

**MINUTES
NOME PORT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
January 17th, 2019**

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.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Smithhisler; Lean, (telephonically); West; Henderson; Rowe; Sheffield; McLarty;

Also Present: Joy Baker, Port Director (telephonically); Lucas Stotts, Harbormaster;

In the audience: Sandra Medearis, Arctic News;

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman West asked for a motion to approve the agenda

Motion was made by Smithhisler and seconded by Sheffield

At the Roll Call:

Ayes: Lean, West, Henderson, Rowe, Sheffield, McLarty, Smithhisler

Nays:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dec 20, 2018 Motion was made by McLarty, seconded by Henderson to approve the minutes:
Regular Meeting

At the Roll Call:

Ayes: Henderson, Rowe, Sheffield, McLarty, Smithhisler, Lean, West

Nays:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Sandra Medearis asked if there will be any action from the work session regarding the discharging of firearms within the Port. West indicated he did not believe so, as the consensus was to recommend the Council communicate formally with the tribal entities and determine whether there is need to set a specific ruling in the tariff or code.

COMMUNICATIONS

- 19-01-08 Navy May Deploy Surface Ships to Arctic This Summer – USNI News
- R-19-01-02 Local Funding Match AK Dept. of Transp. Port Rd. Improvements
- R-19-01-03 City of Nome 2019 State Legislative Priorities
- R-19-01-04 City of Nome 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities

Discussion:

West asked if the cost-share for the Port Rd Improvements would need to be budgeted by the Port, or covered by the City, with Baker stating the cost-share would initially be paid by the City, but ultimately recovered from the Port. The mid-year budget amendment currently under consideration by the Council will be amended during second reading to reflect these additional cost-share funds for this project.

Sheffield asked if we had any further info on a timeline for the Navy, Baker responded to specific information is available at this time.

HARBORMASTER'S REPORT (Verbal)

HM Stotts indicated he is actually full-time at Public Works but did spend the day at the Port office getting packets ready for the meeting and impound fees assessed on more accounts with notices mailed.

Discussion:

McLarty inquired as to whether there will be a hard date set for an auction. Stotts replied that internal discussions have determined that sometime in May is the best timeframe.

PORT DIRECTOR REPORT (Projects Update) (19-01-10 Report)

PD Baker asked if any questions on her report.

F-19 Port & Harbor Budget Amendment

PD Baker touched on the mid-year budget amendment in process, which reflects adjusted revenues and expense to meet with actual activity. Also, additional expense funds were added for not only the Port Rd project cost-share, but adjustments to cover the last portion of the Ramp Lighting project costs, and projected F19 costs for the Ramp Repair project. These project funds are actually tracked through a transfer out of the Operating budget into the Capital budget for separate tracking purposes.

Update on Corps Modification Feasibility Study

PD Baker highlighted the differences between the 6 alternatives with the 4a, 8a and 8b alternatives scoring above any of the 3a-c versions within the various ranking metrics, especially when combined with the overall benefit/cost economic calculations. The good thing, is the higher ranking alternatives include a realignment or relocation of the east breakwater with a surface road and pedestrian docks.

Discussion:

Smithhisler asked if the shallow areas just below the Fish Plant in the inner harbor were intended to be part of the CAP 107 project the Corps is investigating. Baker replied that most of those areas have been drawn into the expanded perimeter limits that we have submitted to the Corps for federalizing the broader area as the new federal basin limits.

Sheffield indicated that she received a request for input from the Corps District Environmental staff on species that may or may not be affected by the expansion project and had concerns on the seals and which type of environmental study that was being conducted. Lean added that he provided comments about fish habitat and potential impacts, but didn't really address the marine mammals. Baker suggested she contact Chris Floyd with the Corps to get more specific details.

West asked if the 8a/8b layouts were more in line with what was originally had planned in the TAMS study. Baker indicated yes, to some degree, but the piece parallel to shore was not as large as in the TAMS design, and the dock alignment was significantly different.

Lean added that it's frustrating dealing with these guys with them seeking a compromise on the design, when we know they need to go big or don't go. Also, they exclude anything regarding the Navy or future commerce if they don't have confirmed information – they stick with the status quo.

OLD BUSINESS

Proposed Port of Nome Tariff No. 15:

PD Baker pointed out the changes of substance on pages 11, 13 and 20 – that warrant attention.

Discussion:

General discussion ensued on the parameters associated with the proposed new rule requiring haul out plans.

Additional discussion took place regarding the establishment of Causeway permit rates for seasonal mining vessels too deep for the harbor, along with towing limitations for the City's harbor/SAR boat. Baker indicated the attorney was currently investigating liability issues involving any extenuating circumstances where towing becomes necessary.

Motion:

The following motion was moved by McLarty and seconded by Sheffield:

Recommend the Nome Common Council adopt Port Tariff No. 15 Rules & Regulations to replace all previously existing tariffs, reflecting various revisions of regulation, expanded rate categories for permitted vessels and housekeeping edits.

At the Roll Call:

Ayes: Rowe, Sheffield, McLarty, Lean, West, Smithhisler, Henderson

Nays:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

NEW BUSINESS

None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS - None

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

C. Henderson - none

C. McLarty - none

C. Sheffield – asked if website was going to be updated with meeting minutes. Baker replied that the minutes are all contained in each of the following month's meeting packets. She is working through some of the old data to make room for new material. However, for work session discussions, minutes are not prepared so wouldn't be available online. Also, asked where the NOAA Tide Station is located – Stotts relayed the sensor is attached to the dock, and the station is against the wall near that dock.

C. Smithhisler - none

C. Rowe - none

C. Lean - none

C. West – good work session tonight, and anytime you deal with issues concerning safety, it usually makes for an interesting discussion.

SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is SCHEDULED for February 21, 2019

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by McLarty and seconded by Smithhisler for adjournment – 8:25 PM.

APPROVED and **SIGNED** this 21st day of February 2019.



Jim West, Chairman

ATTEST:



Joy Baker, Port Director