

TO: The Planning Commission

From: The City Manager

City Updates

February 29, 2024

Nugget Inn:

City staff is assisting the owners of the inn as they seek to get the State Fire Marshal approval to reopen. The owners hope open on a phased basis to start producing revenue. Further improvements are planned for the summer when supplies are to be delivered by barge.

Commercial property inspections:

There have been a number of questions concerning the city's involvement with commercial building inspections. First, Cliff McHenry is not a commercial building inspector. He works with the State's Fire Marshal's Office as their eyes on the ground here in Nome. Second, he can only issue a commercial CO with the approval of the Fire Marshal's Office. Plans are accepted by the Building Inspector's Office but the plans are reviewed by the Fire Marshall's Office.

City Clerk:

I am pleased to announce the hire of Dan Grimmer to be the new city clerk. Dan and his family reside in Nome. He worked for Norton Sound Hospital in the Behavioral Health Center and had fifteen years of senior administrative experience with them. He will bring strong process skills to the position.

Communications System:

The bid for a new radio system came in at \$1,062,000. The price was within the parameters that our third-party designer, Federal Engineering, estimated. Because of the complexity of the project and the bid proposal, I am asking Federal Engineering to review the proposal to see if it meets Federal Engineering's specifications.

Emergency Siren:

The replacement for fire damaged siren at the public works building will start February 28-March 4. However, the siren is being relocated to the snow dump off Greg Kruschek Ave. to provide better coverage for Nome. The damaged siren was forty years old.

City staff with assistance from the NVFD will review the other siren locations to see what improvements need to be done. The city received a \$10,000 grant to assist with the process of updating our siren system.

Comprehensive Plan update:

The city grant writer is submitting a funding request to the Denali Commission to assist in paying for a new comp plan. The Comprehensive Plan does not need to be dated as was the 2020 Comprehensive Plan but can be listed simply as the Nome Comprehensive and reviewed periodically and amended as needed.

Snow Removal:

As of February 16th, city road crews and city contractors have moved 7,200 truckloads of snow exceeding the winter of 2010-2011 at the same time.