Nome Common Council

Jerald Brown
Scot Henderson
Doug Johnson
Mark Johnson
Adam Martinson
M. Sigvanna Tapqaq

NOME COMMON COUNCIL
WORK SESSION & REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2022 at 5:30 / 7:00 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 - 5:30 PM

A. Discussion of Legislative Priorities,
Discussion of Storm Impacts,
VERBAL

ROLL CALL – 7:00 PM

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. September 12, 2022 Nome Common Council Regular Meeting Minutes,
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B. September 19, 2022 Nome Common Council Regular Meeting Minutes,
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COMMUNICATIONS

A. Letter of September 20, 2022 from Governor Dunleavy to President Biden re: Request for Major Disaster Declaration,
   PAGE 11

CITIZEN’S COMMENTS

NEW BUSINESS

A. R-22-09-04 A Resolution Appointing Election Judges and Clerks for the 2022 Municipal Election and Setting Their Compensation,
   PAGE 24

UTILITY MANAGER’S REPORT

A. Activity Report” September 13 - 23, 2022,
VERBAL

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

A. Activity Report: September 13 - 23, 2022,
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B. September 2022 PD & Capital Projects Update,
   PAGE 27
C. July 28, 2022 Nome Port Commission Regular Meeting Minutes,

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CITIZEN’S COMMENTS

COUNCIL MEMBER’S COMMENTS

MAYOR’S COMMENTS AND REPORT
   A. Activity Report: September 13 - 23, 2022,

VERBAL

EXECUTIVE SESSION
   A. Discussion of Personnel and Legal Matters the Immediate Knowledge of Which Could Have Adverse Impacts on City of Nome Finances,

VERBAL

ADJOURNMENT
ROLL CALL

Members Present: Jerald Brown; Scot Henderson; Doug Johnson; Mark Johnson; Adam Martinson; Sigvanna Tapqaq

Members Absent:

Also Present: Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Bryant Hammond, City Clerk; Joy Baker, Port Director; Marguerite La Riviere, Library Director; Mike Heintzeleman, NPD Chief

In the audience: Diana Haecker (Nome Nugget); Davis Hovey, KNOM; Derek McLarty

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. M. Johnson to approve the agenda.

At the roll call:
Aye: Henderson; D. Johnson M. Johnson; Martinson; Tapqaq; Brown
Nay:
Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES


A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. D. Johnson to approve the August 22, 2022 minutes.

At the roll call:
Aye: D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson; Tapqaq; Brown; Henderson
Nay:
Abstain:
The motion CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Email Chain of September 7, 2022 between Ryan Property Tax and City of Nome Clerk’s Office re: Penalty & Interest Forgiveness Request.

A motion was made by C. D. Johnson and seconded by C. M. Johnson to forgive penalty and interest as requested.

Discussion:
- The Council discussed the issue, how such requests in the past were handled, the frequency of late payments, and the differences in expectations between large and small taxpaying entities.

At the roll call:
Aye: Tapqaq; Brown; D. Johnson
Nay: M. Johnson; Martinson; Henderson
Abstain:

The motion FAILED.

B. Letter of September 8, 2022 from James and Kathleen Hansen to City of Nome re: Penalty Forgiveness Request.
- Presiding Council Member Brown summarized the letter.

A motion was made by C. D. Johnson and seconded by C. M. Johnson to forgive penalty and interest as requested.

Discussion:
- Council Member Henderson asked a few clarifying questions.

At the roll call:
Aye: Tapqaq; Brown; D. Johnson; M. Johnson
Nay: Martinson; Henderson
Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.


CITIZEN’S COMMENTS

1. Derek McLarty announced his candidacy for Nome Common Council and suggested an idea to the Council regarding the issues on Front St. He noted general complaints about the situation with few solutions. He suggested a spin off of the Fall Cleanup / Roundup, whereby people can turn in garbage bags for cash. He noted that the people that hang out on Front St could pick up trash on the seawall and front street and such activity might make them feel good about their contribution to the community. He suggested a pilot program budgeted at $5000.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A. R-22-09-01 A Resolution Approving a Collection Development Policy for the Kegoayah Kozga Library.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. D. Johnson to adopt R-22-09-01.

Discussion:
- Manager Steckman requested Council support, describing the requirement to update policies per the grantor. He noted the appeals process should there be a complaint concerning a book.
- Council Member Henderson asked if the policy should be reviewed every three years.
- Manager Steckman explained that’s the goal, though it’s been 17 years since the last update.

At the roll call:
Aye: Tapqaq; Brown; Henderson; D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson
Nay:
Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.


A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt R-22-09-02.

Discussion:
- Council Member Doug Johnson declared a potential conflict of interest in that Nome Machine Works was owned by his brother. He noted he gained nothing either way on the vote and asked to abstain.
- Presiding Council Member Brown allowed him to abstain.
- Manager Steckman discussed the bids, meeting with Nome Machine Works to discuss changes in the contract, including the cloud-based software, and submitting invoices on a monthly basis. He recommended they approve the resolution.
- Council Member Brown asked if Manager Steckman had any concerns.
- Manager Steckman relayed Nome Machine Works’ assurance that he had the staff to fulfill the contract.

UTILITY MANAGER’S REPORT

- Assistant Utility Manager Morton discussed the community power discussion the following Monday at the Northwest Campus at 7pm, a continuation of the discussion on a potential micro nuclear reactor. He noted the powerplant foreman position was currently vacant and briefly discussed the fuel delivery.
CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

   - Manager Steckman presented his written report, highlighting the AK Waste phone number to call regarding trash issues. He noted a container filled with new trash cans on the way.
   - He noted two new NPD patrol would arrive on the next barge.
   - Polar Pools will be paid by school district and City of Nome will reimburse expenses.
   - He noted that legislative priorities were coming before the Council in the coming weeks. He noted some ideas and called for a work session so staff could begin putting together the white papers supporting the priorities. He stressed having a shorter list would work to the City’s advantage.
   - He discussed the status of working through NVAD issues, saying he’s working on taking it up a notch before considering alternatives.
   - He noted he was out on the noon flight, but would be working throughout his absence.
   - Council Member Mark Johnson asked about procuring basketball hoops.
   - Manager Steckman noted a $41,000 quote for a basketball court with asphalt. He noted it wouldn’t happen this year, but next spring. The court should be sited by the rec center. He also discussed the need to resurface the court on Steadman and that the City is asking DEC for assistance.

CITIZEN’S COMMENTS

none given

COUNCIL MEMBER’S COMMENTS

1. Council Member Henderson – no comments.
2. Council Member Doug Johnson – no comments.
3. Council Member Mark Johnson – no comments.
4. Council Member Martinson – no comments
5. Council Member Tapqaq explained she was working on getting the new Youth Rep appointed.
6. Council Member Brown – no comments.

MAYOR’S COMMENTS AND REPORT


B. Reappointment of Justin Noffske to Seat B of the Public Advisory Safety Commission.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to confirm Mr. Noffske’s reappointment.

At the roll call:
Aye: Henderson; D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson; Tapqaq; Brown
Nay:
Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A. Discussion of Legal and Personnel Matters the Immediate Knowledge of Which May Have Adverse Effects on City of Nome Finances.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to enter into executive session to discuss legal and personnel matter the immediate knowledge of which may have adverse effects on City of Nome finances.

The Council entered into executive session at 7:40 PM.

The Council came out of executive session at 7:56 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by C. D. Johnson and seconded by C. Martinson to adjourn.

Hearing no objections, the Council adjourned at 7:56 PM.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 26th day of September 2022

_________________________
JOHN K. HANDELAND
Mayor

ATTEST:

_________________________
BRYANT HAMMOND
Clerk
Nome Common Council
Special Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 19, 2022 at 12:09 PM
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

Members Present: Jerald Brown; Scot Henderson; Doug Johnson; Mark Johnson; Adam Martinson; Sigvanna Tapqaq

Members Absent:

Also Present: John K. Handeland, Mayor; Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Bryant Hammond, City Clerk; Ken Morton, NJUS; Cliff McHenry, Building Inspector

In the audience: Diana Haecker, Megan Gannon (Nome Nugget); Paul G. Kosto; Roy Ashenfelter; Pat Piscoya; Anna Ashenfelter; Laura Gilligan; Shoni Evans; Rhonda Schneider; Maggie Miller

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Brown to approve the agenda.

At the roll call:
Aye: Henderson; D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson; Tapqaq; Brown
Nay:
Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.

Citizens' Comments

1. Paul Kosto with the Chamber of Commerce and Vice-Chair of LEPC informed the Council that both organizations were in full support of the disaster declaration.

New Business

A. R-22-09-03 A Resolution to the State of Alaska and the Alaska Congressional Delegation Declaring a Disaster in the City of Nome as a Result of a Significant Weather Event Commencing on September 16, 2022.
A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. D. Johnson to adopt R-22-09-03.

Discussion:
- Mayor Handeland asked and Clerk Hammond did read the resolution in its entirety.
- Manager Steckman explained the City’s cleanup strategy, noting the monofill would open for free; Saturday a cleanup was being planned, with Bering Tea providing refreshments for volunteers with collection points for trash and flood debris; the emergency shelter would be open at least one more night; He discussed damage to the Mini Convention Center, describing the back wall being pushed in and boiler going out. He thanked the community for banding together. Manager Steckman gave an update on Alaska’s congressional delegation working on a declare federal declaration. He thanked Clerk Hammond for being Acting City Manager during the weather event and ended saying the City is doing everything it can to cover costs if Nome is declared a disaster.
- Mayor Handeland noted it was an amazing several days for the City of Nome and that the City came through with flying colors, banding together even more than normal through events like this. He gave a big thanks to Clerk Hammond and Charlie Lean for staffing the Emergency Operations Center through the storm, as well as Paul Kosto, and all state departments that worked to minimize impacts to community. He gave kudos to NVFD and NVAD for responding to the unplanned event in the middle of an unplanned disaster. He noted it was good the fire hadn’t occurred earlier and noted Linda Conley’s comment about September 17th fire in 1934. He expressing his gratitude for the volunteers that came out of the wood work even more than people normally do. Mayor Handeland thanked Shoni Evans for opening up the NEST shelter to provide relief for folks that were unhoused during the storm. He couldn’t talk enough about the way the community came together. He declared that we will survive and this will make us better in the end.
- Council Member Brown asked if language could be included in the recitals to indicate the entire region was hit hard.
- Mayor Handeland explained he only had authority for City, but with concurrence he could put some regional language in.

At the roll call:
Aye: D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson; Tapqaq; Brown; Henderson
Nay:
Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.

- Roy Ashenfelter talked about how invaluable the seawall investment was.
- Council Member Tapqaq asked how volunteers could help.
- Manager Steckman explained that the seawall will be evaluated and repaired if needed. He noted would-be volunteers should contact City Hall. He discussed the monofill again and asked that people consult with Building Inspector McHenry for assistance on repairs & code. He gave out his cell phone and noted the City will be working with Red Cross. He finished by saying all the work is not going to be accomplished in a day and for people to call City Hall with questions.
- Mayor Handeland discussed Rosa Wright and the Covenant Church who helped organize work parties yesterday. He suggested possibly the snake river bank. If people can't find an area, he'd be happy to direct them to one.
- Manager Steckman mentioned the yellow trash bags and the many calls he's been receiving.
- Mayor Handeland explained the ongoing conversations with FEMA, an incoming trip from Dunleavy, and gratitude people are helping. He gave a briefing on regional villages and that the City was directing help to villages that are in worse shape.
- Manager Steckman noted City Hall will close by 3pm today. Smoke and cold makes it uncomfortable for staff.
- Paul Kosto stated there would be a full fledged firemans carnival this year.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. M. Johnson to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 12:31 PM.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 26th day of September 2022

_________________________
JOHN K. HANDELAND
Mayor

ATTEST:

_________________________
BRYANT HAMMOND
Clerk
September 20, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Through: Mr. William Nunn
Regional Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region X
130-228th Street SW
Bothell, WA 98021-9796

Dear Mr. President:

Under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5208 (Stafford Act), and implemented by 44 CFR § 206.36, I request that you declare a major disaster for the State of Alaska. This request is a result of threats to life and severe losses to property from a powerful coastal storm beginning September 15 and continuing through September 20, 2022. This event produced hurricane-force winds, higher than normal tidal ranges, and storm surges of up to 10 feet above mean sea level. The event caused wind damage and riverine and coastal flooding to approximately 40 cities and villages along an approximately 1,300-mile-long section of the Western and Northwestern Alaska coastline. As a result of the widespread nature of this event, I specifically request that your declaration include the following Regional Educational Attendance Areas (REAs) in Alaska: Bering Strait REAA, Lower Yukon REAA, Lower Kuskokwim REAA, and Kashunamitut REAA.

In response to the situation, I have taken appropriate action under State law, directed the execution of the State Emergency Plan, and activation of the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), on September 15, 2022, in accordance with Section 401 of the Stafford Act. Due to the severity and magnitude of this emergency, I declared a State disaster (AK 22-290) on September 17, 2022, for the Bering Strait REAA, Lower Yukon REAA, Lower Kuskokwim REAA, and the Kashunamitут REAA. The geographic size of the event is noteworthy. The storm impacted about 1,300 miles of coastline, a distance longer than the entire West Coast of the contiguous States from Canada to Mexico.

The declaration authorized funds for the State’s Individual and Public Assistance programs, as well as necessary administrative and disaster management expenses. Specific programs under the state funded Individual Assistance program included Individual and Family Grants, Other Needs Assistance, Housing and Rental Assistance, and Temporary Housing.
The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
September 20, 2022
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Based on the weather summary prepared by the National Weather Service Alaska Region (NWS), the State of Alaska considers the incident period to begin September 15 (first arrival of the storm in the Aleutian Islands) through September 20, 2022 (cancellation of last flood warning in the Chukchi Sea. The NWS weather summary is included as Enclosure D.

Background

On September 13, 2022, the National Weather Service (NWS) issued the first of several high wind and coastal flood warnings for the Aleutian Islands, Pribolof Islands, Kuskokwim Delta, and Bristol Bay areas. In their published message the NWS warned that a potent low pressure system, the remains of Typhoon Merbok, would move rapidly from the North Pacific Ocean to the Bering Strait late that week, and, strong winds and coastal flooding were expected beginning September 15 through September 17, 2022.

As the storm progressed north through the Bering Sea into the Bering Strait, NWS stated “the powerful storm in Western Alaska would be the strongest storm in over a decade” with wind gusts up to 90 mph, heavy rain, and storm surge levels up to 13 feet above normal high tides along the western coastline of Alaska, from the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta to the North Slope.

Over the next few days, in response to the massive low pressure storm, additional warnings were issued for coastal villages as the storm moved northerly from the Aleutian Islands into the Bering and Chukchi Seas. This storm was expected to be more powerful than the record fall sea storm that hit Nome and Norton Sound in 1974, as well as the Bering Strait Storm in 2004, the Western Coast Storm in 2005, and the Bering Sea Superstorm, also known as the West Coast Storm, in 2011. Each of these previous storms was declared a federal disaster.

On September 17, 2022, the NWS reported the storm measured an extreme low pressure of 937 millibars, 92 mph wind gusts, 52-foot-high sea waves, and 10-foot storm surges above Mean High High Water (MHHW) along Norton Sound. The City of Nome recorded a record 8.99 feet above MHHW on September 17, 2022. NWS believes the incident period for this storm is September 15, 2022, the first arrival of the storm into the Aleutian Islands, to cancellation of the last September 20, 2022.

Impacted Areas

The 2022 September West Coast Storm disaster affected coastal communities in the Bering Strait REAA, Lower Yukon REAA, Lower Kuskokwim REAA, and the Kashunamut REAA. Each impacted area is discussed in the paragraphs below.

- The Bering Strait REAA includes the western and southern portions of the Seward Peninsula, coastal communities along the eastern Norton Sound, and St. Lawrence and Diomede Islands.
- The Lower Yukon REAA includes the Yukon Delta from Hooper Bay to Kotlik, and the Lower Yukon River up to Russian Mission.
- The Lower Kuskokwim REAA includes the Kuskokwim Delta coastline from Newtok to Platinum, and the Lower Kuskokwim River up to Tuluksak.
- The Kashunamut REAA includes the community of Chevak only.
The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
September 20, 2022
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State and Local Actions

The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and the State Emergency Operations Plan were activated to Preparedness Level 2 - Heightened Awareness on September 14, 2022, in response to the approaching storm. This level was increased to Preparedness Level 3 – Actual Event on September 17, 2022.

The following information is furnished regarding the nature and amount of State and local resources that have been or will be used to alleviate the conditions of this disaster:

The Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM) has coordinated the State’s response to local requests, with resources from the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS); Department of Public Safety (DPS); Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC); Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development (DCCED); and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR); Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF); the Alaska National Guard; and, multiple voluntary agencies.

On September 17, 2022, I declared a State Disaster and notified the Alaska State Legislature of funding for immediate response costs up to $10,000,000 from the State Disaster Relief Fund per Alaska Statute 26.23.020. A Finance Plan will be submitted to the Legislature once all estimated response/recovery costs are known.

The SEOC was activated and staffed to Preparedness Level 3 over the weekend of September 16 – 18, 2022. This measure allowed state, federal, military, and non-profit response and relief agencies to coordinate their responses. Throughout the event, the SEOC maintained expanded staffing and monitored the weather and the storms’ impact in over 50 coastal communities.

The State partnered quickly with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to streamline collaboration and cooperation during the event. Serendipitously, FEMA Region 10 and National Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT) personnel were in Anchorage on September 14 to participate in a state preparedness exercise, and were able to transition quickly to assist the State with incident management and federal agency coordination.

Emergency evacuations of at-risk persons were performed throughout the storms. We estimate that approximately 500 residents were sheltered in community facilities, and an unknown number sheltered in place in impacted communities.

Request Specifics

The severity, magnitude, and impact of this disaster meets the following factors outlined in 44 CFR §206.48(6)(a) for Public Assistance.

Damage Assessment

The State has conducted an “informal preliminary assessment” that indicates the most severe impacts were to:
- **Homes and personal property.** Local officials report at least 69 homes and 28 other structures have been impacted by the storms; however, the full extent of the damage to homes and personal property remains unknown. There is a strong probability that additional homes with damage will be identified in the next few weeks. The State is implementing its Individual Assistance Program at this time.

- **Public roads and bridges,** including critical access routes to airstrips, sheltering points, and other important areas due to flooding and/or debris deposition. Damage affects critical access routes, impacts local commerce, and has an adverse effect on critical life safety support functions.

- **Public facilities,** including water treatment facilities and bulk fuel tanks. Although visual evidence of fuel spills and petroleum contamination to soils and surface water has not been observed, there are unstable and/or damage that affects the ability to provide safe water and critical heat to the residents in the affected area.

- **Coast protection,** such as sea walls, erosion berms, breakwaters, and other structures. These structures are critical to provide ongoing protection from future coastal storms and therefore are critical to life safety.

- **Airstrips,** including runways, parking aprons, access roads, helipads, and airport support structures. Due to the remote nature of Alaska, runways are the primary transportation access points and therefore are critical to the life safety functions.

- **Power supply,** including generators, power plants, land and undersea transmission lines, and bulk fuel tanks to supply this infrastructure. Damage to power systems critically impact the community’s ability to provide heat to public buildings and private homes. In the arctic, heat is a critical life safety function.

- **Life safety,** including search and rescue, local evacuation and sheltering, to include the provision of food, water, and other essential needs; emergency repairs to critical facilities; removal of health and safety hazards; debris clearance to facilitate movement of evacuees and emergency vehicles.

This storm has caused substantial damages to both public infrastructure and private residences. Current cost estimates for this disaster are not known at this time, but they include several damaged facilities, seawalls, and other infrastructure. For comparison purposes, the preliminary damage assessment for the 2011 West Coast Storm, declared as federal disaster DR-4050-AK, found almost $8.5 million in public assistance costs and another $21.5 million in road damages eligible for U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funding. The current storm is likely to far exceed DR-4050-AK costs. If a low estimate of $10 million is used, these costs would exceed the minimum statewide per capita threshold required by the Stafford Act of $1,195,427.30 calculated by multiplying 733,391 Alaska residents (2020 Census) by the Federal Fiscal Year 2022 per capita indicator of $1.63.

**Damaged Residences and Concentration of Damage**

Since the storm, the State of Alaska has worked with local, private non-profit and volunteer organizations, as well as state and federal agencies to determine the impact to residents, private homes, and private and commercial properties throughout the impacted REAAs. This assessment is still in development but is generalized below:
As of September 20, 2022, the State PDA has identified 69 homes and 28 other structures with wind or flooding damage. Other structures include schools, cabins, warehouses, and outbuildings. Although these initial findings appear low, I believe the severity, magnitude, and impact of this disaster will eventually meet the factors outlined in 44 CFR §206.48(6)(b) for IA; therefore, I seek a federal IA declaration for this disaster. I have activated the Alaska IA program under my state disaster authority and ask that you please consider this factor in your review of the overall impact of this storm to the state and affected jurisdictions.

The eventual disaster-related costs for state-only IA could be substantial. The state Individual and Family Grant Program (IFG), when implemented, provides applicants with grant awards set at 50 percent of the current Federal award (i.e., $18,950). Total estimated costs to provide IFG and temporary housing assistance to eligible applicants, and administer the program, could exceed $3 million – a substantial financial impact to Alaska.

For comparison purposes, the 2018 November Cook Inlet Earthquake received over 6,200 requests for federal individual assistance, a historical benchmark, although state disasters that are approved for federal individual assistance (e.g., 2009 Spring Floods and 2013 Spring Floods) typically manage less than 500 applications for assistance. Over the past 25 years, and excluding the 2018 Cook Inlet Earthquake, the total number of applications for either federal or State individual assistance has been less than 2,500.

SBA has not yet evaluated reported home, private property, and business damages for a physical damage and/or Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) declaration. As of the date of this request, the SBA indicator of 25 homes and/or business destroyed per jurisdiction had not yet been met, but the State was working with local officials, impacted businesses, and SBA evaluators to reach that threshold.

Alaska Disaster History

The State of Alaska continues to manage recovery from multiple concurrent disasters. Since November 2018 (~3.5 years), there have been 20 state disasters, or one declared event every 75 days, with five of these disasters further approved for federal disaster assistance.

Over the last year, there have been 15 state-declared disasters in Alaska, with five of these disasters approved for federal disaster assistance. That corresponds to one state-declared disaster every 24 days.

For events that receive presidential disaster declarations, the State covers the full 25 percent cost share requirement, and all other costs are 100 percent funded through state disaster relief funds. The estimated total amount of state disaster costs over the past 10 years now exceeds $163 million.

In total, DHS&EM is actively engaged in the management of 17 state-declared disasters and 14 federally-declared disasters.

Conclusion

I have determined this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective recovery is beyond the capabilities of the State and affected local governments; therefore, supplementary federal
assistance is needed. I specifically request PA and statewide Hazard Mitigation grants for eligible applicants within the Bering Strait REAA, Lower Yukon REAA, Lower Kuskokwim REAA, and Kashunamuit REAA, and relevant regional health organizations, and State of Alaska agencies such as the DOT&PF and Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

I certify, the State of Alaska will assume all applicable non-federal shares of costs required by the Stafford Act. The actual costs from this disaster have not been quantified, but are expected to be substantial.

I believe the widespread nature of this disaster, along with the severe long-term impact, and the short timeframe before the onset of winter, compels an expedited review of this Request for Federal Assistance and timely consideration of the provided information. I therefore, request you declare a Major Disaster for the State of Alaska to include IA, PA, and Hazard Mitigation programs.

A timely disaster declaration that includes the requested resources is essential to ensure the life, health, and safety of affected disaster survivors. Survivors are facing extreme winter conditions. Low winter temperatures in these areas average -47 degrees Fahrenheit with extremely cold wind chills. The affected communities are not on the road system and because of sea ice delivering materials and supplies by barge will not be possible until the spring break up. The only available option for delivery of resources is by air carrier, which will significantly increase response and recovery costs.

There is severe damage to community infrastructure, with damage to many homes and businesses occurring in largely Alaska Native, remote, isolated, and impoverished regions. Therefore, immediate and coordinated efforts are required of the local, state, federal, and private sector/non-governmental organizations to ensure the residents of affected areas are protected in this harsh environment. In order to support the needs of these Alaskans, I request that you adjust the cost-share for this disaster to 100 percent federal, as was done for the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The communities affected by this storm have a high percentage of families at or below the federal poverty level, and many are subsistence-based. For example, the communities within the Bering Strait REAA reflect the economic situation along the entire Western Coast of Alaska. For small communities within this area (i.e., populations less than 700 residents), poverty levels range from 14.7 to 52.1 percent and unemployment rates range from 13.8 to 38.7 percent. Private property insurance is largely unavailable or cost prohibitive; therefore, almost all residents with reported home damage were likely uninsured against storm loss. As stated previously, the State of Alaska is currently seeking supplementary federal assistance for individuals and families.

I have designated Alan Cavallo, DHS&EM’s Disaster Assistance Program Manager, as the State Coordinating Officer for this request. He will work with FEMA and provide further information or justification on my behalf.

Sincerely,

Mike Dunleavy
Governor
The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
September 20, 2022
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Enclosures

FEMA RFA Form 010-0-13
B: Public Assistance
C: Estimated Assistance from Other Federal Agencies
ENCLOSURE B TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Estimate Stafford Act Requirements for Public Assistance under the Stafford Act based on PDA Results

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<td><strong>Percentage</strong></td>
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</table>

A - Debris Removal
B - Emergency Protective Measures
C - Roads & Bridges
D - Water Control Facilities
E - Buildings & Equipment
F - Utilities
G - Other (Parks, Recreational Facilities & other items)
CA – Census Area
REAA – Regional Education Attendance Area

Other notes:
The Copper River CA includes the Copper River REAA.
The Bethel CA includes the Kuspuk REAA.
The Yukon-Koyukuk CA includes both the Yukon-Koyukuk and Iditarod REAAs.
ENCLOSURE C TO MAJOR DISASTER REQUEST

Estimated Assistance from Other Federal Agencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community/Borough</th>
<th>SBA HOME LOANS</th>
<th>SBA BUSINESS LOANS</th>
<th>FSA LOANS</th>
<th>NRCS</th>
<th>FHWA (Not included in Enclosure B)</th>
<th>USACE</th>
<th>US BIA</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bering Strait REAA</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lower Yukon REAA</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lower Kuskokwim REAA</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kashunamiut REAA</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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<td>TBD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

CA – Census Area
FSA – Farm Service Agency
REAA – Regional Education Attendance Area
TBD – To be determined. Values provided where known.
US BIA – United States Bureau of Indian Affairs
Other notes:
The Copper River CA includes the Copper River REAA.
The Bethel CA includes the Kuskokwim REAA.
The Yukon-Koyukuk CA includes both the Yukon-Koyukuk and Iditarod REAAs.

FHWA – Federal Highway Administration
NRCS – National Resource Conservation Service
SBA – Small Business Administration
USACE – United States Army Corps of Engineers
**Burden Disclosure Notice**

Completion of this form including applicable attachments satisfies legal requirements for emergency and major disaster declaration requests under 42 U.S.C. §§ 5170 and 5191, respectively, as implemented at 44 C.F.R., §§ 206.35 and 206.36. Failure to use this form may result in a failure to meet these requirements and/or a delay in processing the request.

2a. Name of State (as defined in Stafford Act 102, 42 U.S.C. § 5122) or Indian tribal government requesting declaration.
   - Alaska

2b. Population (as reported by 2010 Census) or estimated population of Indian tribal government's damaged area(s):
   - 733,391

3. Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's Name
   - Mike Dunleavy

4. Designation of State or Tribal Coordinating Officer upon declaration (if available) and phone number
   - Alan Cavallo, 907.428.7051

5. Designation of Governor's Authorized Representative or Tribal Chief Executive Representative upon declaration (if available) and phone number
   - Bryan J. Fisher, 907.428.7096

6. Declaration Request For: [ ] Major Disaster (Stafford Act Sec. 401) [ ] Emergency (Stafford Act Sec. 501 (a))

7. Incident Period: Beginning Date Sep 15, 2022 End Date Sep 20, 2022 or [ ] Continuing

8. Type of Incident (Check all that apply)
   - [ ] Drought
   - [ ] Earthquake
   - [ ] Explosion
   - [ ] Fire
   - [ ] Flood
   - [ ] Hurricane
   - [ ] Landslide
   - [ ] Mudslide
   - [x] Severe Storm (rain, high water, wind-driven, rain, hail, lightning)
   - [ ] Snowstorm (Must include Enclosure D: Historic and Current Snowfall Data)
   - [ ] Tidal Wave
   - [ ] Tornado
   - [ ] Tropical Depression
   - [ ] Tropical Storm
   - [ ] Tsunami
   - [ ] Volcanic Eruption
   - [ ] Winter Storm
   - [ ] Other (please specify)

8. Description of damages (Short description of impacts of disaster on affected area and population). Include additional details in enclosed Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's cover letter.
   The 2022 September West Coast Storm has caused widespread damage to homes, businesses, and critical infrastructure along a majority of the west coast of Alaska, including storm surge and subsequent inundation and flooding, significant coastal and riverine erosion, and wind damage. Extensive water and power outages across the area required local evacuation and sheltering, with sheltering operations continuing. Damages to airport and weather instrumentation, and lighting have all disrupted transportation throughout the storm. With winter freeze-up occurring in weeks in these remote, insular, rural communities, these damages have the potential to cause catastrophic life safety issues across the affected jurisdictions.

9. Description of the nature and amount of State and local or Indian tribal government resources which have been or will be committed. Include additional details in enclosed Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's cover letter.
   State, local, and tribal organizations have committed substantial financial and personnel resources to respond to this event. The Alaska National Guard and Organized Militia have been fully mobilized in western Alaska to respond to the immediate needs, and a robust, coordinated mass care operation is fully underway. The State Emergency Operations Plan was activated in anticipation of the storm, and on September 17, 2022, a State Disaster Emergency was declared, authorizing the State Individual Assistance, Temporary Housing, and Public Assistance programs to be implemented.
10. Joint Preliminary Damage Assessment

**Item A.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individual Assistance</th>
<th>Dates Performed</th>
<th>Requested</th>
<th>Sep 20, 2022</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>Sep 18, 2022</th>
<th>End</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Individual Assistance Accessibility Problems (Areas that could not be accessed, and why)
Due to the nature of this event, vast geographic areas impacted, and transportation disruptions due to both weather and storm damages, an on-the-ground assessment has been unable to occur at this time, rather, electronic and virtual assessments began on Saturday, September 18, with information being relayed via electronic methods to the State Emergency Operations Center.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Assistance</th>
<th>Dates Performed</th>
<th>Requested</th>
<th>Sep 20, 2022</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>Sep 18, 2022</th>
<th>End</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Public Assistance Accessibility Problems (Areas that could not be accessed, and why)
Due to the nature of this event, vast geographic areas impacted, and transportation disruptions due to both weather and storm damages, an on-the-ground assessment has been unable to occur at this time, rather, electronic and virtual assessments began on Saturday, September 18, with information being relayed via electronic methods to the State Emergency Operations Center.

11. Programs and Areas Requested

- Individual Assistance
- N/A
- Individuals and Households Program
- Crisis Counseling Program
- Disaster Unemployment Assistance
- All
- Disaster Case Management
- Disaster Legal Services
- Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Assistance

For the following jurisdictions, specify programs and areas (counties, parishes, independent cities, for Indian tribal government, list tribe(s) and/or tribal area(s)) If additional space is needed, please enclose additional documentation.

All programs requested above for the following areas: Lower Kuskokwim Regional Education Attendance Area (REEA), Kashunamut REAA, Lower Yukon REAA, and Bering Strait REAA.


For States, identify Federally-recognized Tribes in the requested counties (if applicable).

Please see Enclosure A: Supplemental Information for Individual Assistance for additional information in support of this request.

*Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request*
11. Programs and Areas Requested (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Assistance</th>
<th>N/A</th>
<th>Debris Removal (Category A)</th>
<th>☒ Emergency Protective Measures (Category B)</th>
<th>Permanent Work (Categories C thru F)</th>
<th>☒ (not available for Emergency Declaration Requests)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

For the following jurisdictions, specify programs and areas (counties, parishes, independent cities; for Indian tribal government, list tribe(s) and/or tribal area(s)). If additional space is needed or your request includes different categories of work for different jurisdictions; please enclose additional documentation.

All programs requested above for the following areas: Lower Kuskokwim Regional Education Attendance Area (REAA), Kashunumut REAA, Lower Yukon REAA, and Bering Strait REAA.

For States, identify Federally-recognized Tribes included in the requested counties (if applicable).


Please see Enclosure B: Supplemental Information for Public Assistance for additional information in support of this request.

Indemnification for Debris Removal Activity

☐ I do not anticipate the need for debris removal.

☒ I anticipate the need for debris removal, which poses an immediate threat to lives, public health and safety. Pursuant to Sections 403 and 407 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5170b & 5173, the State or Indian tribal government agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the United States of America for any claims arising from the removal of debris or wreckage for this disaster. The State or Indian tribal government agrees that debris removal from public and private property will not occur until the landowner signs an unconditional authorization for the removal of debris.

Request for Direct Federal Assistance

☒ I do not request direct Federal assistance at this time.

☐ I request direct Federal assistance for work and services to save lives and protect property.

a. I request the following type(s) of assistance:

b. List of reasons why State and local or Indian tribal government cannot perform, or contract for, required work and services.

c. In accordance with 44 C.F.R. § 206.208, the State or Indian tribal government agrees that it will, with respect to direct Federal assistance: (1) Provide without cost to the United States all lands, easements, and rights-of-ways necessary to accomplish the approved work; (2) Hold and save the United States free from damages due to the requested work, and shall indemnify the Federal Government against any claims arising from such work; (3) Provide reimbursement to FEMA for the non-Federal share of the cost of such work in accordance with the provisions of the FEMA-State or FEMA-Tribe Agreement; and (4) Assist the performing Federal agency in all support and local jurisdictional matters.

Request for Snow Assistance

☒ N/A  ☐ I request snow assistance.

Snow assistance for the following jurisdictions (Specify counties, independent cities or tribes and/or tribal areas)

Please see Enclosure D: Historic and Current Snowfall Data for additional information in support of this request.

*Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request
11. Programs and Areas Requested (Continued)

Hazard Mitigation* □ Statewide OR

For the following specific counties, parishes, independent cities or tribes and/or tribal areas.

12. Mitigation Plan Information*

a. Mitigation Plan Expiration Date October 23, 2023
b. Type of Plan □ Enhanced □ Standard

13. Other Federal Agency Programs

□ I do not anticipate requirements from Other Federal Agencies
☒ I do anticipate requirements from Other Federal Agencies

Please see Enclosure C: Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs for additional information in support of this request*.

14. Findings and Certifications

☒ I certify the following:

a. I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and the affected local government or Indian tribal government and that supplementary federal assistance is necessary.

b. In response to this incident, I have taken appropriate action under State or tribal law and have directed the execution of the State or Tribal Emergency Plan on Sep 14, 2022 in accordance with the Stafford Act.

c. The State and local governments, or Indian tribal government will assume all applicable non-Federal share of costs required by the Stafford Act.

15. List of Enclosures and Supporting Documentation

☒ Cover Letter ☒ Enclosure A (Individual Assistance)* ☒ Enclosure B (Public Assistance)*
☒ Enclosure C (Requirements for Other Federal Agency Programs) ☐ Enclosure D (Historic and Current Snowfall Data)

☐ Additional Supporting Documentation

Governor's or Tribal Chief Executive's Signature

Sep 20, 2022

Date

If anyone except the Governor or Tribal Chief Executive signs this document, please provide the documentation that establishes that this individual has the legal authority to act on behalf of the Governor or Tribal Chief Executive.

*Not Required for Emergency Declaration Request
CITY OF NOME, ALASKA

RESOLUTION NO. R-22-09-04

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ELECTION JUDGES AND CLERKS FOR THE 2022 MUNICIPAL ELECTION AND SETTING THEIR COMPENSATION

WHEREAS, Nome Code of Ordinances, 7.20.010(a) requires that for each municipal election “the City Council shall appoint from among qualified electors an election board comprised of three judges for each polling place”; and,

WHEREAS, one of the elections judges is to be designated as chairperson, one is to be designated as inspector and one does not have a title other than judge; and,

WHEREAS, the Council shall appoint two qualified electors to act as clerks of the election; and,

WHEREAS, the Nome City Council hereby authorizes the following qualified electors:

Jim Dory Chairperson/Judge
Lloyd Perrigo Inspector/Judge
Debbie Scott Judge
Christina Perrigo Clerk
Wesley Perkins Clerk

WHEREAS, the City Clerk may appoint not more than three additional election clerks if such appointments are necessary to facilitate the orderly conduct of the election or to relieve the appointed clerks of undue hardship; and,

WHEREAS, many municipalities set the wages of their election workers at the same rate of pay as the State of Alaska pays its election personnel, which is currently $10.00 per hour for Judges and $9.50 per hour for Clerks.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council approves these electors and, by this resolution, hereby sets the compensation for the election personnel of the 2022 Municipal Election $16.00 per hour for Judges and $15.00 per hour for Clerks).

APPROVED and SIGNED this 26th day of September, 2022.

______________________________
JOHN K. HANDELAND, Mayor

ATTEST:

______________________________
BRYANT HAMMOND, Clerk
TO: The Mayor and Common Council:

From: Glenn Steckman

RE: City manager’s report

September 23, 2022

Emergency Operations Center:

The EOC continues to meet daily to assess the damages from Typhoon Murbok and to coordinate response. City staff has reached out to businesses along Front Street to see what assistance can be offered. The city is also working with the Chamber of Commerce to alert businesses to properly document damages from the typhoon for insurance purposes.

E-mail Address:

A new email address has been set up for property owners to alert the city of damages they may have suffered that cannot been seen by a windshield tour of the city. The address is clerk@nomealaska.org. This address is also for any questions that residents may have about storm response needs.

Senator Murkowski and Congresswoman Peltola:

The Senator and the Congresswoman will hold a community meeting at OSJ this Saturday, 9/24, from 2:30-4:00pm.

NSEDC:

The NSEDC has awarded communities in the Norton Sound area a Community Cost Share Benefit of $100,000 to aid in typhoon recovery costs.

City properties:

City properties that have been damaged in the storm include the: Mini-Convention Center, the NACTEC building and City hall. The Mini suffered flood damage to the building and its boiler will no longer function. The Mini also lost its ice making machine and beverage cooler. The NACTEC building has siding damage. City Hall continues to be plagued by a strong smoke odor because of the Bering Sea Restaurant fire. An ozone machine to dissipate the odor should be here within 48 hours. Some city staff are working out of the Richard Foster community room.
The Port:
The Port and the Port Rd Bridge has been inspected by the Corp of Engineers. The back filling of rock against the sheet rock has begun. Scheduled fuel deliveries will take place this week as planned.

Mono-fill:
The Mono-fill is open to receive storm debris now through Tuesday 9/24 from 11am-7pm at no charge to drop storm related damaged material. The date was extended an additional two work days.

Business Sales Tax filing deadline:
The deadline has been extended to 5pm Tuesday September 27. This is a one-week extension of the standard filing deadline.

Storm damage review:
A windshield tour is underway in the city to assess all damaged structures in the city. From there an assessment will be determined on storm costs to structures. Cliff McHenry has also reached out to all the property owners along Front St.

The staff have filed insurance claims with AML/JIA and our federal flood insurance provider for city facilities.

Rec Center:
The Rec Center served as an emergency shelter for the residents who were displaced by the typhoon. Up to 20 residents were sheltered at its peaks of service. It was closed on Thursday night at 5:30pm. The displaced tenants were relocated to NSHC hostel facilities.

Tire shredder:
City landfill staff have shredded over 12,000 tires this past summer. However, there are more tires to shred. Staff will resume tire shredding next spring.

City-wide cleanup:
A city-wide clean-up will take place this Saturday, 9/24, from 10am-4pm at OSJ. Two trucks to take garbage will be on the east-side of the building. Food will be served from noon until at least 2pm.

Roads:
Road crews will continue to work grading and patching roads damaged by the rains and flood waters. A city drainage project is scheduled for “N” Street as soon as city crews can get to it. Materials are on-site to begin the project.

New Gold House:
Remediation of the property has started. The fencing is down and will be replaced with new fencing once the property is capped.
Memo

To: Glenn Steckman – City Manager
From: Joy L. Baker – Port Director
CC: Mayor Handeland & Common Council; Port Commission
Date: Sept 12, 2022

Administrative:
Coordination continues for the AAHPA (Harbormaster for short) Conference scheduled for 26-30 Sept 2022 in Nome, with numerous city and port staff supporting the planning and setup. We have put together a very full agenda, which has been shared with the Council and Port Commission, with a final version to be available by 19 Sept 2022. I’d like to invite members of the Council and Port Commission to drop in for a specific session or join a meal with us, and meet some of the great Harbormasters and Port Administrators we have across this great state.

Causeway:
Arctic Deep Draft Port – Nome Modifications Pre-Construction Engineering & Design (PED):
The City Council approved awarding the NOAA NMFS environmental permitting application work to PND, and the subcontractor is making good progress on this fast-track task they have been assigned. The City is preparing the Work-In-Kind (WIK) package that contains efforts taken on by the City that the Corps would’ve done under normal circumstances. These costs therefore qualify as part of the City’s cost-share to the Corps under the PED agreement for Pre-Construction, Engineering & Design.

The City has executed two grant agreements with the State of Alaska, reflecting the direct legislative grants authorized through the FY2023 state budget process. Eligible expenses are now authorized to be reimbursed back to 1 July 2022, and forward through the development of the Arctic Deep Draft Port.

Local Service Facilities (LSF) Design Integration:
The combined design teams continue to meet each week, as the push to hit the 95% deadline is intensifying. Progress is being made, with additional meetings outside the weekly schedule allowing for specific issues to be resolved more quickly between smaller groups. Although a few items have slid to the right of the schedule, most of these are being, or anticipated to be reached on time.

Sediment at Causeway Bridge and Bridge Repairs:
The Corps contractor (Bristol Construction) has completed the bridge repairs, which resulted in a much shorter closure of the Causeway bridge than the contractor anticipated. Public Works has been dressing up the road shoulders and bridge approaches as manpower and weather have allowed. The project to remove sediment from under the bridge is expected to be awarded throughout the winter and performed in the summer of 2023.
Arctic Port Reception Facility – Solid Waste Disposal (Incinerator):
This project has been submitted to the USDOT MARAD PIDP program for funds to finish design, procure, ship and construct a solid waste disposal facility to incinerate regulated waste from galleys in foreign ships. The demand for this type of waste disposal is growing with all the cruise ship traffic transiting the Arctic. The PIDP funds are expected to cover 80% of the costs, while a separate grant submitted on 13 May 2022 to the Denali Commission, is expected to cover the 20% match funds. PIDP awards expected to be announced in Sep of 2022.

Harbor:
Inner Harbor CAP 107 Study (Deepen/Widen the Inner Basin):
Following the Port Commission’s motion at the 28 July 2022 rescheduled meeting regarding the federal docks in the Small Boat Harbor, the City Council passed a motion on 22 Aug 2022, requesting staff to submit a letter to the U.S. Corps of Engineers to pursue congressional action to authorize the east/west harbor bulkheads & dredging portion as federal infrastructure.

Launch Ramp Replacement Project:
The City Engineer and Port Director are in discussions with the contractor regarding the last underwater drone footage, which appears to show a scour area at the base of the launch ramp. We are awaiting a response from the contractor, and more will be provided at that time.

Port Industrial Pad:
West Nome Tank Farm (Property Conveyance):
City/NJUS management and staff continue to work the hurdles associated with getting the property conveyed per the 2014 National Defense Authorization Act. Following a scheduled call with personnel from the ADEC contaminated sites division, the City has requested a follow up meeting with the USAF in the coming weeks. Meanwhile, NJUS and the Port continue planning development for dual use of the site.

Thornbush Laydown Site Development:
The City was recently advised that this project was not awarded a grant from the USDOT RAISE Grant program, but additional funding sources continue to be sought.

Port Rd. Improvements (ADOT Project cost-shared with City/Port):
ADOT recently advised of an increase in the final construction cost estimate that will increase the City’s portion by $28,250, which is anticipated to be approved by the Council on 13 June 2022, as part of the FY2023 Port budget. Funds are due by 31 July 2022, with project solicitation in Aug 2022, and construction in 2023.

*Italics reflects no change in project information from previous report.*
Additional details available upon request.
The Regular Meeting of the Nome Port Commission was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chairman West at the Public Safety Building Conference Room.

ROLL CALL
Members Present: Smithhisler, Lean, West, McCann, Sheffield, McLarty

Absent: Rowe

Also Present: Joy Baker (via phone), Glenn Steckman

In the audience: Nome Nugget

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Chairman West asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion to approve made by McLarty, seconded by Sheffield.

At the Roll Call:
Ayes: Lean; West; McCann; Rowe; Sheffield; McLarty; Smithhisler
Nays:
Abstain:

The motion CARRIED.

Discussion:
- Commissioner Sheffield asked for the status on having an agenda item for roles and responsibilities for Port Commissioners.
- Harbormaster Stotts said the information will be provided at the next meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
May 19th, 2022

Motion made by McCann, seconded by Smithhisler to approve minutes;

Discussion:
- Commissioner McLarty noted an error in the minutes, that the location on the minutes said Public Safety Building. Staff will edit it.
- Sheffield commented that she did not receive rules of conduct in a physical copy. CM Steckman responded that it was delivered verbal. HM Stotts noted that note would be added to the minutes.
At the Roll Call:
Ayes: West; McCann; Sheffield; McLarty; Smithhisler; Lean
Nays:  
Abstain:  
The motion **CARRIED**.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS
- None

COMMUNICATIONS
- 22-04-08 AKDOT – 2022 Northwest Alaska Transportation Plan (NWATP) Excerpt
- 22-06-30 USACE CAP 107 – Deauthorization Letter to Sponsor
- 22-07-06 NOAA Funding Opp. – Marine Debris (Abandon/Derelict Vessels)
- 22-07-15 Updated Port of Nome Brochure
- 22-07-23 Arctic News – Arctic Sea Ice July 2022

Discussion:
- Commissioner Lean commented that the 2022 NWATP seemed to contain several outdated pieces of information in several areas and that this document was not very helpful with that outdated information.
- PD Baker commented on the CAP 107 letter and asked the Commission to provide input or recommendations later under New Business. She stated that the Corps is saying they need to go back to congress for both deauthorizing the federal limits of the sheet-pile on south and east docks for dredging and maintenance, and also if they are going to leave them as federal features.
  - Lean stated that it seems to be the Corps is trying to force the repair and responsibility of those walls on the City which does not seem right. That the City of Nome needs to try hard to get any repairs on those areas done by the Corps prior to the City of Nome accepting responsibility. That this needs to go to Congress either way so we should talk to our representatives and pursue the Corps making those repairs.
- McLarty asked if there were any other conversations that may offer insight to the Corps thinking or a possible path forward.
  - PD Baker stated that the Corps were initially said it was a policy but discovered it was actually a law. The Corps says they are just following rules about those walls being used as docks and as such are supposed to be owned by the City.
  - PD Baker stated that the Corps is aware they’ve always been used as docks since they have been dredging the Nome Harbor since 1917, due to responsibility for the channel, turning basin and these sheet-pile walls. They have reconstructed the walls at least 3 times, so the City will pursue keeping these walls as federal features.
  - McLarty asked if there were any advantages to the City taking ownership of these area. PD Baker responded no, it is all a cost at this point.
  - Lean stated he found an entry in a 1924 Alaska Road Commissions activities document where the Corps stated that East and South walls were being rebuild for ships to load and offload better. Again, in WW2 the Army rebuilt those faces for the war effort. This shows the government has maintained those as docks all this time.

COMMISSIONER’S UPDATES
- Commissioner Sheffield stated she received a press release for a leadership orientation tour that involved policy makers from Washington DC, US NORTHCOM, D17, Sector Anchorage, NOAA and others. It stated that key leadership and policy makers would meet regional stakeholders and leadership. Sheffield stated that she felt that meeting should have been a public meeting and wanted to know who decided it was not to be a public meeting.
CM Steckman stated that it was not scheduled to be a public meeting and the request was for a quick ground tour/meeting to introduce leadership in the USCG that had never been to Alaska. CM Steckman noted that the only leadership or stakeholders there were the City Manager, Mayor, two Port Commissioners and Utilities. An overview of the Nome visit was given as a breeze in, breeze out trip with basic questions on how things work. There was a brief windshield tour to the high school, then Old St. Joe’s for a quick lunch/meeting and a run by the port before dropping them back at their plane. CM Steckman stated that it was not that type of meeting; that people come to meet with the City all the time on general issues and they are not public meetings. Sheffield felt that the press release by the USCG was misleading and made it seem like it should have had more leadership and members of the community present to weigh in. There was mixed general discussion amongst the group on this trip and what constitutes a meeting being a public meeting. Consensus was that that the City was not aware of the press release the USCG put out. PD Baker stated that the USCG noted they would be back later in August and said they would have a public meeting.

HARBORMASTER’S REPORT
- HM Stotts provided a brief update on the following;
  - New seasonal staff; Office Manager- Siobhan Bradly, Deputy Harbormaster – Alex Thomson and Dock Watch – Bob Baranska al working out very well.
  - Busy with fuel transfers to local tank farms.
  - Cruise ROALD AMUNDOSN was just in and was a successful daytrip and PAX turnaround.
  - Thanks to Public Works for assisting with dock surfacing for the cruise ships.
  - CM Steckman noted we had over 700 PAX through Nome 7.23.22
  - Overview of the remaining 7 cruise ships we are expecting later in the season.
  - Port is now identified as a regulated facility due to our pipelines on the Causeway.
  - Navy into Nome late Sept- early Nov to test vessel capabilities of fast response vehicles.
  - Assisted the USACE, Chris Floyd in offshore soil samples for the port expansion project.
  - Bristol will be back in August to dig up the abutments on the causeway bridge to address drainage issues. The bridge will be close for a 2-day period between Aug 19th and 22nd.
  - Build-up of small releases and runoffs from multiple vessels in the Small Boat Harbor has been causing a sheen on the water staff is dealing with, sometimes on a daily basis.

Discussion:
- Commissioner McLarty asked when the sale date would be for the Port/ City surplus sale. HM Stotts responded that the City has removed most of their items from the sale list and it will now mostly be Port impounded items. We are looking to set a date for the sale by the end of August.
- McCann asked if we have an idea on the number or cruise ships that will be visiting in Nome in 2023. HM Stotts responded that we have not yet received those berthing applications but we should in the next few months.

PORT DIRECTOR’S REPORT
PD Baker provided an overview of the following:
- On the Local Service Facilities (LSF’s), our design engineers and the Corps completed 65% design level at 30 June, and have progressed forward into preparing the 95% level by Nov 2022.
- BFI is filling their portion of the TBS pad and the project is underway. The City has the same contractor who will be coordinating the projects to fill the perimeter around the BFI pad, the drainage are, as well as grading the existing bad to benefit drainage.
• The Port/City will be hosting the 2022 Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators Conference on September 26th through 29th. We are setting up online signup for sponsorships and vendors that wish to attend the conference currently. We are actively planning the conference working out details and open to any suggestions for local items they can do while in Nome. General discussion with the group on conference planning items.
  • It was noted that Port Commissioners, City Council and key City Staff are VIPS and are invited to attend the conference and banquet dinner.
• PD Baker provided an update on the Arctic Deep Draft Port expansion fuel lines configurations and routing. Extending lines from the existing fuel lines to the new dock locations, as well as new lines down the whole facility.
  • The Corps had an Industry Day in Nome on July 11th for contractors to visit the Nome expansion site and meet individually with the Corps to provide insight into project sequencing, materials procurement timelines, and methodology approaches.
  • It was shared that the City will need to provide laydown space for whatever contractor is awarded for the expansion. The City is looking at the GARCO shop and surrounding area for the contractor to use. By next summer we will need to begin clearing the site and relocating users to adjacent properties.

Discussion:
• Smithhisler asked if we will be using 6” and 8” fuel lines or if we are planning on anything different due to larger vessels.
  • PD Baker responded that industry professionals indicated that 8’’ is still the most preferred line size so that is what we will use.
• Sheffield asked about the incinerator proposal to USDOT update.
  • PD Baker stated that we anticipate word in August.
• PD Baker noted that inflation has been a potential concern but it is hard to tell right now how that will affect the project. It was also noted that the contractor will be supplying housing for the workers for the project.

OLD BUSINESS
• None

NEW BUSINESS
• 22-06-30 USACE CAP 107 – Deauthorization Letter to Sponsor
• ADDP Design Phase 1 – draft CRW drawing on fuel pipeline layout

Discussion:
• PD Baker stated that this is about whether the Port Commission wishes to recommend the Council pursue the congressional authorization that keeps the features as federal, or changes it to local – making the City responsible for the East and South walls.

Motion:
The following motion was made by Commissioner McCann and seconded by Commissioner Smithhisler:

Recommending to the Common Council request the Corps to pursue keeping the East/South docks and dredging footprints as federal features. The precedent is the Corps maintaining navigation into the Nome Harbor for over 100 years, and these structures have been used as docks, throughout that time.

At the Roll Call:
Ayes: McCann, Sheffield, McLarty, Smithhisler, Lean, West
Nays:
Abstain:
The motion CARRIED.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS
None.

COMMISSIONER’S COMMENTS
- McCann – No Comment
- McLarty commented that he feels it important for the PC body to be present when there are meetings that are appropriate for them to do so in the sake of transparency.
- Sheffield commented that she would encourage people to google the USCG press release and see how that was represented. Also commented that NOAA bottom trawl survey has entered the Bering Sea phase. They will have 2 vessels in Nome, the ALASKA KNIGHT and VESTERAALEN. This is important due to it giving us the sea temps and benthic make up of our waters. There is also avian influenza across the region, it has died down but is still present. There was an unusual mortality event for Harbor and Gray Seals so if you see any wildlife with signs of neurological damage please call Brandon Ahmasuk or her to report.
- Smithisler commented that he felt it seems like there is more than one government in Nome and it is disheartening to him personally that the USCG did not reach out to any other local governments. He noted the Corps has done a good job of that and he feels the USCG should do the same.
- Lean commented that he is concerned that despite the high price paid for crab, the fishery is not the strategy that should be followed. As soon as crab reach legal size, they are caught. In an effort to catch that crab, many sub-legal are handled and a percentage die. Beside the waste of killing undersized crab, the barely legal crab are less valuable than just one year older crab. A second issue is that the largest males focus on mating to the point they do not grow to that more valuable size. If the largest crab are barely legal that is where most of the males will remain. By waiting or harvesting at a reduced rate, the fishery in the long term will make more money. The crab will have longer life in the reproductive life stage and reproduction will have a more constant production rate. In other words, there would be sustained yield as the states constitution requires.
- West commented that the recent USCG visit window was very compressed and was mainly to answer general questions on the project. Also, that it is already August and the facility is very busy, but thankfully there have been no major mishaps.

ADJOURNMENT
Motion was made by for adjournment at 7:52pm.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 18th day of August 2022.

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Jim West, Chairman

ATTEST:

Joy Baker, Port Director