

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, AUGUST 28, 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

ROLL CALL AT 7:05PM

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

Members Absent: Cameron Piscoya (excused)

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

In the audience: Anna Lionas, Nome Nugget Newspaper; Diana Haecker, Nome Nugget Newspaper

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson 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. Letter of August 14, 2023 from Lynden Inc. to City of Nome re: Tax Forgiveness.

B. Letter of August 16, 2023 from Mark Synnott to City of Nome re: Tax Forgiveness.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. M. Johnson to grant tax forgiveness as requested by Lynden and Mr. Synnott.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- C. Letter of August 15, 2023 from Greg Smith/Nome Grown LLC to Nome Common Council re: Code Amendment.
- Manager Steckman advised that Greg Smith withdrew the request.
- D. E-mail of August 15, 2023 from Nome Community Center Inc. to City of Nome re: FY 2023 - Year End Report.
- E. Letter of August 22, 2023 from ADEC to City of Nome re: July 27, 2023 Inspection of Nome Beam Rd. Class II Landfill, Nome Inert Waste Monofill, and Nome Center Creek Closed Class II Landfill.
- Manager Steckman acknowledged Aaron Cooper for his efforts out at Beam Road Landfill.
- F. E-mail of August 16, 2023 from AKDOT&PF: Yvonne Adams to Nome Common Council re: 2024-2027 Draft Stip Public Comment: Nome, AK.
- Mayor Handeland suggested trying to get Greg Kruschek Avenue on the list for possible the next STIP project.
 - Manager Steckman confirmed that work on Seppala will proceed next year and Steadman (not on this list) is scheduled for the year after that. Will follow up on whether the projects listed in the draft fully funded or planned funding. Some projects were delayed due to the port funding.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

- None given.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. R-23-07-03 A Resolution Approving an Employment Agreement Between the City of Nome and Joy Baker to Serve as A Project Manager for the Arctic Port for the City of Nome.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Henderson to adopt R-23-07-03.

Discussion:

- Manager Steckman fully recommend resolution. Her deadline is May 1st. Should we be unable to legally extend Joy's contract we will seek a project manager by Fall 2023 to repair for her absence.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. R-23-08-03 A Resolution Authorizing Application, Approval & Acceptance of A Loan from The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Alaska Drinking Water Fund to Provide Loan Financing for Improvements to Community Water System Infrastructure

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt R-23-08-03.

Discussion:

- Mayor Handeland explained that this outlines the replacement of the water utilities within the State streets as they are being redone. Confirmed additional 2.7 million needs in funding with a continuance of 1.5% interest rate. Mayor recommended approval.

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Activity Report: August 12 – August 24, 2023.

Thomas Simonsson, NJUS Field Superintendent

- Water sewer enhancement project, moonlight wells, well house is complete.
- The lagoon project parts are expected early September.
- NSHC sanitary service construction on anticipation of Solar farm project.
- 1 year extension of NJUS labor contract.
- C. M. Johnson inquired on the location of the solar farm, near banner farm. 1 megawatt capacity, harvesting energy in the summer while windmill farm has slowed in production, offsetting diesel generators usage.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Activity Report: August 12 - August 24, 2023.

- USACE in town to view the seawall. An expected report in 2-3 weeks, measurements were taken, however there is an annual inspection of the seawall.
- The city has many open positions currently.
- C. Henderson inquired into the post office service and the city's post office box on tax notifications for proper delivery.
- Mayor Handeland noted some of the NJUS feedback had received properly addressed mail still not delivered.
- C. M. Johnson inquired into the recently laid gravel near 4th Avenue, the size of rocks, and usage of a roller to smooth out gravel.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

- None given.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

- Council Member Tapqaq - no comment.
- Council Member Henderson - no comment.

- Council Member D. Johnson - no comment.
- Council Member M. Johnson - no comment.
- Council Member Martinson gave sentiments to the recent passing of resident Stan Anderson.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

- A. Activity Report: August 12 - August 24, 2023
 - He seconded C. Martinson's sentiment on the passing of Stan Anderson.
 - NORAD will be here soon to investigate logistics and the community's resources prior to.
- B. Appointment of Kirsten Timbers to Public Safety Advisory Commission Seat "C."

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to appoint Kirsten Timbers to Public Safety Advisory Commission Seat "C."

At the roll call:

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

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Discussion of Personnel Matters the Immediate Knowledge of Which Could Have Adverse Impacts on City of Nome Finances.

A motion was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson to enter into executive session.

The Council entered executive session at 7:40pm.

The Council came out of executive session 8:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objections, the Council adjourned at 8:01pm.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 26th day of February 2024.

JOHN K. HANDELAND

Mayor

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ATTEST:

Jeremy Jacobson
Deputy Clerk