

Mayor
John K. Handeland

Manager
Glenn Steckman

Deputy Clerk
Jeremy Jacobson



**Nome Public Safety
Advisory Commission**
Carol Piscoy, *Chair*
Justin Noffske, *Vice-Chair*
Jana Hoggan
Traci McGarry
Shauntel Bruner-Alvanna
Kirsten Timbers
VACANT

**NOME PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 05, 2024 at 6:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

102 Division St. ▪ P.O. Box 281 ▪ Nome, Alaska 99762 ▪ Phone (907) 443-6663 ▪ Fax (907) 443-5345

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- [A.](#) August 7, 2023 Nome Public Safety Advisory Commission Regular Meeting Minutes,

PAGE 2

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Update: Police Chief Hiring,

VERBAL

NEW BUSINESS

- [A.](#) City Manager's Activity Report: January 6 to January 19, 2024,

PAGE 5

- [B.](#) Nome Police Department, 2023 4Q Stat Report,

PAGE 13

COMMITTEE MEMBER'S COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor
John K. Handeland

Manager
Glenn Steckman

Deputy Clerk
Jeremy Jacobson



Nome Public Safety Advisory Commission Item A.
Carol Piscoya, *Chair*
Justin Noffske, *Vice-Chair*
Jana Hoggan
Traci McGarry
Shauntel Bruner-Alvanna
Peter Travers
VACANT

**NOME PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 07, 2023 at 6:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

102 Division St. ▪ P.O. Box 281 ▪ Nome, Alaska 99762 ▪ Phone (907) 443-6663 ▪ Fax (907) 443-5345

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Shauntel Bruner-Alvanna; Traci McGarry; Justin Noffske; Carol Piscoya;
Members Absent: Peter Travers; Jana Hoggan;
Also Present: Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Mike Heintzelman, NPD Chief;
William Crockett, NPD Deputy Chief; Jeremy Jacobson, Deputy Clerk

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by C. Noffske and seconded by C. Bruner-Alvanna to approve the agenda as presented.

At the roll call:

Aye: McGarry; Noffske; Piscoya; Bruner-Alvanna

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. April 3, 2023 Nome Public Safety Advisory Commission Regular Meeting Minutes,
- B. June 5, 2023 Nome Public Safety Advisory Commission Regular Meeting Minutes,

A motion was made by C. Bruner-Alvanna and seconded by C. McGarry to approve the April 3, 2023 and June 5, 2023 Nome Public Safety Advisory Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.

At the roll call:

Aye: McGarry; Noffske; Piscoya; Bruner-Alvanna

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

No commentary.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

(2:53)

A. Discussion of Police Chief Search

- Manager Steckman noted NPD Chief Heintzelman's 5 years of service to the Nome community and the Nome Police Department, the change in the 5 years since being brought on board, and the recent NPD accreditation in process allowing future opportunity for the NPD and community.
- Commissioner McGarry inquired into the search venues the City would utilize in finding an NPD Chief.
- Manager Steckman noted Association of Police Chiefs, AML, ICMA, and all other previous sites used in the last round of NPD Chief hire. The Police Chief would also be a part of the pension system, now.

STAFF REPORTS

(6:42)

A. City Manager's Report,

- Manager Steckman identified a situation where two youth were driving recklessly, that he witnessed, at the Port of Nome. He noted that traffic safety toward ATV usage would increase in September.
- Chief Heintzelman noted there would be public notice provided well in advance.
- Commissioner Noffske opined, thorough notice to the public was important.
- Manager Steckman identified the lack of housing and resources for youth in detention. He stated there would be discussion brought to City Council soon.
- Commissioner McGarry drew attention abandoned vehicles.
- Vice-chair Noffske inquired on the department's current staffing and capabilities with current resources.
- Chief Heintzelman stated even with recent hiring, currently the department does not have adequate staff per capita. Newly recruited, yet to be brought aboard will elevate the department's staff beyond where it has been in a very long time.
- Manager Steckman added the Council has added pay incentives to newly hired Officers, and the addition of several leadership positions within the department.
- Chief Heintzelman emphasized, without adequate housing for youth-offenders they cannot be housed in Nome which is a disservice to the community and youth. Since joining the department, there has been a lot of changes for the better, training of staff, the onboarding of experienced officers, all has significantly improved.

A motion was made by C. McGarry and seconded by C. Bruner-Alvanna to review the situation toward finding youth detention facilities.

At the roll call:

Aye: McGarry; Noffske; Piscoya; Bruner-Alvanna

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

(50:00)

B. Nome Police Department Quarterly Report,

- Chief Heintzelman noted the department's accreditation requires securing a vehicle impound lot, that is secure itself. The communications officer has been a challenge to fully staff, one reason being the background requirements for security clearance purposes.
- Manager Steckman noted the NPD & EMS radio bid may go out in September of 2024. He noted attaining parts and supplies for the project likely are not readily available making the timeline more difficult to predict.
- Chair Piscoya inquired into place of notice for NPD staff openings.
- Manager Steckman stated the City website, City facilities, state website, and social media.
- Chair Piscoya questioned how the NPD & EMS radio is currently functioning.
- Chief Heintzelman noted the NPD & EMS radio is working, however, they know it needs addressing.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

(1:09:10)

- 1) Commissioner McGarry acknowledged NPD's efforts toward accreditation, and thanked everyone for the meeting.
- 2) Vice-chair Noffske expressed gratitude in NPD's efforts countering sexual assault within the community, and acknowledged NPD Chief Heintzelman's effort with NPD.
- 3) Chair Piscoya opined satisfaction with the direction NPD has been headed in, from where it had been. She identified importance toward community safety and planning for the community's future.
- 4) Commissioner Bruner-Alvanna thanked NPD Chief Heintzelman for his service and expressed eagerness toward the Commission's role in vetting the next NPD Chief.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by C. Noffske and seconded by C. McGarry to adjourn the meeting.

Hearing no objections, the Commission adjourned at 7:04 PM.

APPROVED and **SIGNED** this 6th day of February, 2024

CAROL PISCOYA
Chair

ATTEST:

JEREMY JACOBSON
Deputy Clerk

TO: The Mayor and Common Council

FROM: Glenn Steckman

RE: City Manager's Report

January 17, 2024

Work session:

There will be three items on the work session for Monday night:

Item one: ADF&G wishes to remove weapons restrictions beginning August 1, 2024 on the hunting of Muskox and changes to the TX095 Muskox Tier II Permit Hunt with permission of the Common Council. In your packet is an email from Sara Henslee and map proposals. Acting Police Chief Crocket will make the presentation.

Item two: John Bles from Bristol Engineering will be available by Zoom to discuss awarding the bid to Sturgeon Electric to proceed with the heating and ventilation system replacement in City Hall. The original price has been reduced from 1,598,500 to \$1,406,400. The price could be further reduced by eliminating the "fire alarm system" which I am not recommending. I am proposing that funds that were saved by the CARES Act be used to pay a portion of this project.

Item three. Are reports from the Department of Public Works Director Cole Cushman and acting Police Chief Will Crocket to discuss their departmental reports.

City Clerk:

I am requesting permission to hire Mr. Greg Knight as the new city clerk. It is a three-year contract, with a starting salary of \$90,000.00. The city will provide him an apartment for three months while he secures more permanent housing.

Port Strategic Development Plan:

The Port Commission will be hosting three nights of meetings on the landside development of the port. The questions that will be asked of the community: what it should look like? What services do you believe need to be developed? Etc. This is not a meeting to discuss the first phase of the port development project. That portion of the project is going out to bid this February.

Polar Pools:

Bob Walker, from Polar Pools, will be here this Monday, January 22 to begin completion of the project. Nome School District is being requested to turn up the heat. This is necessary to warm the pool water up to minimum of 80 degrees.

Snow Removal:

Our snow removal crews are operating 8-9 hours a day. There is also no limit placed on funding for this key operation.

There is one problem that city crews are facing. After the roads are plowed and piles of snow removed, private contractors dump snow right back into the streets. City Hall is also receiving complaints from property owners having snow dumped on their properties including vacant lots.

The NPD will start enforcing the parking restrictions on Front Street from 5am-8am. This year, a number of people are leaving their cars parked overnight. This prevents Front St. from being cleared properly by AKDOT.

I want to acknowledge Cole Cushman, the road crew, our temporary staff of drivers and our contractors in their efforts these last ten days.

GCSIT:

The city's long term thirty party provider of IT support services was sold to LMJ Consulting on January 1, 2024. City staff will be evaluating whether the services received by LMJ Consulting are equal or better than GCSIT's. There also is a sixty-notice clause to end the contract if the city is not happy with services.

At this time the transition has been bumpy.

Iditarod:

The scheduled Common Council meeting for March 11 will not be held due to Iditarod. The council chambers will be used by the media for the event.

ADA and security upgrades for the NSD buildings:

The changes needed for ADA and Security Improvements are ready to go out to bid. The contractors will need to return their bids by February 15 at 3pm. Bristol Engineering has provided the design services for the project. The project should be completed by this summer depending on the bids come in for.

Planning Commission:

The Planning Commission met on January 9th. It was decided to schedule meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. This schedule will be firm and the meetings will start at 7pm with work sessions at 5:30pm.

At the meeting the “Opening Meetings Law” was discussed in a presentation by Sam Severin. Also, discussed was the variance process. Unfortunately, a variance was granted improperly by the Planning Commission.

I am scheduling additional training for the membership in the coming months.

At the work session of the Planning Commission, city planner, Erin Reinders walked the commission through ideas on a “Downtown Zoning District” to encourage development in the historic heart of the city.

Public Safety Advisory Commission:

The PSAC met on Saturday, 1/13, at 10:00am and again this past Thursday to discuss the police chief candidates.

Day Shelter:

After a staffing shortage, the Day Shelter was able to get staffed back to levels to allow the shelter to remain open until 8pm. I want to acknowledge the staff at the Day Shelter who were out taking care of our homeless population during the week plus of snow storms.

Staffing:

I am pleased to announce that the city has hired a new accounts payable clerk (Jovan Dull). On the agenda is a request to hire a new city clerk (Greg Knight). The NPD is also in the process of hiring a new police officer.

Nome Volunteer Ambulance Department:

I have met with three of the four employees that will be affected by the shutting down of the city ambulance service. Two employees will transfer to other positions in the city. Another employee is leaving Nome.

Norton Sound Hospital:

Sam Severin and I are drafting an agreement to be presented to NSHC. Despite my efforts, NSHC has not agreed to meet face to face which may prolong negotiations.

Traffic control improvements at Nome Elementary:

The improvements for pedestrian safety and traffic improvements are being submitted by NEC with City of Nome support.

Alaska Native Housing:

At the last council meeting, a question was asked about what the city is doing to increase Native Alaska housing opportunities. The access to funding for these development projects is restricted to the local tribal governments and Native Alaska corporations. The City of Nome does not have its own housing authority.

NJUS and the City of Nome partner with these organizations on their draft housing developments which are supported by grant funding. This includes supporting grant funding to develop the infrastructure necessary to develop these homes.

Our partners with the 3D printed housing have also met with tribal leadership to discuss how this construction project may be beneficial to provide more attainable housing.

TO: The Mayor and Common Council

FROM: Glenn Steckman

RE: City Manager's report addition

January 26, 2024

City Hall Ventilation:

To pay the cost of the heating and ventilation improvements, I am recommending that the ARPA funds be used primarily (\$1.1m) and the balance supplemented from the General Fund (CARES)

Recreation Center:

The facility needs substantial improvements to it. The heating and ventilation system improvement is expected to cost \$2.4m. Proposed improvements to showers, locker room and an expanded sauna is \$1.4m. Installation of bleachers, increased storage, bathroom updates (non-related to locker room and sauna improvements) bowling alley improvements at least \$500,000.

City staff have completed an overhaul of the rec center kitchen and installed commercial appliances. The appliances were purchased through grants. These grant funds have also allowed the city to purchase 40 new tables and 320 chairs.

Port Project Agreement:

The formal agreement was signed Thursday afternoon. I want to thank those from Nome who were able to attend this signing ceremony. I especially want to thank Joy, Lucas and Angie for working with the Corp of Engineers representative and Alaska Delegation representatives.

Vaping:

I have spoken to two of the three cannabis shop owners. Both sell cannabis vaping devices. Only one sells nicotine vaping devices. I also visited AC's on Nome-Teller Highway. That store sells nicotine vaping devices only in its alcohol dispensary. All three of these locations restrict access to anyone under the age of 21 years of age.

Hopefully, a joint meeting of the three cannabis shop owners can be held soon to discuss ways to control underage use and access.

Swimming Pool:

The pool is filled and filtering is taking place. There are some small plumbing and ventilation issues that city staff will address. The companies warranting the pool mechanicals are expected to be here in Nome

the last week of February. These manufacturer reps will certify the warranties and when the pool can be open to the general public. Legally to operate a commercial pool the city must have a self-activated and controlled chemical feeding systems.



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Monday, January 22, 2024

NOME SNOW OPERATIONS

The DOT and City Snow Crews would like to remind everyone of proper ways to clear or remove snow. Lately there has been a lack of effort by some operations that pile, remove, or displace snow in areas where it should not be stacked. Please work with our crews on coordinating where to pile snow if you do not have your own area, otherwise it may be put back in your yard or parking lot and you will have to haul it to one of the snow dumps.

Please keep the following things in consideration when clearing driveways, sidewalks, and parking lots:

- **All emergency/egress routes need to stay clear.** This includes fire hydrants, power poles and power lines, roads and right of ways. No snow should be piled next to or under power lines and all emergency access routes need to stay clear.
- **Snow piles on the road-especially near an intersection or corner.** Please keep piles away from the intersections so they do not create blind spot hazards.
- **Placement of snow piles.** If they are put in the road as a hazard you may have to pay twice to have it moved. Crews have the right to move it back in to your area if it poses a road hazard. They also become an attraction for kids to play on so keeping them away from the main roads is important.
- **Illegal parking on the highway or other city roads.** Same situation here if it is a road hazard- your vehicle can be removed at the discretion of safety. (Highway across from City Field is a good example during storms)

With everyone's cooperation we can keep the roads clear and safe for the travelling public.

For further information on snow operations please contact:

SOA DOT: Superintendent, Calvin Schaeffer @ (907)443-3411 or Highway Foreman Gary Longley @ (907)443-3520 or cell (907)304-1305

City of Nome: PW Supervisor, Cole Cushman or Chris Schuneman, Road Crew Foreman at (907)443-6642

Help us report road hazards!

Send photos and reports by text to 907-304-1331 or 907-304-1305.

Please include the name of the road and mile marker.

Always drive for the conditions.

Use caution around marked areas and working around heavy equipment.

THANK YOU!



City of Nome Police Department

William Crockett
Chief of Police

4th Quarter Stat Report
October 1st – December 31st, 2023

General patrol statistics

Category	Oct 1, 2023 – Dec 31st, 2023
Calls for Service counting keep checks	2794 (554 or 19% alcohol related)
Calls for Service not counting keep checks	1382
Arrests	101 (65% alcohol related)
Total Charges	255
Traffic Stops	53
Citations	17
Incident Reports	167
Sexual Assaults	9
Intoxicated Person Calls	144
Ambulance Requests	116
Fire Department Response	12
Court Service Documents	49
Dispatch Stats	
Non-Emergency Calls	855
911 Calls	233

Personnel

Officer Brett resigned.
CO Spears (PT) resigned.
CO Dickson-Bahnke was hired.
Officer Nguyen was promoted to Investigator.
Alex Thomson was promoted to Dispatch Supervisor.

Vacancies

(2) Police Officer Spots (as of 12/31/23)
(1) FT Communications Officer

Vehicles

2004 302 – Old CSO Van

Transferred to PW.

2005 290 – CSO Chevy Astro Van
Transferred to PW.

Nome Police Department
102 Greg Kruschek Avenue/ PO Box 1230- Nome, AK 99762
Voice (907) 443-5262 - Fax (907) 443-2266

2021 679 – Ford Expedition
Good condition.

2022 689 Ford Expedition
New condition

2022 692 Ford Expedition
New condition.

2016 321 – Silver unmarked Explorer
Good condition.

2016 323 – White Explorer
Good condition.

2019 885 – F-150
Good condition.

2019 887 – F-150
Good condition.

2021 978 - F-150
Good condition.

2023 721 F-150
New Condition

2023 722 Ford Transit Van
New Condition

2021 Can Am Side by Side ATV 800
Good condition.

EQUIPMENT

Renewed 5 year Bodycam Contract with AXON.
February is scheduled to start installation meetings for 2 dash cam units.
(2) Two Taser 10's were purchased and are in the pilot phase.
New headsets for dispatch were installed.

INVESTIGATIONS

2023 SA's
Total: 41
Closed: 39
Open: 2

RADIO PROJECT

Radio project is currently out for bid.

ACCREDITATION

NWAA (North West Accreditation Alliance) is moving to creating their own Alaska assessment due to the increase of Alaska agencies seeking accreditation from this organization. Currently utilizes an adopted Oregon assessment.

Working with Cole from PW for an Impound building, put on hold until next Summer.

Many policies are moving towards the approval/publish phase, however due to the Chief vacancy most are put on hold until position is filled.

Working with CO Thomson on creating training guides and policies in the Nome 911 Center.

Nome Police Department
PO BOX 1230
Nome AK 99762
907-443-2266 fax
907-443-5262 dispatch

