

**MINUTES  
NOME PORT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017**

The Regular Meeting of the Nome Port Commission was called to order at 7:02pm by Chairman West in Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 102 Division Street.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: C. Smithhisler; C. West Jr.; C. Henderson; C. Johnson; C. Cox

Absent: C. Lean; C. McLarty

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

In the audience: Lauren Frost, KNOM; Chuck Wheeler; Doug & Judy Martinson; Sandra Medearis, Arctic News; Robert Madden Jr.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman West asked for an approval of the agenda.

A motion was made by C. Smithhisler and seconded by C. Cox to approve the agenda as presented.

At the Roll Call:

Ayes: West, Henderson, Johnson, Cox, Smithhisler

Nays:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

February 16, 2017 Regular Meeting

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

At the Roll Call:

Ayes: West, Henderson, Johnson, Cox, Smithhisler

Nays:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Chuck Wheeler – NJUS is a water/sewer enterprise and with alternative energy, there's likely a way to pump the grey/sewage water into a holding tank and at the end of the season put it straight into the lagoons, with a facility near the lagoon for handling. Also, high-tech aeration lagoons should be investigated, and encourages more people that use the Port to get involved in the Port Commission.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

- Bering Sea Vessel Traffic Risk Analysis – Nuka Research Dec 2016
- Alaska Port & Harbor Infrastructure Report Card – Feb 2017
- Alaska Ports & Harbors – ABM March 2017

### **Discussion:**

There was none

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT** (03/20/17 Written)

CM Moran touched on highlights from written report: Kawerak's interest in the old Museum & Library Building; increase in filming crews requesting permits to film in town; hats off to some City personnel for their assistance in pulling off Iditarod at the Nome in; F18 budgets are in prep status, and he still believes that we should seriously look into the laundry/shower facility in the harbor; a few abated building in town; and pointed out that Port Director Baker has been invited to testify on Alaska's port infrastructure needs at a U.S. Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee hearing on 30 March 2017.

### **Discussion:** None

## **HARBORMASTER'S REPORT** (Verbal)

HM Stotts gave a quick update on the few early field activities; Q Trucking has begun winter excavation of the Snake River as part of the Thornbush project, and is prepping the disposal site. He is starting to receive berthing requests for the 2017 season that will be incorporated into the schedule as they are received.

**Discussion:** C. Henderson inquired if the requests are showing any indication of being busier or slower? HM Stotts responded it is too early to tell.

## **Port Director Report / Projects Update (Written)**

03.17.17 Port Director/Projects Status Report

PD Baker highlighted the section on the Arctic Deep Draft Port rescoping and the pending plan having been submitted to Army Corps Headquarters for consideration. Thornbush project is proceeding with Snake River excavation with anticipation of completion around mid-April 2017.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was none.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Port & Harbor Pending Projects List – Updated

### **Discussion:**

Discussion ensued about various in-house projects, their overall need and cost impacting where they fall on the priority list; specifically, laundry/shower facility, cruise tender floats in SE corner of harbor, the deadman anchor at the haulout ramp, and future floats for the Snake River. Questions arose on the design layout of the anchor deadman, which is still on the design table with PND. We anticipate the final to be received for the May meeting with some general specs for construction as requested by Tony. Proposals will be requested from PND on the cruise tenders, with an update on the deadman anchor. Proposals will also be requested from Bristol on the shower/laundry facility, as well as some preliminary planning/cost information on the Waste Reception Facility.

### CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Judy Martinson – wanted to reiterate concerns brought up last fall to ensure. She believes the overcrowding is causing dangerous and unsafe navigation conditions. Doug suggested additional ladders on the south wall to allow additional access, and possible separation of vessels by size. Also believe additional staff should be on site at night while vessels are docking.

### COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

C. Johnson – congrats to Joy on invitation to testify. He believes the specific ramp for the cruise tenders is a good idea to reduce congestion at the floats and provide closer access for foot traffic.

C. Henderson – good/informative meeting, thanks for the detail on the pending projects and it's obvious that there are funding issues with accomplishing everything on the list, and is concerned about the issues raised by the Martinson's.

C. Smithhisler – no comments.

C. Cox – congrats to Joy, glad for the discussion on the projects. He'll be out of state for the April 2017 meeting, and is advising now that the May 2017 meeting will be his last.

C. West – is there any extra materials to build ladders? (Those were fabricated outside). Then let's get a cost estimate on purchasing some new ladders and we can look at how to get additional staff around the dock in the evenings. Congrats to Joy.

### SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING


The next meeting: April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 5:30PM.

### ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by C. Henderson for adjournment – meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017.

ATTEST:

  
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Tony Cox, Secretary  
THOMAS MORAN,  
Manager

  
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Jim West, Chairman

