

TO: The Mayor and Common Council

FROM: Glenn Steckman

RE: City Manager's report

August 23, 2023

3D Printing Kickoff:

The 3D Printed Housing project has been officially kicked off. The timeline for the project deliverables was agreed to with HUD officials. The initial development is for a 3D Printed House will be built on for a city property. Military assistance through IRT will work to transfer the computer arm from Penn State to Nome next spring. Through the IRT program, the military trades will use this project as a training program for themselves and will provide one on one training to residents interested in the getting work experience.

Support for more 3D Printed Houses to be constructed will be solicited from the local tribal organizations and the private sector.

Small Business Administrator:

The SBA Administrator Isabelle Guzman met with the Mayor, Joy, Lucas and I on the port development project and housing needs in the community this past Wednesday. The Administrator was traveling in Alaska and visiting rural communities.

Sitnasuak Elders Committee:

I had the honor to meet with the Elders Committee to discuss the Historic Preservation Plan and to receive their input and recommendations. I am reaching out again to other organizations to make sure their concerns are heard.

Dept of Commerce/EDA:

Mitch Landrieu, Senior Advisor to the President, White House staff members, Assistant Secretary Susie Ruiz and senior Commerce and EDA officials were being hosted by Kawerak for a round table to discuss, fisheries, Arctic Geopolitical environment, economic development and needed investment in the Alaska Native communities. The Mayor and I were asked to participate and provide an update on the port project and Nome in general.

As part of the visit, former Mayor Landrieu was given a muddy and rainy tour of the port by Joy and Lucas. The tour was especially successful because Mayor Landrieu could see the high level of port activity and that vessels were being delayed from docking because of the activity.

Merbok cleanup:

City staff will be offering on last pick-up of debris from Merbok to businesses and residents. The deadline for final submittal for debris removal is September 22, Residents/Businesses can pick up a request form from the City Clerk's office starting Monday.

Cruise Ships:

Two cruise ships came into Nome this past week one for two days and the second for one day. Using the Carrie M. McLain Museum as a measure 400 visitors came to visit the museum.

Weather:

The weather has severely disrupted our maintenance plans for the season. So far, only the morgue building has had any exterior cleaning.

Joy Baker:

I am asking for you to approve Joy Baker's contract to be Project Manager. Attached to the resolution for approval is the contract and job description. The term of this agreement is for seven/eight months.

Sales Tax review:

The City Clerk staff has just completed a review of non-filed/unpaid sales tax. Notices have been sent out to remind businesses of late filings and non-paid sales taxes. In the near future, estimated tax bills will be sent to businesses that failed to pay their taxes. That begins another level of collection procedure.

Swimming Pool:

Not surprisingly, the pool project is not going to meet its completion date of September 1. The new goal for completion is mid-late September.

Summer youth activity at the ballfields

Summer softball is coming to end. Weather has not been kind to the program.

FEMA:

City staff is still working with FEMA officials to wrap the reimbursement requests from Typhoon Merbok.

Radio System:

The RFP technical specifications are being developed by General Engineering as an addendum. Once completed the RFP will be placed out for bid. Federal Engineering will not be allowed to bid. The city was seeking an honest assessment of the system and its limitations.

Ice Rink:

The Nome Winter Sports Association has just received new/used dasher boards to allow construction of the new rink to be located next to the Rec Center. Six light poles are to be installed, a water line will be installed. Site preparation will start soon and the dasher boards installed this fall.