

**MINUTES
NOME PORT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
December 14th, 2017**

The Regular Meeting of the Nome Port Commission was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman West in Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 102 Division Street.

OATH OF OFFICE

Port Commissioner Russell Rowe was sworn into office.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: C. Smithhisler; C. Lean, C. West; C. Rowe; C. McLarty; (C. Michels joined

Absent: C. Henderson

Also Present: Lucas Stotts, Harbormaster; Joy Baker, Port Director (telephonically); Tom Moran, City Manager

In the audience: Zoe Grueskin, KNOM; Sandra Medearis, Arctic News

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman West asked for a motion to approve the agenda:

A motion was made by McLarty and seconded by Smithhisler.

At the Roll Call:

Ayes: Lean, West, Rowe, McLarty, Smithhisler

Nays:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 16, 2017 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by C. Smithhisler and seconded by C. McLarty to approve the minutes.

At the Roll Call:

Ayes: West, Rowe, McLarty, Smithhisler, Lean

Nays:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Colby Engstrom spoke regarding the proposed location identified for his laundry facility does not have adjacent water and sewer available, but he does prefer a site somewhere within the Small Boat Harbor. His operation is intended to be shipping containers modified into a laundry facility with shower units to follow. He has been discussing with owners of other potential sites, but still prefers the site in the harbor if he can work out access to the water and sewer.

COMMUNICATIONS

- 17-02-17 USCG D17 MSIB 05-17 on Alternative Planning Criteria
- 17-11-30 Banning Commercial Fisheries in Int'l Arctic Waters - ADN
- 17-12-08 China sent more than a dozen ships through Arctic 2017 - AN

Discussion: There was none

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT (17-12-08 Report)

Reminded the Commissioners of the City Christmas party taking place tomorrow night, and that they are invited. He plans to follow up with Colby Engstrom regarding his earlier comments on potential properties the City may be foreclosing on, to ensure he has accurate information. Congratulations to Harbormaster Stotts who has just renewed his contract for another two years. He will be out of town for 12 days during the holidays – City Clerk Bryant Hammond will be Acting City Manager. Welcome aboard Russell Rowe.

HARBORMASTER'S REPORT (Verbal)

HM Stotts advised that the latest round of impounds is going well with the process expediting numerous payments to clear accounts. All other accounts beyond 60/90 days will initiate another round of impounds in February. He will be out of town from 15-29 December, and starts with Public Works on 1 Jan. He has already receiving berthing requests from cruise ships to ensure dates are secure. Maintenance work has been done on several of the ladders in the harbor – 2 are seriously damaged and will need replaced. An inspection has been done on fender camels, which appear to be holding up well, with the exception of some shackle pins that need replacing and tack welded. Inventory of VHF radios/antennas has shown a few items in need of replacement.

Discussion:

Sounds like a few ladders were crunched, but where? HM Stotts replied in southeast corner of harbor along south wall, with no one accepting responsibility. Having cameras in place for 2018 will be helpful.

PORT DIRECTOR REPORT (Projects Update) (17-11-09 Report)

PD Baker advised the group of progress relating to the ADDP study, with more information anticipated to be available in January, all largely due to the continued pressure from Senator Sullivan and his staff.

PD Baker asked John Blees to elaborate on the status of the Cape Nome Repair; John advised that PND's initial evaluation of Knik's final bathymetric survey against the substantial completion survey, showed rock still deficient in several areas. PND is working to verify this information and prepare a submittal response to Knik the fully explains the issue. As the project was anticipated to meet the completion date of 21 Dec 2017, an extension request was sent to DHS/FEMA with the advisory that additional rock will need to be placed during the 2018 ice-free season.

PD Baker also advised that NW Arctic Transportation Plan meeting was held during AFN, and there were comments taken regarding not only road projects in the Nome area, but the ADDP project as well. The City Council approved the state and federal legislative priorities on 11 December. The state package contained requests for additional ADDP study/design funds as well as a Port Bond Package to support several of our pending projects. The federal package contained requests for construction of an ADDP, and congressional authorization to deepen the Small Boat Harbor to -12' MLLW.

Lastly, the attached F18 Port & Harbor revenue and expense figures through 30 November 2017 that shows several categories of revenue exceeding 100% with May/June 2018 activity remaining.

Discussion:

McLarty asked about comparisons on revenue compared to earlier years at this time. PD Baker advised that the calendar year revenue comparison provided in November, per Henderson's request, will be updated through 31 December and provided in the January work session on the tariff.

OLD BUSINESS

There was none

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of NCO Chapter 12 Code concerning the impound process, to address repeat offenders:

PD Baker briefly explained the intent to develop additional remedies to users that routinely find themselves in the impound process due to non-payment of fees. The attorney came back with an extensive rewrite of the impound section of the code for your consideration tonight. CM Moran and I thought this was more than was needed at this time, so it was determined that this item should be reviewed and discussed with the Commission members. Further evaluation of what reasonable remedies can be done administratively, with a few changes strategically made in the tariff and code.

Discussion:

A few ideas were bantered about regarding pursuing small claims, extending due dates to 60 days, as well as being banned from the facility for repeatedly being impounded. PD Baker indicated more discussion with the attorney is scheduled for next week, with results provided at the January work session.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS - None

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

C. Lean – welcome to Russel; glad to see HM Stotts is staying; would like to see laundry facility in vicinity of harbor as well, and if City isn't going to build one, we can think about location behind office. Fishery closure memo is a pet peeve; I believe we need to close donut holes beyond 100 mile limit. Not sure aware of the volume of Pollock and Pacific Cod near St. Lawrence Island. The fish are moving north and they are on our doorstep, and it's very ironic the federal government decides to close the fishery because there's so many fish. He is actually encouraged about the revenue picture.

C. Michels – attended NWATP and a lot of material that was in the 2004 plan was not included in new update. She requested they added all of the proposed roads and trails, the Arctic Deep Draft Port for Nome, and also noted BSNC folks were in attendance regarding development at Port Clarence. Great to see so many in attendance for the region – with she and others requesting a meeting be held in Nome. It was good to hear from Admiral during the AWSC meeting, who indicated a review of LNG transportation plans should be done by the region. Crystal cruises is adding a new ice-class ship to transit the Arctic.

C. McLarty - none

C. Smithhisler – welcome to Russell, and wish all the Port staff happy holidays.

C. Rowe – thanks for Charlie and Shane for the welcome words. Happy to be hear – I know my Dad served for quite some time so I'm happy to follow in those footsteps and serve the community.

C. West – apologize for being late. Working towards the fruition of a wastewater acceptance facility, and being able to accept solids is definitely a step in the right direction for the long term. Welcome to Russell,

and although I didn't serve with your Dad, I believe my Dad did so it's good to see generations following along.

SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting: January 18, 2018 at 5:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by C. McLarty for adjournment – meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.

APPROVED and **SIGNED** this 14th day of December, 2017.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jim West", written over a horizontal line.

Jim West, Chairman

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joy Baker", written over a horizontal line.
Joy Baker, Port Director