

City Manager
Glenn Steckman

Port Director
Joy Baker

Harbormaster
Lucas Stotts



102 Division St. • P.O. Box 281
Nome, Alaska 99762
(907) 443-6619
Fax (907) 443-5473

Nome Port Commission
Jim West, Jr., Chairman
Charlie Lean, Vice Chairman
Derek McLarty
Shane Smithhisler
Scot Henderson
Russell Rowe
Gay Sheffield

**NOME PORT COMMISSION
MINUTES
WORK SESSION & RESCHEDULED MEETING
September 15th, 2021 @ 5:30/7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS CITY HALL**

The WS & Rescheduled Meeting of the Nome Port Commission was called to order at 5:39 pm by Chairman Lean at the Public Safety Building located on the Greg Kruschek Ave.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Smithhisler; Lean; Henderson; Sheffield; McLarty; Lean;

Absent: West; Rowe

Also Present: Joy Baker, Port Director, Lucas Stotts, Harbormaster

In the audience: Andrew Lee; Diana Haecker; Cathy Rubano

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Lean asked for a motion to approve the agenda:

Motion to approve made by Henderson, seconded by Sheffield.

At the Roll Call:

Ayes: Lean, Henderson; Sheffield; McLarty; Smithhisler;

Nays:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 19th, 2021 Motion made by Henderson, seconded by Smithhisler to approve minutes
Regular Meeting

At the Roll Call

Ayes: Henderson; Sheffield; McLarty; Smithhisler; Lean

Nays:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS none

COMMUNICATIONS

- 21-08-11 PON Modification Design Phase Funds Request (USACE)
- 21-08-24 CM Reply to BOT Request for Negotiated Rate on Large Volume Gravel
- 21-09-03 Nome Harbor CAP 107 Study Cost-Share Update (USACE)
- 21-09-03 Nome Harbor CAP 107 Study Funding Request (USACE)
- 21-09-09 PON Modification Feasibility Study Closeout (USACE)

Discussion:

- There was some group discussion on the BOT request to negotiate the rate on large volume gravel exports.

COMMISSIONER'S UPDATES

- None

HARBORMASTER'S REPORT

HM Stotts provided a verbal report on port activity, operations and vessel schedule, Anode Replacement Project and the Launch Ramp Replacement Project.

- Gravel operations are still in full swing with Brice's haul/stockpile and loading operations fully taking up the West Gold dock and shoulder areas for staging and handling of material to be exported.
 - Gravel companies have been working closely with each other and the Harbormaster to ensure there are no delays in loading operations or negative impact to other vessels or companies using the facility.
- 2022 is looking to have a large volume of cruise ships with over 20 potentially listed as wanting to go to Nome at this time, but still early to tell for sure and CODIV may still play a negative roll this 2022 season.
- The Anode Replacement Project has finished with the contractor fully wrapped up and now gone.
 - The contractor brought ice damage on the old existing anodes to Port staff's attention and suggested that the elevation of all new anodes be lowered a few feet to get below the ice line. Ice appears to be the culprit in damaging the old anodes and PND agreed so the new anodes were installed at a -2ft elevation from existing.
- HM Stotts added that the Launch Ramp Replacement Project was still underway with the contractor STG, Inc. working through issues with the inflatable dam they are utilizing to dewater the work area. They are seeing 'piping' of water under the dam and through the mud, which is allowing water inside the dam and hindering work progress at the expected rate.
 - STG is looking to remove the inflatable dam soon to begin working to set the glulam on the NE toe of the ramp to elevation, which will then allow that section of concrete panels to be installed.
 - STG is estimating to have substantial completion of the project completed around the end of September or early October.

Discussion:

- There was some group discussion on where STG currently stands with their project and what items remain on the list to be completed. Currently, they have most of the glulam's set to elevation/grade but are working to remove the dam to access the NE toe of the ramp.

PORT DIRECTOR'S REPORT

PD Baker provided an overview of facility projects and their status including;

- 21-09-10 Port Director/Projects Status Report
- Alaska's Arctic Deep Draft Port
 - Meeting w/Gov. Dunleavy (8.30.21)

- Legislative info (fed/state)
- Funding Opportunities
- Design Phase Progress

Discussion:

- PD Baker stated that Gov. Dunleavy had a short notice visit to Nome recently and wanted to look at the future site of the Nome Deep Draft Port Facility, ask questions and see the area for himself. The meeting went well, although very brief.
 - The Governor seemed very supportive of the project and asked good questions.
 - The media did schedule a time for interviews with the Governor that took place on the South Wall of the Small Boat Harbor.
- Other brief discussion with group responding to general questions.

OLD BUSINESS

- None

Discussion:

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- Port Commission Letter Writing Campaign (handout)
 - PD Baker stated that we are still waiting for more information on this so this issue was tabled until additional information is available.

Motion:

None

Discussion:

None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

None

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Sheffield commented that she thinks it would be good for the public to know about future visits from Gov. Dunleavy so the public would have a chance to meet with him and ask questions if they wish. PD Baker commented that the media did have a chance to meet with him and his staff but their trip was short so they had to keep the group size to a minimum.

Henderson commented that this was a good work session and meeting and that this may be his last meeting if he is voted in for City Council, which he is currently campaigning for.

Smithhisler had no comments.

McLarty commented that he did not believe the East Gravel Ramp was in satisfactory condition for vessel owners to utilize to haul out their vessels; feels more could be done to lessen the slope of the ramp and cut back the top of the ramp. Also stated that he is not satisfied with the contractor STG's timeline on the Launch Ramp Replacement Project and some large vessels are most likely going to go south for the winter and seek an alternative haul out location.

Lean commented that the work session and meeting went well and he wished all PC Members could be available for facility development and tariff revision meetings to help facilitate discussion amongst the

group.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by for adjournment 8:15pm.

APPROVED and **SIGNED** this 16th day of December 2021.

Jim West

Jim West, Chairman

ATTEST:

Jh Baker

Joy Baker, Port Director