

**Mayor**  
John K. Handeland  
**City Manager**  
Glenn Steckman  
**Deputy City Clerk**  
Jeremy Jacobson



**Nome Planning Commission**  
Kenneth Hughes III, Chair  
John Odden  
Gregory Smith  
Carol Piscoya  
Melissa Ford  
Adam Lust  
Rhonda West

**NOME PLANNING COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, APRIL 02, 2024 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

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**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Melissa Ford; Ken Hughes; Carol Piscoya; Adam Lust; Rhonda West; Greg Smith  
(virtual-late arrival)  
Members Absent: John Odden (excused)  
Also Present: Jeremy Jacobson, Deputy City Clerk; Erin Reinders, City Planner  
In the audience: Anna Lionas, Nome Nugget Newspaper, Troy Walker

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by C. Piscoya and seconded by C. Lust to approve the agenda as presented.

At the roll call:

Aye: Hughes; Piscoya; Ford; Lust; West

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Kawerak, Inc. Flyer re: Child Abuse Prevention Month, April, 2024,

**(1:20)**

- Chair Hughes announced the communication from Kawerak, regarding Child Abuse Prevention Month.

**(1:36)**

- Commissioner Smith joined the meeting virtually, by Zoom video communications.
- Deputy City Clerk Jacobson apologized for providing an incorrect conference call-in number to Commissioner Smith prior to the evening's meeting.

B. Memo from Clerk Grimmer to Nome Planning Commission re: 2024 Abatement,

**(2:05)**

- Chair Hughes noted many of the properties listed on the memo, *2024 Abatement*, were properties already familiar to the abatement process.

- Commissioner Piscoya inquired into whether the Planning Commission would perform their formal review of proposed properties for abatement at this meeting or in the near future.
- Deputy City Clerk Jacobson clarified for the record, the memorandum-communication, *2024 Abatement*, was intended to be informational, in preparation of a formal Abatement packet for the commission's review. The Abatement packet would be available at the next regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting.

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

**(3:18)**

- Nome resident, Troy Walker stated his concerns with the Arctic Deep Draft Port expansion and its effects on the flow of tides and movement of soil on the waterfront.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

A. Planner's Report,

**(7:48)**

- Planner Reinders informed the Planning Commission with what both memos provided in the evening's packet had outlined. She described the training and material provided in her Planning Memo as well as targeted dates for action with the Planning Commission, public, and Nome Common Council toward a final adoption of a rezoning of Front Street in Nome.
- Chair Hughes inquired into the April 12 and May 3 activities on Planner Reinder's timeline, *"Targeted letters of potential district & informal public notices", "Set Zoning Amendment Public Hearing and Complete Public Notification Process – 30-day notice requirement for 6/4/24 hearing"*.
- Planner Reinders assured both activities would be handled by City staff and herself.

B. Building Inspector's Report,

**(14:17)**

- Chair Hughes noted the written report left behind by Clifton McHenry, Building Inspector that evening.
- Commissioner Ford announced her excitement toward Vacant Property Registry on the Building Inspector's agenda.
- Deputy City Clerk Jacobson noted Building Inspector's McHenry's absence due to ill health.

C. Permit Summaries,

**(14:17)**

- Chair Hughes noted the written report left behind by Clifton McHenry, Building Inspector that evening.
- Commissioner Ford announced her excitement toward Vacant Property Registry on the Building Inspector's agenda.
- Deputy City Clerk Jacobson noted Building Inspector's McHenry's absence due to ill health.

**COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS****(15:56)**

- 1) Commissioner Piscoya gave appreciation for quick meeting, detailed permit summaries to come, and the appointment of a new City Clerk. Planning of the Hazard Mitigation Plan was of interest.
- 2) Commissioner Smith thanked everyone for an efficient meeting, as well as everyone's input.
- 3) Commissioner Ford expressed her gratitude and optimism with vacant property registry. She made inquiry into the City's "process" for 'waivers, property taxes, and renovations'.
- 4) Commissioner West was thankful, noting she had acquired a Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA) Planning Commission handbook for study.
- 5) Commissioner Lust thanked Planner Reinders for developing a commissioner training, noting the upcoming training sessions for commissioners, expressing enthusiasm with the proceedings.
- 6) Chair Hughes expressed his regret for not being able to attend last meeting. He identified the conference ongoing in Nome, Western Alaska Interdisciplinary Science, encouraging others to attend. Gratitude was given to having a full Planning Commission again, Planner Reinders, and what lies ahead.
  - a. Deputy City Clerk Jacobson noted the April 29 meeting with the Planning Commission and the public, precise location with times would be sent out after speaking with City Manager Steckman.

**SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING****(22:45)**

- A. The next meeting regular meeting of the Nome Planning Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, 2024.

The next meeting would be April 29, for a community meeting, between the Planning Commission and the public.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by C. Ford and seconded by C. Piscoya to adjourn.

Hearing no objections, the Nome Planning Commission adjourned at 7:25 PM.

**APPROVED and SIGNED** this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024.

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**KENNETH HUGHES III**  
**Chair**

**ATTEST:**

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**JEREMY JACOBSON**  
Deputy City Clerk