

**City Manager**  
Glenn Steckman

**Port Director**  
Joy Baker

**Harbormaster**  
Lucas Stotts



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

**NOME PORT COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 16th, 2021 @ 7:00 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS CITY HALL**

The Regular Meeting of the Nome Port Commission was called to order at 7:08 pm by Chairman West at the City Hall Council Chambers.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Smithhisler (zoom); Lean; West; Rowe; Sheffield (zoom), McCann

Absent: McLarty

Also Present: Joy Baker, Port Director (zoom), Glenn Steckman, City Manager

In the audience: Peter, KNOM; Ken Morton, NJUS

Drew McCann read his Oath of Office and was sworn into the Port Commission group as the newest member.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman West asked for a motion to approve the agenda:

Motion to approve made by Lean, seconded by Rowe.

At the Roll Call:  
Ayes: Lean; West; Rowe; Sheffield  
Nays:  
Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

September 15, 2021 Motion made by Rowe, seconded by Lean to approve minutes;  
October 18, 2021  
Regular Meetings At the Roll Call

Ayes: West; Rowe; Sheffield; Lean; McCann  
Nays:  
Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

## **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

- Ken Morton, NJUS stated Utility Board met and is planning to reevaluate their foundation plan for the new tank farm site, and going with a pile driven design. A cost estimate is being compiled. It would most likely be an array of piles, with the tank and associated structure on top.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

- 21-11-30 USACE Quarterly Cost Share Letter to City of Nome
- 21-12-05 Shipping's Arctic Future - Maritime Exec
- 21-12-06 Ice Radar MOU with UAF-GI 10-2021
- 21-12-06 Unalaska Wants an Arctic Port - High North News

### Discussion:

- Group discussion on Polar Security Cutters and Nome being a place for these vessels to work out of vs Unalaska due to less travel time and costs to respond to incidents in the Bering Sea / Arctic.

## **COMMISSIONER'S UPDATES**

- C. Sheffield commented that on Dec 9<sup>th</sup> participated in USACE section 106 mitigation meeting to identify potential areas of cultural impact adjacent to the Snake River and Sand Spit Village location discovered during the 2004-2006 USACE Navigation Improvements Project. She commented that there was not a lot of time for discussion time so is hoping for a follow up meeting.

## **HARBORMASTER'S REPORT**

HM Stotts was absent so PD Baker provided an overview of Port operations including;

- HM Stotts has been helping PWR these last couple weeks hauling snow.
- Caitlin LeClair is working through the AR list and contacting users to get payments in.
- HM Stotts is working on spring ordering for the facility and prepping vessel schedules.
- Port Office had frozen pipes with Building Maintenance and HM Stotts working to resolve.

### Discussion:

- None.

## **PORT DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

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

- Arctic Deep Draft Port Design still moving forward; the Corps and City team anticipate the 35% design to be complete by end of February. Both the City and Corps teams hope design integration continues to go well to reach that milestone, and allow them to move onto the 65% design level.
- The Corps does not see any conflicts with the Port Commission's suggested dock changes.
- The CAP 107 project is struggling to hit some milestones, and on a parallel path, coordination is occurring to compile the Programmatic Agreement on potential impact to cultural items and mitigation strategies if this does occur.
- The Civil works and Operations Sections are currently unaligned on action to de-authorize the east and south docks, along with portions of the existing federal dredge footprint, within the ongoing study to deepen the inner harbor basin. The Corps would still maintain the navigation channel and existing inner harbor, but the action would shift ownership and maintenance responsibility to the City. The City team continues discussing with the Corps.....
- Winter closeout report for the Launch Ramp Replacement Project, with a punch list for spring.

### Discussion:

- Lean commented that he was under the impression that the CAP project was going to occur prior to the Out harbor project; the South Wall areas would need to be used as a staging area for the large expansion project and now there may be two projects going at the same time.

- Lean asked about the panels on the concrete ramp and how much they needed to be shaved down or lowered? PD Baker stated that we are evaluating options.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- None

#### **Discussion:**

- None

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Recommending Port Tariff Revisions

- The item was tabled for further information.

#### **Motion:**

None

#### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

None

#### **COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

- Lean commented that we are currently having a winter that is equally as cold as 2012 when the RENDA fuel tanker could not get to the dock due to a pressure ridge that formed at the end of the harbor. Feels this year will have more ice and the spring break up in the Outer Harbor will be delayed an additional week or two due to that pressure ridge.
- Sheffield welcomed Drew McCann and also said the recent storm was gusting to 99mph, that night and into the morning we had 6 foreign industrial vessels north of Gambell; convoying with an icebreaker from the north. Also asked for a presentation from Graphite One in the future possibly.
- Smithhisler none.
- Rowe welcomed Drew McCann to the Commission and said it was a good meeting.
- West none.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by for adjournment 8:13pm.

**APPROVED** and **SIGNED** this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022.

*Jim West*

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**Jim West, Chairman**

#### **ATTEST:**

*JLBaker*

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**Joy Baker, Port Director**