

Mayor
John K. Handeland
Manager
Glenn Steckman
Clerk
Bryant Hammond



Nome City Council
Jerald Brown
Doug Johnson
Mark Johnson
Adam Martinson
Jennifer Reader
Meghan Sigvanna Topkok

**NOME COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 08, 2021 at 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

102 Division St. ▪ P.O. Box 281 ▪ Nome, Alaska 99762 ▪ Phone (907) 443-6663 ▪ Fax (907) 443-5345

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Brown (telephonic); M. Johnson; Martinson (telephonic); Reader (telephonic); Topkok (telephonic);

Members Absent: D. Johnson (excused)

Also Present: John Handeland, Mayor; Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Christine Piscoya, Deputy Clerk; Nickie Crowe, Acting Finance Director (telephonic); Joy Baker, Port Director (telephonic);

In the audience: Rhonda Schneider

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Reader to approve the agenda.

Discussion:

- Mayor Handeland added "Special Orders - Black History Month " just after the first Citizens Comments.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. M. Johnson to add an executive session on contractual matters to the agenda.

At the roll call:

Aye: Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown; M. Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion to amend **CARRIED**.

Returning to the main motion

At the roll call:

Aye: M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion, as amended, **CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. January 25, 2021 Nome Common Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Brown to approve the January 25, 2021 minutes.

Discussion:

- M. Johnson clarified one of his comments, noting "stop signs" should be "street signs."

At the roll call:

Aye: Martinson; Reader; Topkok; Brown; M. Johnson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED.**

COMMUNICATIONS

A. City of Nome FY 2022 Budget Calendar.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

1. Rhonda Schneider from the Nome Community Center spoke on CARES Act funds allocated to homeless issues, noting that Nome Community Center is looking for a partner for a housing project. She noted that \$160 million was available to Rural AK communities.
 - Mayor Handeland noted he was watching the AHFC for more information.

SPECIAL ORDERS

- Mayor Handeland noted February as Black History Month at the state and federal levels and opined it was appropriate for Nome to recognize Black History Month. He read the proclamation aloud.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. O-21-01-01 An Ordinance Approving the 2021 Operations and Maintenance Budget for Nome Joint Utility System.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:13 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:13 PM.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-21-01-01.

Discussion:

- Mayor Handeland directed the Council to the memo and other backup documentation and gave a brief overview.

At the roll call:

Aye: Reader; Topkok; Brown; M. Johnson; Martinson

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

- B. O-21-01-02 An Ordinance Approving the 2021 Capital Investments Budget for Nome Joint Utility System.

For the purpose of holding a public hearing, the Council recessed at 7:29 PM.

The Council reconvened at 7:29 PM.

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Martinson to adopt O-21-01-02.

Discussion:

- Manager Handeland gave a brief overview of the budget, explaining the capital projects for 2021.

At the roll call:

Aye: Topkok; Brown; M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. O-21-02-01 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2021 General Fund Municipal Budget.
- B. O-21-02-02 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2021 School Debt Service Fund Budget.
- C. O-21-02-03 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2021 Special Revenue Fund Budget.
- D. O-21-02-04 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2021 Capital Projects Fund Budget.
- E. O-21-02-05 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2021 Construction Capital Projects Fund Budget.
- F. O-21-02-06 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2021 Port of Nome Fund Budget.

G. O-21-02-07 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2021 Port of Nome Capital Projects Fund Budget.

A motion was made by C. Brown and seconded by C. Martinson to advance O-21-02-01, O-21-02-02, O-21-02-03, O-21-02-04, O-21-02-05, O-21-02-06, and O-21-02-07.

At the roll call:

Aye: Brown; M. Johnson; Martinson; Reader; Topkok

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

UTILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Activity Report January 26, 2021 - February 5, 2021.

- Assistant Utility Manager Morton gave his verbal report highlighting preliminary discussions to dispose of the current tank farm, the line crew's progress in replacing aged streetlights, ongoing training of water treatment operators, and the schedule of utility work for the Bering Street project work for summer 2021.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Activity Report January 26, 2021 - February 5, 2021.

- Manager Steckman gave his verbal report discussing the NPD Audit recently completed by Russell Consulting, the Iron Dog race the following week. He noted the work session scheduled for February 17th at 5:30. Manager Steckman discussed recent meetings between the City, local organizations, the Governor's office and staff from the AK CODEL concerning Port development. He noted the pool was nearly ready to open to the public again. Manager Steckman discussed metrics used by the City and the hospital concerning ongoing COVID restrictions.
 - Council Member Reader asked a clarifying question concerning testing for vaccinated persons and thanked staff for making the emergency order clearer. She asked if the Iron Dog racers would face restrictions in Nome.
 - Manager Steckman explained the testing regime for Iron Dog racers.

B. Emergency Order No. 2021-01 [amended].

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

none given

COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

1. Brown - no comments.
2. Johnson - no comments.

3. Martinson - no comments.

4. Reader - no comments.

5. Topkok - no comments.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORT

A. Activity Report January 26, 2021 - February 5, 2021.

- Mayor Handeland discussed the pre-meetings he and staff had been having concerning Port development, explaining the Council and the public will be looped in soon to update the town.
- Mayor Handeland noted the cancellation of the ceremonial start of the Iditarod and explained plans for a virtual start. He also noted the plans for Nome Winterfest to replace the Iditarod festivities this March. He thanked Ms. Schneider for alerting the Council to the AHFC funding opportunity for housing and noted the potential need to band together to ensure funds make it to Nome.
- He ended by noting the death of Juan Brizuela, a great cook and longtime resident of Nome, due to complications of COVID in Mexico. He extending the City's condolences to Lena and the rest of the Brizuela family.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by C. M. Johnson and seconded by C. Martinson to go into executive session to discussion contractual issues.

The Council recessed into executive session at 8:01 PM.

The Council came out of executive session at 8:46 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objections, the Council adjourned at 8:46 PM.

APPROVED and **SIGNED** this 22nd day of February, 2021

John K. Handeland
Mayor

ATTEST:

BRYANT HAMMOND
Clerk