

**Mayor**  
John K. Handeland  
**Manager**  
Glenn Steckman  
**Clerk**  
Dan Grimmer



**Nome Common Council**  
Scot Henderson  
Mark Johnson  
Maggie Miller  
Adam Martinson  
Cameron Piscoya  
M. Sigvanna Tapqaq

**NOME COMMON COUNCIL**  
**WORK SESSION & REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
MONDAY, APRIL 08, 2024 at 5:30 PM/7:00PM  
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-05:30PM

Work session started at 05:39PM

A. NPS Budget

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SESSION 07:00PM

ROLL CALL at 07:20PM

Members Present: C.Henderson; C.Martinson; C. Johnson, C. Tapqaq (Phone/Zoom);  
C.Piscoya (Excused); C.Miller (Excused);

Also Present: John K. Handeland, Mayor; Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Nickie Crowe,  
Finance Director (Zoom); Dan Grimmer, City Clerk; Thomas Simonsson, NJUS; Jeremy  
Jacobson (Zoom); Wade Harrison (Zoom); Joy Baker (Zoom); Sam Severin, Attorney  
(Zoom);

In the audience: Jamie Burgess, NPS Superintendent; Bob Metcalf; Diana Haecker, Nome  
Nugget; Trinh Johnson; Anna Lionas; Sarah Swartz, KNOM;

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to approve Agenda.

At the roll call:

Aye: Henderson, Martinson, Johnson, Tapqaq

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. November 27, 2023 Nome Common Council Regular Meeting Minutes,

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B. December 11, 2023 Nome Common Council Regular Meeting Minutes,

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- C. January 8, 2024 Nome Common Council Regular Meeting Minutes,

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- D. March 25, 2024 Nome Common Council Regular Meeting Minutes,

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A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to approve Meeting Minutes.

At the roll call:

Aye: Henderson, Martinson, Johnson, Tapqaq

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Email of March 19, 2024 from Council Member Henderson to Glenn Steckman, City Manager re: Visitor comments of the Museum Team,

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- B. Letter of March 26, 2024 from NSEDC to Mayor John K. Handeland re: Community Employment Program Funds Approval,

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- C. Email of March 25, 2024 from Melissa Ford to Glenn Steckman, City Manager re: Use of Vacant Lot to be used for 3D Spec House and proposed Suggestions for Land Use,

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- D. Nome Discovery Tours Schedule 2024,

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- E. Flyer from Graphite On re: Community Meeting on April 22nd, 2024,

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Email about 3D Spec House was talked about. There was a question from C. Henderson about how the property would be used or if it would be sold. City Manager Glenn Steckman responded to questions.

#### CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Trinh Johnson spoke as an advocate about a sexual assault case and how she felt about how PD handled the case. She voiced the desire for more follow up on this case from PD.

Mayor John K. Handeland asked clarifying questions to allow for a follow up.

Kelly Corns from PD expressed frustration about negative comments towards PD.

Trinh Johnson expressed that that she felt the different organizations needed to communicate better.

UNFINISHED BUSINESSNEW BUSINESS

- A. R-24-04-01 A Resolution Recognizing April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month,

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A motion was made to adopt this resolution by C. Johnson and seconded by C. Henderson.

At the roll call:

Aye: Henderson, Martinson, Johnson, Tapqaq

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- B. R-24-04-02 A Resolution Awarding the Radio Project Bid to Arcticom

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The Projected total cost was reviewed and questions were made to Sergeant Wade Harrison about the system. Sergeant Harrison explained how the current radio system is old and how this new system will support a wider range within city limits, will support body cams better and will replace the old system.

A motion was made to adopt this resolution by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Johnson.

At the roll call:

Aye: Henderson, Martinson, Johnson, Tapqaq

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- C. MOA Between Norton Sound Health Corporation and The City of Nome for the Provision of Ground Ambulance Services

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City Manager Glenn Steckman reviewed the changes made to the MOA between NSHC and the City. The implementation date of the MOA was changed to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The Continued operation of the Ambulance Services by the City of Nome will also be extended.

- D. R-24-04-03 A Resolution Approving the Agreement Between NSHC and City of Nome for the Provision of Ground Ambulance Services

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A motion was made to adopt this resolution by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson.

At the roll call:

Aye: Henderson, Martinson, Johnson, Tapqaq

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- E. R-24-04-04 A Resolution Designating Daniel Grimmer as Acting City Manager For April 25th Through May 5th, 2024,

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A motion was made to adopt this resolution by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson.

At the roll call:

Aye: Henderson, Martinson, Johnson, Tapqaq

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- F. O-24-04-01 An Ordinance Repealing Section 2.40.160 Nome Code of Ordinances Regarding the Ambulance Department, **FIRST READING/DISCUSSION**,

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A motion was made to pass this Ordinance to a Second Reading/Final Passage by C. Henderson and Seconded by C. Martinson.

Discussion was started by Mayor John K. Handeland about the necessity of repealing this ordinance. Question was directed to the City Attorney. The city attorney reviewed the possible liability of having this ordinance in place and overlapping with the NSHC Contract. The attorney believes that the ordinance should not state that we're operating an ambulance service if we are not.

C. Henderson stated for confirmation that if repealed and needed later on that the ordinance would have to be reinstated.

Mayor John K. Handeland stated that in other codes they were designed so that if we did pick back up operating the ambulance services again that it would be easier to continue operations. He would like to continue having a department vs eliminating it.

City Manager Glenn Steckman offered that making a lot of changes to the Ordinance would bring it back to a First Reading.

Mayor John K. Handeland suggested to table this discussion on this ordinance for more review of how the ordinance is structured.

A motion was made to table this Ordinance by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson.

At the roll call:

Aye: Henderson, Martinson, Johnson, Tapqaq

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

#### UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Superintendent of NJU Thomas Simonsson invited everyone to a community energy discussion about the technology of microreactors in producing energy. These discussions will be held at Old Saint Joes April 17<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm and 6-8pm. Mr. Simonsson also reminded of a storm warning coming in and that NJU stands ready to respond to community needs.

John K. Handeland informed that May 18<sup>th</sup> there would be NSEDC Subsidys that will be applied. He also informed the council that Alaska Waste hours have changed from 8am to 4pm. There has been turn over in the NJU offices and there is a new CFO that is doing well.

C. Henderson brought up the thought of consolidating accounting positions across the City and NJU with the intent to save on costs and also help when NJU is shorstaffed.

C. Johnson brought up that the NJU boards meet in the upstairs of the powerplant and wanted to know if they could be meeting in City Hall to be more publically accessible.

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. City Manager Glenn Steckmans' Report,

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Thanks to Erin Reinders who is the planner who works with the planning commission. June 3<sup>rd</sup> is the next Public Safety Advisory Commission. They are scheduled to have some in person training with new members of the Commission. City Hall is scheduled to have its heating and ventilation system updated some time in July. We anticipate moving City Hall Staff to the Public Safety building. The Nome City Council Meetings will be moved to Old Saint Joes.

C.Henderson asked about the AV system in the council chambers and if it can be fixed. City Manager Glenn Steckman updated what the city staff is doing to resolve the issue.

#### CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

#### COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

C.Henderson- No comments

C.Martinson-No comments

C.Tapqaaq-No comments

C. Johnson- Stated that we are lucky to have a local paper. He stated that he felt that he was misquoted or misunderstood by them in an article saying that he was deterred from making a formal written complaint about a couple of Police Officers about an incident. He stated that he meet with the City Manager and Police Chief that had encouraged him to write a formal written complaint if he wanted to. He decided not to file a written complaint at that time as the city was in the process of hiring a new police chief. He brought the issue with the incident to the Public Safety Advisory Commission. They were receptive and encouraged them to write a formal written complaint. C.Johnson feels that PD Officers could use some sensitivity training on how to deal more appropriately with the public.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT**

Arctic Symposium in Anchorage is coming up but Mayor Handeland is not available to attend.. He plans to meet with the Arctic Ambassador from Canada as well as others who are interested about whats going on in Nome with the new Harbor and other initiatives. Mayor will be gone Wed and Thr of this week.

Mayor asked to approve the waiver of recreational center fees for the sports banquet to honor the 2024 State Basketball Champions.

A motion was made to waive the recreational center fees by C. Johnson and seconded by C. Martinson.

At the roll call:

Aye: Henderson, Martinson, Johnson, Tapqaq

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 08:50pm

**APPROVED and SIGNED** this (13<sup>th</sup> day of May) 2024.

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**JOHN K. HANDELAND**  
**Mayor**

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**DAN GRIMMER**  
**City Clerk**