

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
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2020 at 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

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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COMMUNICATIONS

[Letter](#) of November 16, 2020 from Nome Community Center to City of Nome re: Community Benefits Share Reallocation Request,

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CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

NEW BUSINESS

Nome Public Schools State of the Schools Presentation,

VERBAL

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Activity Report: November 10 - 20, 2020,

VERBAL

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

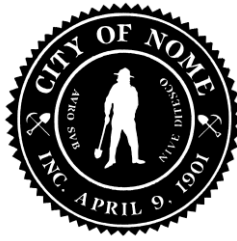
MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Activity Report: November 10 - 20, 2020,

VERBAL

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor
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**NOME COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 09, 2020 at 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

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Jerald Brown; Doug Johnson (telephonic); Mark Johnson; Adam Martinson (telephonic); Jennifer Reader (Zoom); Meghan Topkok (Zoom);

Members Absent: Zoe Okleasik

Also Present: John K. Handeland, Mayor; Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Bryant Hammond, City Clerk; Ken Morton, Assistant Utility Manager

In the audience: Emily Hofstaedter (KNOM); Judy Martinson; Rhonda Schneider; Paul Kosto; John Mortenson; Ken Hughes; Lisa Ellanna; Derek McLarty; Keith Morrison

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Handeland asked if there were any changes to the agenda.

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

At the roll call:

Aye: D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader; Topkok;
Brown

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. October 12, 2020 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

B. October 26, 2020 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Brown to approve both sets of minutes.

At the roll call:

Aye: M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown; D. Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Letter of October 25, 2020 from Utility Manager to City Manager re: Streetlight Safety Enhancements--CARES Funding Suggestion/Request.
- B. Memo of November 6, 2020 from Clerk Hammond to Common Council re: Land Disposal Bid Results.
- C. Letter of November 6, 2020 from AMCO to City of Nome re: Breakers Bar and Nome Liquor Store License Renewal.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

- 1. Ken Hughes congratulated John Handeland on his recent mayoral win. He noted no reason was stated in the minutes of the October 12 executive session. He spoke in support of round V of CARES Act relief.
- 2. Judy Martinson asked for access to meetings via Zoom or phone so she could participate while out of town. She read an email concerning COVID and O-20-11-01 asking to reduce the renewal of travel restrictions.
- 3. Lisa Ellanna read her resignation letter from the Public Safety Advisory Commission, citing the slow pace of administration in discussing the NPD Operating Procedure Manual. Ms. Ellanna opined such delay demonstrated the commission was not valued.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. O-20-10-01 An Extension of a Local Emergency Authorizing the Nome Common Council to Direct the City Manager Take Necessary Actions to Reduce the Impact and Spread of COVID-19 Throughout the City of Nome, **SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE**.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:24 PM.

- Ken Hughes suggested the period be shortened to 90 days. He noted the Council could extend it if desired.
- Judy Martinson requested the Council only extend the emergency 90 days.

The Council reconvened at 7:27 PM.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. M. Johnson to adopt O-20-10-01.

Discussion:

- Manager Steckman briefed the Council on the current state of Nome's travel restrictions and the recent extension of the State's emergency declaration.

- Mayor Handeland discussed Iditarod's plans for carrying out the race in a safe manner for 2021. He reminded the Council of the agreed upon amendment of striking 1(e) in section 3.
- Council Member Reader asked how Iditarod would look with the current travel restrictions in place.
- Council Member Mark Johnson discussed other communities' practices.
- Manager Steckman discussed testing practices and logistics.
- Council Member Reader discussed Hawai'i's testing regime and expectations of diminished visitors at Iditarod.
- Council Member Martinson noted the emergency orders were the nitty gritty.
- Council Member Topkok suggested passing with the date as proposed.
- Council Member Doug Johnson suggested keeping the date as proposed and suggested a testing regime.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. M. Johnson to amend O-20-10-01 by striking 1(e) of section 3.

At the roll call:

Aye: Reader; Topkok; Brown; D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion to amend **CARRIED**.

Returning to the main motion

- The Council discussed 4 of section 3 and the chain of succession if the City Manager isn't able to perform his duties.

A motion was made by C. Martinson and seconded by C. M. Johnson to change the expiration date from June 31 to February 8.

At the roll call:

Aye: M. Johnson; Martinson

Nay: Topkok; Brown; D. Johnson; Reader

Abstain:

The motion **FAILED**.

Returning to the main motion

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Martinson to change the expiration date from June 31 to March 31.

At the roll call:

Aye: M. Johnson; Martinson

Nay: Brown; D. Johnson; Reader; Topkok
Abstain:

The motion **FAILED**.

Returning to the main motion

At the roll call:
Aye: Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown; D. Johnson; M.
Johnson
Nay:
Abstain:

The motion, as amended, **CARRIED**.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. R-20-11-01 A Resolution Awarding the Port of Nome Anode Replacement Project to Global Diving & Salvage, Inc.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Brown to adopt R-20-11-01.

Discussion:

- Manager Steckman explained the bid process and recommended awarding the bid.

At the roll Call
Aye: D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader; Topkok;
Brown
Nay:
Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- B. R-20-11-02 A Resolution Designating John K. Handeland as Acting City Manager for the Period December 19, 2020 to January 5, 2021.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. D. Johnson to adopt R-20-11-02.

Discussion:

- Manager Steckman explained his two normal backups would be out of town for part or all the time.

At the roll call:
Aye: M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown; D.
Johnson
Nay:
Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

C. R-20-11-03 A Resolution of the City of Nome Authorizing the City Manager to Develop and Implement Phase V of CARES Act Funding for Businesses Impacted by COVID-19.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. D. Johnson to adopt R-20-11-03.

Discussion:

- Manager Steckman explained the resolution was written broad enough so the Council could easily add in specific direction to staff.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. Martinson to amend R-20-11-03 by deleting “develop and,” changing “businesses” to “families” and adding “of direct payment of \$500 for adults and \$100 for children under 18 based upon an application developed by the City Manager” to the end of the Now Therefore Be it Resolved section.

Discussion:

- Council Member Topkok expressed concern about overextending the City's resources.

At the roll call:

Aye: Reader; Topkok; Brown; D. Johnson; M. Johnson;
Martinson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion to amend **CARRIED**.

Returning to the main motion

At the roll call:

Aye: Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown; D. Johnson; M.
Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion, as amended, **CARRIED**.

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Activity Report: October 27 to November 6, 2020.

- Assistant Manager Morton presented his verbal report, highlighting line crew activity, water/sewer, and a recent DEC full compliance evaluation.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Activity Report: October 27 to November 6, 2020.

- Manager Steckman presented his written report, highlighting a recent NPD encounter and the most recent Public Safety Advisory Commission meeting.
- B. Memo from Acting Finance Director Crowe to Manager Steckman re: General Fund Comparative Revenue & Expense Report.
 - Acting Finance Director Crowe briefly presented her memo.
- C. September 17, 2020 Nome Port Commission Regular Meeting Minutes.
- D. November 2020 Port of Nome Report and Capital Projects Update.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

1. Ken Morton, NJUS, asked if there were any questions concerning the street light proposal.
2. Ken Hughes expressed appreciation for Manager Steckman and City staff for protecting the community from COVID-19. He reiterated his request of allowing a test 72 hours prior to count for the test upon entry.
3. Judy Martinson spoke highly of both the City Manager and the Police Chief. She requested the Council entertain the 72 hour rapid test option for Iditarod, in the hopes of coaxing tourists back. She requested an option for remote participation for citizens.
4. Derek McLarty of the Utility Board and Port Commission suggested reoffering the Public Safety Advisory Commission seat to Ms. Ellanna.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

1. Council Member Brown asked that Parks and Rec get a second opinion on the recommendation to switch from salt to chlorine for pool treatment.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. M. Johnson grant the NJUS request of funds for repairs to streetlights in Nome, subject to clarification from AML that the project is CARES Act eligible.

At the roll call:

Aye: Topkok; Brown; D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson;
Reader

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

2. Council Member Doug Johnson opined he would love to see the City open for business but would like to see a plan in place so that Nome could host safe finished for Iron Dog and Iditarod.
3. Council Member Mark Johnson expressed appreciation for passing the next round of COVID relief. He asked the City to look into remote options for citizen participation in Council meetings.
4. Council Member Martinson hoped the two big projects, the pool and the rec center got started this year. He looked forward to the discussion on strategies to open up the City while keeping the community safe.

5. Council Member Reader thanked Acting Finance Director Crowe for keeping the books up to date. She agreed with Council Member Brown that a second opinion on the pool was warranted. She hoped that the Nugget and KNOM felt safer in chambers now that she was attending via Zoom. She hoped that streaming meetings might increase turnout and participation in city government and noted the decline in participation over the course of the pandemic.
6. Council Member Topkok opined the Zoom option was far better than the teleconference line. She echoed Council Members Mark Johnson and Reader in hoping for more participation through virtual meeting options. She expressed appreciation for staff and the efforts they've put forth.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

- A. Activity Report: October 27 to November 6, 2020,
 - Mayor Handeland appreciated appreciation for everyone's time. He noted the current Zoom meeting was using 98 percent of the City's bandwidth, but that staff were working on a solution.
- B. Public Safety Advisory Commission Seat I Appointment,
 - Mayor Handeland appointed Shauntel Bruner-Alvanna to Seat I of the Public Safety Advisory Commission.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Martinson to confirm Mayor Handeland's appointment.

At the roll call:

Aye: Brown; D. Johnson; M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader;
Topkok

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

The Common Council adjourned at 9:35 PM.

APPROVED and **SIGNED** this 23rd day of November, 2020

JOHN K. HANDELAND
Mayor

ATTEST:

BRYANT HAMMOND
City Clerk



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rschneider@nomecc.org

November 16, 2020

Mayor John Handeland
City Council Members

Dear Mayor & Nome City Council,

I want to thank the council for all of the support Nome Community Center has had in the past. We have been able to some amazing work through this partnership.

Last February we were granted Community Benefit Shares for the Nome Youth Court. The funds were requested to help get our 19 members of the court to the annual conference that was planned to take place in Juneau.

With the arrival of COVID-19, all travel for youth courts in the State were prohibited. As a result our youth members missed out on an amazing opportunity to network and learn from experts in the field along with other youth courts about restorative systems of justice, best practice and options for sentencing.

At the same time, Alaska Court Houses were closed to hearings, trials and youth court meetings. We purchased lap tops to enable our youth members to continue learning and reviewing referrals while making plans to conduct hearings telephonically.

We would like to request the use of the approved funds to cover the cost of the technology we needed to purchase to keep our court and its members engaged.

If this is agreeable, I can submit receipts for the cost of the equipment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Gratefully,

Rhonda Schneider
Executive Director

To: The Mayor and Common Council

From: Glenn Steckman

RE: City Manager's report

November 18, 2020

Census 2020:

I attended a virtual meeting with Census 2020 organizations on the success of the count in Alaska. According to the census officials, 99% of known addresses were counted. This count was higher than in many states. Nome received a shout out for its efforts to get counted and its cooperation with census workers.

AML Conference:

This year's conference has been virtual. Governor Dunleavy discussed the financial impact of the coronavirus on Alaska and its impact on local government. It was also discussed on mask wearing or not and how the regional areas had disagreement on mask wearing or not.

Thanksgiving:

City Hall will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and the day after. Thanksgiving Friday is a floating holiday. A number of employees chose to take the holiday. This necessitated city hall not being open.

RFP for Auditing Services:

The Auditing Services is being prepared to go out for bid.

Public Works:

All three snow blowers are operational including the new one. The tire shredder is being wrapped for the season to help protect it. Unfortunately, it is still not operational. In the spring staff will return to address the issue.

FEMA Grant:

City staff submitted a FEMA Grant for the COVID-19 crisis. Nome was the first city to apply for a FEMA grant. We ultimately received an award for \$348,000. I want to recognize Nickie Crowe, Dana Handeland and Joy Baker for their efforts and determination.

**MINUTES
NOME PORT COMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
October 15th, 2020**

The Regular Meeting of the Nome Port Commission was called to order at 5:32 pm by Chairman West in Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 102 Division Street.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Smithhisler; Lean; West; Henderson; Rowe; Sheffield; McLarty

Absent:

Also Present: Lucas Stotts, Harbormaster

In the audience: Andrew Lee; Cathy Rubano

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman West asked for a motion to approve the agenda:

Motion to approve made by Sheffield, seconded by Henderson.

At the Roll Call:

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

Nays:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sept 17th, 2020 Motion made by McLarty, seconded by Sheffield to approve minutes;
Regular Meeting

At the Roll Call

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

Nays:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Andrew Lee commented that it would be nice for the Visitors Center to have a map of the proposed port expansion design as there is a lot of traffic through there with folks asking questions about it.

COMMUNICATIONS

- 20-09-17 Legislative Consultants- Alaska Budget Report
- 20-10-03 NOGC (Phoenix) Winter Storage Request
- 20-10-08 Top Side Mining (Harper) Winter Storage Request
- 20-10-10 Sen. Murkowski- Pending Federal Actions and Alaska's Arctic
- 20-10-10 Arctic Policy Study Group- Arctic Fisheries
- 20-10-12 High North News- Climate Change and U.S. Arctic Policy
- Handout- Joe Fullwood letter request to haul HIGHNOON out for winter on Low Dock

Discussion:

Following group discussion, there was a general consensus was these requests were permissible as long as no interference The Commission appreciates being aware of these requests, but fine with the Harbormaster making the call.

COMMISSIONER'S UPDATES

Lean commented that he was reading about the USCG HEALYs engine fire incident that put it out of commission and that the USCG has had a spare engine for the past 20 years that weighs over 100 tons. The HEALY is now in Seattle, WA for the repair so the USCG had to mount it on a barge and then build a house over it for shipping from the East coast.

HARBORMASTER'S REPORT

- Ridge Marine finished the 2020 Kotlik gravel haul with load #22 departing on October 6th.
- Initial estimates show approximately 150,000 tons of gravel were exported from Nome in 2020, which shows increased demand on the facility.
- Vessels have been hauling out consistently over the last few weeks, with the larger mining barges scheduling space for next week.
- The Floating Docks will be removed during the week of the 19th, even though there is still commercial traffic using the SBH. This demonstrates how regional traffic is operating out of Nome later and later each season.
- Highlighted the remaining research traffic, such as the R/V NORSEMAN II and SIKULIAQ.
- Both Cook Inlet Tug and Barge and DeForge Maritime have expressed interest in placing a tug in Nome to do assist work. We expect to hear more in the coming months.

Discussion:

- McLarty asked about historical vessel statistics of vessels using the Small Boat Harbor, and a break out showing different vessel categories
 - HM Stotts stated yes, we do keep track of use for the different vessel categories.
- McLarty indicated he sees a lot of people putting trash in the Port dumpsters that are not port users, but was not sure the best way to prevent it.
 - HM Stotts agreed, and stated this has become more of a problem over the years. Port staff attempt to review camera footage when it is apparent.

PORT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

PD Baker was out on medical leave, but HM Stotts provided a few brief project highlights from her emailed updates; the Inner Harbor CAP 105 study noted the sediment sampling and bathymetric survey have been completed this past week and the concrete ramp replacement and anode replacement bid packages are currently out for bid, and due November 5th.

Discussion:

- West commented that a couple outfits had reached out to him with questions/comments on both projects so that shows there may be interest.
- Lean commented that DOT's Port Rd Improvement project is also starting next year so we may run into congestion on lower Port Rd at times.

OLD BUSINESS

- Thornbush Pad – Surface Settlement
 - Material Volumes & Estimated Costs

A topo survey was recently completed to estimate surface grade settlement and material loss on the Thornbush pad which would be used to calculate approximate material quantities and costs. Bristol Engineering estimated roughly 25,000 cubic yards of material has settled from the original project surface elevation. If this is correct, it would be around \$250-\$300k in costs just for material alone to bring the surfacing back to original grade.

Discussion:

- Both Jim West and Shane Smithhisler commented that there was not a 6" layer of surface course or cap material used in the construction on the original TBS pad. There was a change order to add additional select borrow type material as the cost was lower, allowed for additional yardage, and the select borrow material was holding up well to traffic.
- Bringing the pad back to its originally designed height is not needed as long as the grade is sloped to the west for drainage.
- Future development should coordinate with Bonanza to ensure all water from both pads flows to the West toward naturally low elevation and the culvert daylighting to the south across Lagoon Rd.
- Any future development should have geo tech work completed to ensure we have the most knowledge on what is likely to occur in those areas. The remaining portions of the TBS pad will use geo fabric.

One thought was to use the stockpiled dredge spoils to fill in low areas, then top that with more rocky material.

Lean commented:

- A buried pyramid or prism needs to be created to bear the weight while filling is occurring to ensure load distribution.
 - We need to have enough material to provide flotation over a muddy substrate, perhaps 4ft-5ft minimum at the thinnest portion of the pad. The thicker the better and we need the pad to crown for drainage.

- If you scrape the pads high spots off onto the low spots, it will ruin the prism and the pad will no longer bear the weight and will fail.
- The dredged material should be used for sub-base material only with a large lift of rocky material on top and not used in the middle/top of the pad as it may not hold up.
- We need to continue to add material to the pad and may need to do so for years but eventually the ice spots will melt fully and settle.

Smithhisler commented:

- The plan to use existing dredge spoils to fill low areas is just robbing from one area to fix another. The existing TBS pad project has been completed and brought to grade so material to fix this area should not come from an area we have plans for already.
- We should also not use 4" minus on the TBS pad as additional settlement will cause the need for more fill in the future and we will just bury the 4".

Henderson commented:

- There is no telling how much settling will continue to occur in this area and we may have the need to add additional material several times over the next several years.
- Development of an access road through the area of the Boat Yard and existing access road in that area may be a problem for neighboring lots due to vibration he feels is caused by heavy equipment. This will help preserve the lifespan of the tank farm property.
- Posed the question of whether the port wants to spend the additional capital to continue to develop this pad into the future or if the ground will keep sucking up material and is that worth what money is being generated from use of that pad.

West commented:

- The dredged material was never intended to be part of the pad but only used as a leveling surface to prep the sub base.

McLarty commented:

- We should choose one section of the existing TBS pad with the worst settlement and come up with the proper fix for the area to ensure it works as intended before committing to a fix for the whole pad.
 - We can then apply that fix/method to development on the rest of the pad with future development.
- We should be sure to use geo tech work prior. Even knowing the costs are additional, it would be worth it in the long run for maintenance.

HM Stotts offered:

- The old trailer pad area to the north is not settling the same and we can still use that area for container rows planned. We should plan to use the rest of the pad for items that can be relocated when grade work is needed
- The existing TBS pad is a piece of infrastructure that needs to be maintained before we look to develop additional yardage of adjacent tundra.

NEW BUSINESS

- Winter Storage Requests for Consideration

Discussion:

A general consensus was reached that having the Jack-up rigs wintering in the Small Boat Harbor was working fine. Port staff will evaluate these and other requests in the future, while keeping the Commission informed. Using additional locations allows more room on the Lower IP for other vessels.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

None.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

McLarty commented that Assist HM Schuneman is always around the port facility and has been a big help all season.

Henderson commented that the settlement issue is not going to go away and will continue to be an issue for years to come. Someone posed a question recently about the City of Nome helping residents to stockpile material and resell to homeowners and business owners at a lower rate to help stabilize buildings.

Sheffield commented that at the last City council meeting another issue was brought up about subsistence hunting in the outer harbor and asked if there was any more action needed to be taken by the Port Commission body on that. The group agreed that there was none at this time.

Smithhisler commented that this was a good meeting on settlement issues.

Rowe had no comments.

Lean commented that king crab debates are just starting again and it does not look like there may be another king crab season. We need to be opportunistic with material for fill when we can.

West commented that we need to maintain our property, all over Nome, otherwise those problems become worse.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Lean for adjournment 7:04 pm.

APPROVED and **SIGNED** this 19th day of November 2020.

Jim West Jr.

Jim West, Chairman

ATTEST:

Jh Baker

Joy Baker, Port Director