

Mayor
John K. Handeland
Manager
Glenn Steckman
Clerk
Bryant Hammond



Nome City Council
Jerald Brown
Doug Johnson
Mark Johnson
Adam Martinson
Jennifer Reader
Meghan Sigvanna Topkok

**NOME COMMON COUNCIL
WORK SESSION AGENDA**
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 07, 2021 at 12:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL

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

12:00 Noon

ITEMS:

- [A.](#) Discussion of Elections Ordinances O-21-03-02 and O-21-03-03,

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ITEMS:

- [A.](#) Citizens Comments Policy *Draft* ,

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1st Reading: March 22, 20212nd Reading: April 12, 2021Presented By:
City ClerkAction Taken:
Yes____
No____
Abstain____

CITY OF NOME
ORDINANCE NO. O-21-03-02

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2.15 AND CHAPTER 15.10 TO ELECT CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS AND UTILITY BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

WHEREAS, Section 2.15.010 of the Nome Code of Ordinances currently requires candidates for seats on the city council to run for designated seats at large; and,

WHEREAS, Nome has experienced decreased interests in running for local office; and,

WHEREAS, A system of designated seats is less compelling given that all elected officials represent the entire community at large; and,

WHEREAS, It is in the public interest to change from a designated seat system to an at large system in hopes of increasing the number of Nome residents who seek to hold public office;

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOME:

Section 1. Amendment of Section 2.15.010. Section 2.15.010 of the Code of Ordinances of Nome, Alaska is hereby amended to read as follows [deletions are overstruck]:

2.15.010 Composition and powers.

The legislative power of the city and all other powers reasonably implied are vested in the city council. The city council is composed of six members elected by the voters ~~for designated seats~~ on an at-large basis.

Section 2. Amendment of Subsection 7.15.030. Subsection 7.15.030 of the Code of Ordinances of Nome, Alaska is hereby amended to read as follows [additions are underlined, deletions are overstruck]:

7.15.030 ~~Designated seats~~ Candidates Elected at Large.

Candidates for city council, school board and utility board shall file for election by the municipal voters at large. Municipal voters may cast votes for as many candidates for city council, school board and utility board as there are seats to be filled. ~~but for seats designated alphabetically commencing with the seats vacated in October, 1978 and~~

~~continuing thereafter until each seat has received an alphabetical designation.~~ No person may file for more than one seat within the same office.

Section 3. Amendment of Subsection 7.25.140. Subsection 7.25.140 of the Code of Ordinances of Nome, Alaska is hereby amended to read as follows [additions are underlined, deletions are overstruck]:

7.25.140 Insufficient plurality.

No person may hold the office of mayor of Nome, ~~Nome school board, Nome joint utilities or the Nome common council~~ as a result of any election, regular or special, without receiving a majority of the votes cast for the office. A majority is defined as forty percent of the total votes cast for all candidates divided by the number of seats to be filled plus at least one vote. ~~In the event that no single~~ If the number of candidates for Nome common council, Nome school board or Nome joint utilities board that receives a majority is less than the number of seats to be filled, the ~~two~~ candidates receiving the most votes in the regular election shall be elected based on the number of votes received starting with the candidate receiving the most votes until all seats to be filled at any election have been filled. If no candidate for mayor receives a majority of the votes cast, the two candidates receiving the most votes shall have a run-off election on the first Tuesday of the month following the subject election to establish a winner. In the case of a special election, the two candidates receiving the most votes shall have a run-off no more than thirty days after subsequent to the special election.

Section 4. Amendment of Subsection 15.10.040(a). Subsection 15.10.040(a) of the Code of Ordinances of Nome, Alaska is hereby amended to read as follows [additions are underlined, deletions are overstruck]:

15.10.040 Membership, qualifications, term and vacancies.

(a) The board shall consist of five members elected by the voters on an at large basis. A utility board member is elected for a three year term and until a successor qualifies. ~~Each seat on the board is a separate office and shall be designated as A, B, C, D and E, respectively. Candidates for the board shall file for a particular office or seat, which shall be stated in the declaration of candidacy. The terms of office of those members of the board holding seats A and B shall be two years, and the terms of office of those members of the board holding seats C, D and E shall be three years. At the first expiration of a term of a member of the board in office on the effective date of this chapter, a member shall be elected for seat A; at the second such expiration, a member shall be elected for seat B; at the third such expiration, a member shall be elected for seat C; at the fourth such expiration, a member shall be elected for seat D; at the fifth such expiration, a member shall be elected for seat E. It is the intention of this section that upon the first expiration of the term of the member elected for seat A, and in each year thereafter, two members shall be elected to the board, one for a term of three years, and one for a term of two years.~~

Section 5. No Impact on Current Terms of Office. Adoption of this ordinance shall not change the terms of office of current members of the city council or utilities board.

Section 6. Effective Date. This ordinance is effective upon passage.

APPROVED and **SIGNED** the 12th day of April, 2021.

JOHN K. HANDELAND
Mayor

ATTEST:

BRYANT HAMMOND
City Clerk

1st Reading: March 22, 20212nd Reading: April 12, 2021Presented By:
City ClerkAction Taken:
Yes____
No____
Abstain____

CITY OF NOME
ORDINANCE NO. O-21-03-03

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7.15 TO CHANGE THE TIME FOR FILING A
DECLARATON OF CANDIDACY**

WHEREAS, The current deadline for filing a declaration of candidacy creates a last minute rush in printing, programming and testing ballots and ballot counting machines;

WHEREAS, It is in the public interest to avoid hasty printing, programming and testing of ballots and ballot counting machines,

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NOME:

Section 1. Amendment of Subsection 7.15.010(a). Subsection 7.15,010(a) of the Code of Ordinances of Nome, Alaska is hereby amended to read as follows [additions are underlined, deletions are overstruck]:

7.15.010 Declaration of candidacy.

(a) A candidate for election to a municipal office shall execute and file a declaration of candidacy in the office of the city clerk at least ~~twenty-one~~ thirty-five days and not exceeding ~~forty-five~~ sixty days prior to the municipal election in which the candidate seeks to be elected.

Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance is effective upon passage.

APPROVED and SIGNED the 12th day of April, 2021.

JOHN K. HANDELAND
Mayor

ATTEST:

BRYANT HAMMOND, City Clerk

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

DRAFT

Nome city council meetings are conducted under the parliamentary guidance found in the most recent edition of Roberts Rules of Order, with modification as outlined in the Nome Code of Ordinances. Most public bodies follow Roberts Rules for consistency and to provide for the orderly transaction of business.

Meetings are broadcast on the GCI Community Channel in Nome and streamed on YouTube. During every regularly scheduled meeting, Council rules provide two opportunities for the public to address the Council under the agenda heading "Citizens' comments".

There is also a public hearing after the second reading of an ordinance before final consideration by the council. If you wish to testify on an ordinance, speaking during the ordinance public hearing is preferred to Citizens' comments.

Citizens' comments are welcomed on items on the agenda or other items germane to city operations, policy or practices. If the Council has no direct or indirect span of control or influence, please consider presenting in another public forum.

After being recognized by the presiding officer, in-person comments should:

- be introduced by stating your name (and affiliation if speaking on behalf of a group or organization);
- be limited to 3 minutes to allow others an opportunity;
- be addressed to the body as a whole, not to an individual council member or staff member;
- not be used as an alternative to other available administrative remedies or procedures;
- refrain from making charges or complaints against any employee by name or other reference which would tend to identify an individual.

The presiding officer shall preserve order and decorum, may modify time limits and shall rule on the appropriateness of a topic, subject to appeal to the Council. "Citizens' comments" is a time for comments, not questions or debate. Council, mayor and staff may respond to comments under appropriate "Reports" section.

If you cannot be present or wish to provide written comments or testimony, please e-mail them to publiccomments@nomealaska.org. To be included as a communication, comments must be received by the agenda cut-off of 5pm on the Thursday preceding a regularly scheduled Monday meeting. Comments received after the deadline will advance to the following meeting.

The City of Nome is under a health-related emergency declaration through June 30, 2021. The council chambers has been set up for social distancing; this may limit number of participants who can be physically in the room.

Until the expiration of the emergency declaration, Citizens' comments, in addition to in-person or written submissions, will be accepted telephonically.

- To sign up for telephonic testimony, call or e-mail the City Clerk's Office by 12:00 noon the day of the meeting. (907) 443-6663 or clerk@nomealaska.org.
- Public testimony will be heard from citizens in the order in which they have signed up.
- The Clerk will call citizens who have signed up to testify at the phone numbers provided when it is their turn to speak.
- If you do not answer the phone, then we will move to the next person on the list.
- The same guidelines for in-person comments (above) apply to telephonic testimony.