

TO: The Mayor and Common Council

FROM: Glenn Steckman

RE: Manager's notes

September 10, 2021

Naval Defense Force Ship Kashima:

The Kashima will again visit Nome from September 12-14. Just like last year, the cadets will not come ashore due to the high COVID-19 case count in Alaska. They will however resupply while off shore.

The Mayor and I will exchange pleasantries by Zoom with Rear Admiral Ishinomaki and Captain Orgi at 1:30pm on Monday.

Heating oil tanks:

The heating oil tanks at the Visitor Center are failing. These are old single wall tanks. We also appear to have a couple more of these single wall tanks serving city facilities. This will be another issue to add to our maintenance response.

It was also brought to my attention there may also be a problem with the seawater pump that serves as additional fire protection for Front Street. I will have more on that later.

Face masks:

The facemask requirement will be lifted on Monday at Rec Center and may be lifted for the rest of the city facilities later this week.

The City is also encouraging testing on arrival into Nome, whether you are vaccinated or not.

City Rig Damaged:

The prisoner transport vehicle was involved in an accident when responding to a call at the old Federal Building. The call involved a distressed individual attacking an adult. The rig suffered severe damage to the front end and the airbags deployed. Fortunately, no one was hurt and the NPD was able to respond to the situation. The driver that hit the NPD vehicle failed to respond to the emergency lights while other drivers did.

Arctic Eagle 2022:

The Mayor and I attended meetings regarding Arctic Eagle 2022. This event which is scheduled from February 22 to March 6, 2022. There will be 150-175 National Guard Personnel in Nome. While the NG will be bringing a field kitchen, which will be based at the Rec Center, the NG will try to encourage the troops to take advantage of the restaurants while here.

LEPC:

The LEPC met with the National Guard to discuss a “disaster event” that they can be staged for a practice for the city and the public safety personnel. As you know, any disaster hitting Nome would be up to the NVAD, NVFD, NPD and Public Works to respond before outside help could arrive.

Phase Seven:

The City received 55 applications for artist, sculptor and carver. In past rounds we only received 32. Only eight businesses applied for financial assistance. Unless there is a concern, I am going to extend the application deadline to September 23rd.

Recycling:

The Kawerak Recycling Center Nome Advisory Committee met this past week to discuss options on recycling and how to ship materials out of Nome. The timing could not be more opportune with John Blees discussing development of a third cell for the landfill.

Port Project:

I’ve requested that Joy Baker and Jay Sterne give a detailed presentation on the port development project. The project has been picking up speed and, as you are aware, Governor Dunleavy came up to Nome for a briefing on the port. A great deal of this project revolves around finding financing for the project and the sustainability for the operations of the port.