

TO: The Mayor and Common Council

FROM: Glenn Steckman

RE: City Manager Report

September 8, 2023

Curfew Regulations:

Please be advised that city staff will be recommending changes to the curfew regulations at the next scheduled council meeting to make the ordinance clearer.

Airplane Landing Tax:

I will not have a recommendation by Monday's meeting. I am still waiting for information on airport activity and Arnie will be in town in the ten days to help develop more solid estimates.

STIP:

The road projects that are in the STIP for the City of Nome are funded. Seppala Dr. construction is planned for 2024. Center Creek Road Rehabilitation for 2025. The Front St start package was submitted a week ago. Depending on the complexity of the Right of Way issues, this project could start in 2025 or 2026. Steadman Street also could start as early as 2025 depending on ROW issues.

Work Session:

I have requested a work session to discuss the proposed man-camp. The question to be discussed is: does the city want to lease land at a cost from a private landowner or to provide city land at no cost. The RFP results are now in. It will still be up to the contractor to decide whether the local offer works or the contractor wants to pursue another site.

ATV enforcement:

The NPD will once again be enforcing ATV regulations. NPD will emphasize helmet requirements for passengers and the need for ATV's to be licensed to operate on state roads. While there was an initial uptick in compliance, there are indicators that drivers and passengers are slipping back to non-compliance. Alaska is the national leader in Traumatic Brain Injuries

New Paramedic:

The city has hired a new paramedic. After his orientation and training, the plans are to schedule the employee for Saturdays and two nights a week.

Juvenile Challenges:

This has been a busy summer with crimes being committed by juveniles. There were break-ins at local businesses, assaults on the homeless, assaults on residents and illegal entrances in vehicles parked at the airport to name a few.

Pool:

The pool project is again moving along as the contractor was finally able to rent hotel space for additional sub-contractors needed to complete the project.

Fall Clean-up:

Starting this Monday thru Saturday, city crews will be picking up bulk items from households that call for city pick up. A truck will be available at OSJ on Saturday the 16th for residents to drop off items and the Mono-Fill will be open Monday thru Saturday from 11am-6pm.

Vaping:

Reports are coming in of an increasing number of underage persons vaping. It was discussed at a council meeting by Councilmember Mark Johnson to regulate the sale of vaping devices and cartridges. I believe the Common Council should look at eliminating the sale of vaping devices and cartridges in Nome. While it will not eliminate the problem, the opportunities will be made more difficult.

Cannabis Sales:

AMCO has approved drive thru sales for cannabis shops. Greg Smith has a letter under the communications section of the agenda about this new policy. The question is whether the city will allow or disallow drive through sales of cannabis. Our zoning code is silent on the issue and does not give clear guidance for staff to approve or not.

Michaela Goade:

The City of Nome, the Kegoayah Kozga Public Library, the Nome Arts Council and Katirivik Cultural Center are hosting the award-winning illustrator and author Michaela Goade to Nome on Sunday, September 10 at 2pm. The Bering Sea Lions Club has generously provided funding to give away free copies of Ms. Goade's work at the Sunday event.

On Monday, September 11, from 6pm-8pm, a workshop will be given by Ms. Goade on writing and illustrating books.