

TO: The Mayor and Common Council

From: Glenn Steckman

RE: Manager's Report

July 23, 2021

**Phase Seven CARES Funds:**

I am asking for your approval of the Phase Seven Cares Funds to offset business losses due to the cancelation of the Iditarod this pass March. The Phase Seven program is modeled after the financial support plan for bars and restaurants in November and December 2020. This program is expanded to include more businesses in the hospitality industry. I've proposed allocating \$170,000.00 of CARES Funds.

**Artisan, Carvers and Sculptors CARE Grant Funds:**

I am asking for approval for an allocation of \$16,000 to provide \$500.00 grants to artisan, carvers and sculptors.

**Vehicle removal program:**

I am requesting approval of a bounty program to pay property owners who request removal from their property of vehicles, four wheeler and snow machines. The initial funding for \$15,000.00 would from the landfill closure fund. This program would coincide with the U-Call, We-Haul program.

**East End Park Lease:**

I am requesting approval of the ten year lease extension/land use permit for East End Park for continued use and maintenance by the Rotary. This is the first extension of the original lease from 2011.

**Hiring's and Promotions:**

Peter Le has been promoted to Assistant Finance Director and Jeremy Jacobson has been promoted to acting Deputy City Clerk. Janice Wilson has been hired as the city's first full-time HR manager. Kristine Kienberger has been hired as the new Administrative Assistant in the Clerk's Office.

The city is currently advertising for a new Payroll Account Technician.

**AHFC Nome properties:**

City staff met with AHFC officials to discuss their thirty plus properties in the East 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> street area. The AHFC is looking at adding fill and raising housing units. AHFC will also be looking at grading of some properties to increase drainage in that area of the city.

**US Coast Guard:**

The city hosted a visit from US Coast Guard Captain Leanne Lusk and her staff to Nome. Part of the USCG staff also involved in compliance review of vessels and will be here for two weeks.

Capt. Lusk was appointed to command the Anchorage District and this was her first visit to Nome. The Mayor, Joy, Lucas and I gave her a tour and hosted a briefing with her to outline the proposed port expansion project. Capt. Lusk was only in the city for an overnight visit.

### **Computer Training and Programs**

The city had training and updating this past week on our Caselle program. We are now looking to expand into the Caselle HR module. We also are looking at moving to digital repair orders and a fleet management system.

### **Anvil Mountain Park:**

Councilmember Martinson brought to the staff's attention trash and broken glass issues at the park. The park has been put on a twice a week trash removal. I've also asked the police to watch the park more closely because we are seeing more broken glass, our decorative fence is being damaged around the playground and the train car is being vandalized. We had a similar problem last year.

We will need to budget for fencing around the train car and replacing fencing around the playground in the near future.

### **Rec Center Boiler:**

After receiving discouraging news last week, the city may have found a more permanent solution by being able to purchase two new higher grade boilers with higher efficiency levels. These boilers would be deliverable within eight weeks. This would be just the first step in addressing a longer term solution for heating and ventilation at the Rec Center.