

**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  
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA  
MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2024 at 7:00 PM  
RICHARD FOSTER ROOM**

102 Division St. ▪ P.O. Box 281 ▪ Nome, Alaska 99762 ▪ Phone (907) 443-6663 ▪ Fax (907) 443-5345

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**ROLL CALL AT 07:07PM**

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

Also Present: John K. Handeland, Mayor; Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Dan Grimmer, City Clerk;

In the Audience: Diana Haecker, Miranda Musich, Thomas Simonsson, Brad Soske (Zoom), Rachel Lausen (Zoom), Nickie Crowe (Zoom), Anna Lionnas, Diana Haecker, Angie Nguyen, Cheryl Thompson, Bill Culbat, Chris Coffman;

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A Motion to Approve the Agenda was made by C. Henderson and Seconded by C. Martinson.

There was a request for an amendment to the agenda by Mayor Handeland. A request was made to add an executive session for Personnel issues and also to add R-24-08-05 to the end of New Business.

A Motion to Approve the Amended Agenda was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Martinson, C. Henderson, C. Piscoya, C. Tapqaq, C. Miller

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. August 12, 2024 Nome Common Council Meeting Minutes,

A Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes was made by C. Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Martinson, C. Henderson, C. Piscoya, C. Tapqaq, C. Miller

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Fall Cleanup Advertisement- FALL HAUL,
- B. September 3, 2024 Ad re: Historic Preservation Workshop at Old Saint Joe's,

**CITIZEN'S COMMENTS**

A Comment was made by the Museum Director Cheryl Thompson about the Workshop and the role of the Historic Preservation Society. She also encouraged community surveys to be filled out by those interested. A Comment was made by C.Miller about the date and time being close to hunting season and that some of the interested members of the community may be out hunting. Mrs. Thompson noted that there may be opportunities to have another workshop in the future.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS****NEW BUSINESS**

- A. A Memo to Common Council from City Clerk re: Tax Determinations on Properties included on the 2024 Foreclosure List,

A Motion to Approve the removal of all taxes, fees and Interest on Properties 190.1.066, 190.1.074 and 198.2.022 and have them removed from the tax rolls was made by C.Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Martinson, C. Henderson, C.Piscoya, C.Tapqaq, C.Miller

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- B. A Memo to Common Council based upon a letter from Gladys West re: Property taxes, penalties and interest owed on parcel 001.242.10,

A Motion to Approve the removal of all taxes, fees and Interest on Property 001.242.10 was made by C.Martinson and seconded by C. Piscoya.

C.Henderson Declared a conflict of interest and it was accepted by Mayor Handeland.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Martinson, C.Piscoya, C.Tapqaq, C.Miller

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- C. R-24-08-02 A Resolution Appointing Election Judges and Clerks for the 2024 Municipal Election and Setting their Compensation,

A Motion to Approve the Resolution was made by C.Henderson and seconded by C. Martinson.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Martinson, C. Henderson, C.Piscoya, C.Tapqaq, C.Miller

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- D. R-24-08-03 A Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Surplus City Owned Equipment and Vehicles to the Public by Means of a Public Auction,

A Motion to Approve the Resolution was made by C.Martinson and seconded by C. Henderson.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Martinson, C. Henderson, C.Piscoya, C.Tapqaq, C.Miller

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- E. R-24-08-04 A Resolution of the City of Nome Authorizing an Agreement Between the City of Nome and Brooks Chandler Appointment Brooks Chandler as Interim City Manager,

A Motion to Approve the Resolution was made by C.Martinson and seconded by C. Henderson.

There was discussion by the Council that this resolution should be accompanied by a contract if we was going to enter into a contract. Mayor Handeland is going to continue negotiating on behalf of the city to secure a contract for an interim City Manager. This resolution will be postponed to a later date.

- F. O-24-08-01 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 17.20.030 Application for Exemption, FIRST READING DISCUSSION,

A Motion to pass the Ordinance on to SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL PASSAGE was made by C.Henderson and seconded by C. Piscoya.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Martinson, C. Henderson, C.Piscoya, C.Tapqaq, C.Miller

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

### **UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Thomas Simonsson- NJUS was successful in applying for a grant from the Denali Commission for 300K for the installation of a structure that will cover the new battery system that will support the power plant. There are repairs to underground wiring at the tank farm. The battery system has arrived and there is plans to install mid September. The financial audit of NJUS is updated through July 2024.

### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- A. City Manager's Report,

- The City of Nome will continue to be the conservator of the artifacts from the sandspit in behalf of NEC.
- There will be a Fee Schedule change presented next council meeting for the Rec Center fees.
- The OSJ floor renovation is out to bid.
- The City Manager recommends that the Common Council consider a Sales tax increase to 6%.
- There are needs at the Rec Center to update the H/V system.

- The City Hall H/V system is currently undergoing an update along with the Fire Suppression system.
- Accomplishments during the time Glenn Steckman has been City Manager:
  - Radio system upgrade
  - Fire siren is working again
  - Visitor Center Upgrades/Updates
  - There have been updates to the Mini with the AV system and WIFI and moving the serving area. Damage was repaired after Hurricane Merbok.
  - NPD in closer to being fully accredited and has had its dispatch systems updated. There have been updates to resources used by PD.
  - The ice skating rink/area has been successfully moved with the help of the winter sports association.
  - There has been an update to the siding of the morgue.
  - The council has invested in fleet upgrades and other equipment for Public Works.
  - There was an MOA was reached with the alcohol dispensers to limit hours and share information about customers purchasing for minors.
  - There was a 4 Million dollar grant awarded for construction of Teacher/Police housing.
  - The Swimming Pool was updated after damage was done by the salt water system. The new system is commercial based mechanical system and not recreational.
  - The 3D housing project will continue next spring.
  - Funds for the first phase of the Port project was secured.
  - PW moved record amounts of snow this year.

#### **CITIZEN'S COMMENTS**

Angie Nguyen gave comments as an employee of Glenn Steckmann. She spoke about his work, sacrifice and dedication to the City of Nome and is sad to see him go.

#### **COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS**

- C. Martinson- No comments
- C. Henderson- There was also consideration that he wanted to have given to the possibility of employing someone locally for a PR position. Wishes Sig good luck in her future endeavors. Nice to see KNOM here at the council meeting providing coverage along with the Nugget Newspaper. He gave recognition to City Manager Steckman and the time and dedication given along with his open door policy and his 5 years of service.
- C. Piscoya- Asked about having a work session about the collaboration between the council and the tribes. Mayor Handeland said that C. Piscoya could schedule it for when he would like. Mayor Handeland would continue to reach out to the tribes to get input.
- C. Tapqaq- She is not running for City Council this year. This was a valuable learning experience. She would like to see more collaboration between the tribal governments and the city government.
- C. Miller- She asked who was hosting the historic preservation workshop. This happens during hunting season and there was questions about better scheduling next time. She also asked about the hiring of a PR position for the City.
- Johnson- Noted that as a member of the Chamber of Commerce that he does not support the sales tax change. He gave history of the decision behind the sales tax change.

**MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT**

Thanks to Glenn for the time and dedication given during his tenure in office.

A motion was made to recess into executive session by C.Henderson and seconded by C. Piscoya.

At the roll call:

Aye: C. Johnson, C. Martinson, C. Henderson, C.Piscoya, C.Tapqaq, C.Miller

Nay:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 09:12PM**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The council came out of Executive Session at 10:24PM and Adjourned.

**APPROVED** and **SIGNED** this 9<sup>th</sup> Day of September, 2024.

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

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