
Also Present: Mayor John Handeland, City Clerk Dan Grimmer, Youth
Representative Lopez
In the Audience: Brad Soske, Anna Lionas, Thomas Simonson, Ben Townsend, Rodney
Jones, Joy Baker, Charles Cacciola (ZOOM)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Clerk Dan Grimmer addressed the council with two items to add to the agenda. One resolution to add to new business item C and a KNOM handout added to communications item C.

A motion made by C.Henderson to accept the agenda with amendments to new business and communications, seconded by C.Green.

At Roll Call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion made by C.Johnson to accept the 25-01-27 meeting minutes, seconded by C.Henderson.

At Roll Call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. 24-12-03 Nome Planning Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
- B. February 10, 2025 Memo to the Nome Common Council RE: Correspondence from Rodney Jones from Nome Checker Cab.
- C. KNOM – discussing the prices to cover meetings. Have an estimate for the streaming by KNOM of the NCC meeting minutes. The estimate is \$200 per meeting. There was discussion about NJUS paying KNOM for the recording of their meetings.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Rodney Jones – owns checker cab. Has been out and down with medical issues. He is here to fix his business issues. With the quintillion problems it's hard to get incoming calls. Has been working with his company for 30 years or so.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. February 10, 2025 a Memo to the Nome Common Council from the City Clerk RE: Penalties and Interest on the Sales Tax Account for Nome Checker Cab.

Mayor, says that Mr. Jones is asking to waive the interest and penalties on the Sales Tax Account from 2021-2023. The city clerk gave an amount of \$4,120.56.

A motion made by C.Johnson to accept Nome Checker Cab's waiver of the interest and penalties for 2021, 2022 and 2023, seconded by C.Green.

At Roll Call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. R-25-02-01 A Resolution of the Nome Common Council Resolving to Release Three Taxi Cab Licenses and Authorizing the City Clerk to Determine Eligibility to Apply for a License by Lot

A motion to pass this resolution was made by C.Miller and seconded by C.Piscoya.

Discussion:

C.Henderson stated that a work session was made on this already. He noted the Ordinance reads that the limit of taxi cab licenses is based upon economic viability as we as that the Council would determine from time to time if releasing the three licenses would be supported by the market. C.Henderson voiced his concerns based upon the comments made by Nome Checker cab; that the licenses that Checker Cab currently holds is possibly in excess of what the market would support. He stated that he is uncomfortable putting more licenses into circulation without enforcing all taxi cab ordinances and giving sufficient time to come into compliance.

C.Johnson reviewed the original amount of licenses endorsed back in 2005 vs how many are currently in circulation.

C.Martinson made the Comment that the City owns the licenses and that licenses cannot be promised/issued or sold to another entity without first having been given permission from the Council.

There was further discussion about the market being able to sustain more cabs than what is currently available.

A motion was made by C.Henderson to table this Resolution and to table for 90 days, seconded by C.Piscoya.

At Roll Call to table this Resolution:

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

Nay: C.Miller, C.Green

The motion **FAILED**.

At Roll Call to pass the Resolution:

Aye: C.Green, C.Miller,

Nay: C.Henderson, C.Johnson, C.Piscoya

The motion **FAILED**.

- B. R-25-02-02 A Resolution Awarding the Cape Nome Jetty Repair Project to Duwamish Services LLC

A motion made by C.Henderson to accept Resolution R-25-02-02, seconded by C.Piscoya.

At Roll Call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- C. R-25-02-03 A Resolution rejecting all bids for the Nome Public Schools ADA and security upgrades project.

A motion made by C.Johnson to accept Resolution R-25-02-03, seconded by C.Green.

At Roll Call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

John – mentions there isn't much to report except that they signed an agreement with their local tribes for the 6th avenue water project for this summer.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Port Project Status February 2025

Joy mentions the meeting in DC resulting in good meeting and follow-up actions.

Dan Grimmer, acting city manager, reads information from the NPD. These are the final steps. The city is also suffering same kind of problems with bandwidth for the internet issues as the community of Nome. With the tragic accident this weekend we all gathered together for prayer and support.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

B.Soske mentions he is here as a resident/city employee. He commends Nome Checker Cab for getting caught up on their taxes.

B.Townsend says he commends the leadership of the council. He has a readout from Miranda, thanking the council for supporting their non-profit organization.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

- C.Green – thanking everyone in the city for helping out with the accident.
- C.Miller – condolences to the families and grateful for everyone to come together.
- C.Henderson – I'd like to echo Green and Miller. Amazing how we pull together. Asking if there are any updates on the quintillion breakage. The additional bandwidth is being arranged and installed by the end of the week.

- C.Piscoya – Resources for those traumatized. Reach out to your family and friends, check up on them.
- C.Johnson – Appreciation of the NVFD and City Staff. We are blessed to have a volunteer fire department and all other volunteers in our community.
- Youth Representative Lopez gives his condolences and is grateful for the people to come together.
- Mayor – Nome responded as we have numerous times. Thank you to NVFD, Jim West Jr., Chuck Fagerstrom, Paul Kosto, Danielle Sem and the Governor.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

- A. Reappointment of Kenneth Hughes to seat “G” of the Nome Planning Commission for a 3-year term.

A motion made by C.Henderson to accept the reappointment of Kenneth Hughes for seat G on the NPC for a term of 3 years.

At Roll Call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:50p.m. AND out at 9:21p.m.

- A. Legal Matters-matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential;

A motion made by C.Johnson to go into executive session, seconded by C.Henderson.

At Roll Call:

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

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

ADJOURNMENT at 9:21p.m.

APPROVED and SIGNED THIS 24th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2025

**JOHN K. HANDELAND
MAYOR**

**DAN GRIMMER
CITY CLERK**