

TO: The Mayor and Common Council:

FROM: Glenn Steckman

RE: City Manager's report

September 22, 2021

XYZ Building:

In your packet is a request to approve a memorandum of agreement on the management responsibilities between the Community Center and the City of Nome to operate a senior center. The last time there was a formalized agreement was in 1994. The agreement has been updated and an inventory provided of equipment and necessary indemnification.

COVID 19:

A PSA has been issued urging businesses and churches to reinstitute face mask requirements for people shopping and gathering in indoor public spaces. The case count in Nome has begun to increase and this document is urging people to voluntarily comply. Testing on arrival in Nome at the airports is also being urged to prevent the problems that the rest of Alaska is experiencing.

Face masks are now available for free to the public at City Hall, the Rec Center and the Post Office Building. Children size facemasks are available for free at the Rec Center. We have ordered additional child size face masks through our grant funding from the DHSS.

The Visitors Center:

The Visitor Center will be closed through Sunday, September 26 because of COVID. The office is scheduled to re-open on Monday

NPD/ Dispatch Radio System:

The staff is wrapping up an RFP for improvements related to the dispatch system for all public safety personnel. The radio system has been functioning with difficulties and is need for an overhaul. It will proposed to use E911 funds and ARPA monies to pay for the project.

Blood Bank:

The Blood Bank of Alaska is at the Mini to accept donations of blood. They will be in Nome from September 24-26.

St. Joseph Church:

As an FYI, St. Joseph Church, as of now, is planning a vehicle procession around Nome on October 7th to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

Phase 7 CARES funding extended:

The City has extended CARES applications for business grants to 5pm, Friday, October 1, 2021. Anyone who applied in a timely manner in the original request is having their grant application processed now.

The Artisans, Carvers and Sculptor applications have been processed with the exception of those applicants that did not supply their complete documentation. Staff is working with those applicants to provide the necessary information.

Rec Center:

Designs are being completed for the installation of a new boiler at the Rec Center. RSA Engineering is working with Bristol Engineering on this project. The boiler is set to be shipped on September 24 and will be installed by mid-November. Carl Emmons will assist in the installation. The project will include a floor tray of concrete and additional supports in the floor for the weight. A door will also need to be added.

I want to acknowledge Dave Barron's hard work in this project.

Oil Tanks at the Visitor Center:

A new 500 gallon oil tank has been ordered to replace two 300 gallon tanks at Visitor Center. This will require some re-plumbing but will save the city about \$4,000.00. The tank is not only for heating the building but also operating the seawater pump in case of a fire.

FINANCE:

I hope to have for your consideration two efforts in finance. One is to use funding for fleet replacement to allow the city to purchase on average three to four vehicles a year. And, then to sell them to recover more value in the annual sale. The goal is to have no vehicle in the fleet older than eight to nine years. This should also save in fleet maintenance. The second is develop a revolving fund for capital improvements. The city has sold \$1.7m of city assets over the years. The idea would be to use these funds to help pay for building repairs that have been delayed. I would recommend adding some of our ARPA funds for these safety improvements.

UPDATES:

The conveyor belt for our tire shredder is somewhere in shipping to Nome. The pole driver has been ordered and is in the same status.

The City's unemployment rate is running similar to 2019. Please find the attached report ending in July.

ARPA funds for businesses are now available. Please find attached the flier on information.