

Mayor
John K. Handeland

Manager
Glenn Steckman

Deputy Clerk
Jeremy Jacobson



Nome Common Council
Scot Henderson
Doug Johnson
Mark Johnson
Adam Martinson
Cameron Piscoya
M. Sigvanna Tapqaq

**NOME COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 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

WORK SESSION

- A. Discussion of Man Camp for Port Construction

ROLL CALL AT 7:05PM

Members Present: Scot Henderson; Doug Johnson (Telephonic); Mark Johnson; Adam Martinson; Sigvanna Tapqaq (Telephonic)

Members Absent: Cameron Piscoya (excused)

Also Present: John K. Handeland, Mayor; Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Jeremy Jacobson, Deputy Clerk; Joy Baker, Port Director; Ken Morton, NJUS Assistant Manager

In the audience:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. M. Johnson to approve the agenda as presented.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. D. Johnson; C. M. Johnson; C. Martinson; C. Tapqaq; C. Henderson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

COMMUNICATIONS

- A. September 7, 2023 Kegoayah Kozga Public Library PSA: Caldecott Winning Illustrator & Author Michaela Goade Meet & Greet, Workshop.
- Mayor Handeland expressed excitement for the program and gratitude to the team at the Library as well as the donation by the Bering Sea Lions Club for their contributions.
- B. Letter of August 15, 2023 from Greg Smith/Nome Grown LLC to Nome Common Council re: Code Amendment.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

- Nome Grown LLC business owner Greg Smith inquired if Council had any inquiries regarding his communication. He further clarified his intentions to open a drive thru and seeking to include drive thru into the City's Code of Ordinances.
 - o Mayor Handeland clarified that while it is approved at the state level we still need to confer with our lawyers to verify local jurisdiction.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. R-23-09-01 A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute MOD #002 Of Bristol Engineers' Task Order 54 To Engage Subcontractor Services to Design Repairs to The Cape Nome Jetty Damaged by Typhoon Merbok - Disaster DR4672AK.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt R-23-09-01.

Discussion:

- Manager Steckman identified the resolution as addressing damage caused by Typhoon Merbok, using funds from FEMA and ADHSEM.
- Port Director Joy Baker explained the city had been working with Bristol Engineering and FEMA to obtain a subcontract presented. Once the drafts for repairs and improvements are completed they will be submitted to FEMA and if that clears BIDs will go out in spring with work anticipated to begin in 2024 season.
- C. Henderson inquired if we know the damage or is this meant to inform us of what the damage is and is the project was fully covered.
 - o Port Director Baker had affirmed that once this stage is approved by FEMA funding would be at 100%. We are aware of some damages but we still need the expertise from Bristol to define extent.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. M. Johnson; C. Martinson; C. Tapqaq; C. Henderson; C. D. Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- B. R-23-09-02 A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Execute A Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) With the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) For Construction of The Port of Nome Modification Project (PONM) (aka; Arctic Deep Draft Port at Nome).

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt R-23-09-02.

Discussion:

- Mayor Handeland noted this is the City's commitment to participate in the Port of Nome Modification Project. This is to move on the project into the release of solicitation hopefully by November 2023.
- C. Henderson inquired about the City's financial responsibility. Port Director Baker and Mayor Handeland broke down the potential (pre-BID) costs and contributions from the Federal, State, and City level. Mayor Handeland also confirmed that it is not important to identify at this juncture what the City's final cost share will be.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Martinson; C. Tapqaq; C. Henderson; C. D. Johnson; C. M. Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- C. R-23-09-03 A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Award an Option to Lease Land for A Man Camp Facility to Bering Strait Native Corporation (BSNC) For Contractor Use During Construction of The Port of Nome Modification Construction (PONM) Project.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt R-23-09-03.

Discussion:

- C. M. Johnson opined concern in taxpayer costs in addition to location of the man camp.
- C. Henderson expressed concern with the City's lease options. He further detailed his concerns with the location of the proposed BSNC man camp land, near residential district.
- Mayor Handeland directed attention to authorize the City to award an option to lease land for a man camp facility.
- C. Tapqaq shared concerns of the correlation between man camps and increased violence against indigenous peoples.
- A call to question was made by C. M. Johnson.

At the roll call:

Aye:

Nay: C. Tapqaq; C. Henderson; C. D. Johnson; C. M. Johnson; C. Martinson

Abstain:

The motion **FAILED**.

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Activity Report: August 25 - September 8, 2023.

Ken Morton, NJUS Assistant Manager

- NJUS has been focused on water leaks and in communication with residents and owners along Seppala regarding next summer's DOT project. He finished by noting a grant had been submitted to the AEA.
- C. Henderson inquired of fuel surcharge for this year.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Activity Report: August 25 - September 8, 2023.

- Manager Steckman noted Nome Rec Center HVAC replacement costs of 2.3 million, City Hall HVAC at 1.2 million, City Hall's flagpole needs replacement, replacing OSJ' Christmas tree damaged in the Public Works department building, applied for grant to put bleachers inside the Rec. Center.
- C. Henderson inquired into the Swimming Pool's repair status.
 - o Manager Steckman responded, the pool's late-September timeline for repair.
- C. Henderson inquired about curfew hours.

- C. M. Johnson relayed citizen's comments on the women's sauna and inquiry for possible improvements.
- C. M. Johnson requested further information into Manager Steckman's report mention of vaping.
 - o Manager Steckman shared the school's concern of increase vape use amongst the youth and asked if regulation should be contemplated.
 - o Mayor Handeland detailed his concern in issuing an opinion on both curfew and vaping without further discussion, planning, and involvement of public health officials to weigh-in.

B. September 2023 Port Director Report/Capital Projects Update.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

- None given

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

- Council Member Topqaq: No comments.
- Council Member Henderson inquired into the next meeting's time and date to discuss the man camp. Wanted to ensure the public has enough notification to share their input on location. Also shared appreciation for whoever put up the flag at Old St. Joes.
- Council Member D. Johnson: No comments.
- Council Member M. Johnson stated eagerness for further discussion on the Marijuana drive through window and operation hours extending until 3am.
- Council Member Martinson: No comments.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

- A. Activity Report: August 25 - September 8, 2023.
- Mayor Handeland gave thanks to all those who reached with a helping hand, with cruise ship visitors. He shared NORAD's warm sentiments with their recent visit to Nome.
 - Mayor Handeland acknowledged the recent passing of long-standing public servant, Stanley Anderson.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objections, the Council adjourned at 8:35pm.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 25th day of March 2024.

JOHN K. HANDELAND
Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeremy Jacobson
Deputy Clerk