

**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 MINUTES  
MONDAY, MARCH 08, 2021 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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WORK SESSION 5:30 - 7:00 PM

Discussion of City of Nome Budget Priorities.

- A. 2022 Capital Budget by Funding Source.
- B. 2019 - 2022 Capital Improvement Program.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Brown (telephonic); M. Johnson; Martinson (telephonic); Reader (telephonic); Topkok (telephonic);

Members Absent: D. Johnson (excused)

Also Present: Zoe Okleasik, Youth Representative; Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Bryant Hammond, Clerk; Nickie Crowe, Acting Finance Director (telephonic); Joy Baker, Port Director; Amy Phillips-Chan, Museum Director

In the audience:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Brown to approve the agenda as presented.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. February 22, 2021 Nome Common Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Brown to approve the February 22, 2021 minutes.

Discussion:

- Council Member Reader noted two typos to be corrected administratively.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Letter of January 6, 2021 from Granite Peacock to City of Nome re: Thank you Garbage Works and Street Cleaners.
- B. Letter of February 23, 2021 from Nome Preschool Manager Cabrera to City Council re: 2021 City of Nome Budget.
- C. Memo of March 1, 2021 from Clerk Hammond to Nome Common Council re: Council Determination of Disposition of Untimely Filed Sales Tax Exemption Forms.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Brown to authorize the Clerk to accept the applications as if timely filed.

Discussion:

- Clerk Hammond gave a brief explanation of the memo.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- D. Letter of March 1, 2021 from Dominion Voting to City of Nome re: Democracy Suite System.
  - Clerk Hammond gave a brief explanation.

- E. FY 2022 City of Nome Budget Calendar.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

- 1. Amy Phillips -Chan discussed public closure of the museum and the COVID-19 oral history project currently in phase II. She solicited interest from anyone interested in sharing their experience with COVID-19.

NEW BUSINESS

A. O-21-03-01 An Ordinance Amending Nome Code of Ordinances Chapter 2.10 Acquisition and Disposal of Real Property, **FIRST READING/DISCUSSION.**

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Topkok to advance O-21-03-01.

Discussion:

- Manager Steckman explained the history of the ordinance before them.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

B. R-21-03-01 A Resolution Setting the Dates for the 2021 Board of Equalization.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Brown to adopt R-21-03-01.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

C. R-21-03-02 A Resolution Designating Charles "Chip" Leeper as Acting City Manager for the Periods March 19 to March 30 and July 1 to July 12, 2021.

A motion was made by C. Reader and seconded by C. Topkok to adopt R-21-03-02.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Activity Report: February 23 - March 5, 2021.

- Assistant Manager Morton discussed a hardware failure at the wind farm in February, noting the problem was isolated and the wind farm was back online. He noted a potential RFP for the sale of the existing tank farm and using the proceeds to offset the new tank farm construction.

- He explained the Utility had locked in pricing on 1.7 million gallons for fuel for summer delivery.
- Assistant Manager Morton noted the 1st batch of streetlights funded by the Council have been installed and the rest were on the way.
- He discussed the replacement of monitoring equipment and the lengths the water/sewer crew went to to contain the leak.

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

##### A. Activity Report: February 23 - March 5, 2021.

- Manager Steckman presented his report. He noted the potential for a snow machine race for kids and a basketball tournament being added to Winter Fest. He explained current discussions on how to address fox issues within city limits.

##### B. Letter of March 3, 2021 from State Historic Preservation Officer Bittner to Manager Steckman re: Cancellation of King Island-East End Park Sign and Interpretive Panel Grant.

- He explained the reasons the City had to turn back the money and discussed strategies for increasing tourism offerings over the next year or two.
- He discussed the next phase of CARES Act funding and a recent DHSS grant awarded to the City of Nome directed toward the poorer members of the community.
- C. MJ followed up to clarify on the East End project.
- Manager Steckman explained the current contractor was not able to complete the project given time and COVID-19 constraints.

#### CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

*none given*

#### COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

1. Council Member Brown – no comments.
2. Council Member Mark Johnson – no comments.
3. Council Member Martinson opined the Zoom system was a welcome upgrade for meeting logistics.
4. Council Member Reader thanked Granite Peacock for writing the letter, She stated that she did not know that Citizens Comments was in person only now and asked if it was announced. She said the City did a poor job of outreach with respect to this. She asked if the City would repeal the current emergency ordinance. She thanked the people putting on WinterFest saying she wished she could be there.
  - Manager Steckman explained the current situation, noting that the City of Nome is open. He suggested the ordinance just sunset on June 30th as currently written.
5. Council Member Topkok liked the zoom camera operations. She noted it pays to be extra cautious, but was hopeful of reaching herd immunity and moving on from COVID-19 restrictions. Council Member Topkok expressed excitement about the community garden and was

dissatisfied about the signage project falling through. She followed up on her request for the election ordinance to be brought before the Council.

6. Youth Representative Okleasik - no comments

#### MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

Presiding Council Member Mark Johnson noted that Trinh Johnson tried to call in for Citizens Comments to recognize international women's day.

A. Activity Report: February 23 - March 5, 2021.  
*Not given*

B. Reappointment of Gay Sheffield to Nome Port Commission Seat "F."  
*Postponed to March 22, 2021 Regular Meeting.*

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

Hearing no objections, the Nome Common Council adjourned at 7:36 PM.

**APPROVED and SIGNED** this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2021

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**John K. Handeland**  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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**BRYANT HAMMOND**  
Clerk