

**City of Bethel
Regular Public Safety Commission Meeting
January 6, 1997**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Acting Chairman Tom Hildreth.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Sharon Neth, Tom Hildreth, John Hastie, Mayor Richardson, Bruce Day

Absent: none

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

December 16, 1996 Agenda amended as follows:

*New Business

- A. Selection of Chair;
- B. Fire Lanes and No Parking Areas;
- C. Age Restrictions on Snow Machines Operation; (tabled until 02/97 meeting)
- D. Building Key Pickup and Return; and
- E. Time Management Report.

motion Mayor Richardson moved to accept the Agenda as amended, seconded by John Hastie.

vote Voice vote passed unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

motion Mayor Richardson moved to approved the minutes of December 2, 1996; seconded by Shari Neth.

vote Voice vote passed unanimously.

Sharon Neth moved to amend the minutes of December 16, 1996 Page 4, Paragraph 3: correct to read "**perspective**"; not "perceptive".

Bruce Day moved to amend Page 1, Approval of Agenda, motion should read: "**M/M by Tom Hildreth, seconded by Shari Neth**"; rather than "M/M by Shari Neth, seconded by Bruce Day".

motion Sharon Neth moved to accept the minutes of the December 16, 1996 meeting as amended; seconded by John Hastie.

vote Voice vote passed unanimously.

V. CHIEFS' REPORTS

A. Fire Chief George Young

Chief Young referred to the reports submitted for the packets, inviting questions and comments:

1. Memo dated December 19, 1996 from Ken Weaver, City Manager, RE: Fire Lanes;
2. Memo dated December 23, 1996 to Ken Weaver, City Manager, RE: Management Report; and
3. Memo dated December 30, 1996 to Ken Weaver, City Manager, RE: Management Report.

B. Police Chief Gary Eilers

Presented the Statistics for the weeks 12/13-19/96 and 12/20-26/96. Summary for monthly reporting such as personnel and department activities. By next meeting we will have a written report along with the Statistic Report. The stats for New Year's Eve. Chief Eilers reported that the evening was peaceful and the department out in full force. One DWI was issued. Discussion followed.

VI. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Sharon Neth read to the members of the commission Ordinance 2.25.010 Establishment of Commission. There is hereby established a Public Safety Commission to act in an advisory role in matters pertaining to public safety issues. The commission shall identify public safety issues of concern to the citizens of the City of Bethel and advise the City Council on these issues. (Ord. No., 95-35, enacted, 11/28/95)

Sharon Neth stated it was important to me, to remind me, that our role is not an administrative one and not an authoritative one; but that we are to advise the City Council. Fortunately, it is not our responsibility to give any directions to the Fire and Police Chief's. And to continue as a commission to work with the idea of the delivery site and look at where the bulk of alcohol related calls happen.

Ms. Neth stated that she met with Ken Weaver and he contacted Fort Yukon, as they have established an alcohol beverage delivery site. I have contacted them also and requested a copy of their ordinance and have not received it to date. It was suggested that Kotzebue be contacted as they had or attempted to have an alcohol beverage delivery site and should have copies of their ordinance. Mayor Richardson suggested she contact the Kotzebue City Manager, Mike Scott.

VII. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

No people to be heard.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Item A. Law Enforcement Block Grant

Bruce Day said he'd like to see a program like the DARE program.

Discussion followed with Chief Eilers giving background on the completion and submission of the grant application form stating the grant was originally applied for and approved for equipment.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS (continued)

Item A. Law Enforcement Block Grant (continued)

Discussion followed regarding programs that are possibilities.

Chief Eilers stated that he talked with the school and they are going to get a DARE Program; it was too late to start this year. Discussion followed.

Acting Chair Hildreth discussed the radios and the problems that the Police Department is having; including the repeater getting fully operational.

Fire Chief George Young concurred with Chief Eilers that both the base station and portable radios need to be checked out, and that he would be willing to work with the chief and Motorola and or Greg. We could perhaps join some of our dwindling purchase service funds and get a one-time professional evaluation, get the radios tuned up and have a full test of both the Fire and Police Departments' equipment.

Chief Eilers stated that he would get with Chief Young and Greg and look at repeater.

Chair Hildreth again stated that we need a survey done to find out the problem. Discussion followed.

It was left up to the Chiefs' to decide just what course of action must be taken.

Chief Eilers says he would check to see if the money from the grant would pay for someone to come into the police station to perform an estimate of the work and cost factor. We will look into all avenues and see where the problem lies.

Sharon Neth stated that she was unclear as to where we were going to go from here. Is the grant already approved by the City Council?

Mayor Richardson stated that it was.

Ms. Neth wanted to know what else the commission had to do with the block grant. It is my understanding that the proposal that was accepted had been approved.

John Hastie questioned when the public hearing was held.

Chief Eilers stated that it was his understanding that the public hearing was before the City Council and that the City Council approved the grant at that hearing. And the second step was that an Advisory Committee be formed and meet to discuss the list of items that the police

VIII. OLD BUSINESS (continued)

Item A. Law Enforcement Block Grant (continued)

department had requested in the grant. The grant has been signed and sent in and the money will be deposited in the bank. Discussion followed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Item A. Selection of the Chair

Acting Chair Hildreth opened nominations for selections of the Chairman and the Vice Chairman.

motion **John Hastie moved to nominate Thomas A. Hildreth as Chairman; seconded by Bruce Day.**

vote **Voice vote passed unanimously.**

motion **Sharon Neth moved to close nominations; seconded by Bruce Day.**

vote **Voice vote passed unanimously.**

Acting Chair Hildreth announced that Thomas A. Hildreth is the new Chairman of the City of Bethel, Public Safety Commission.

Chairman Hildreth asked to take nominations for the Vice Chairman.

motion **Sharon Neth moved to nominate Bruce Day for the Vice Chair; seconded by Mayor Richardson.**

motion **Bruce Day moved to nominate Sharon Neth for the Vice Chair; seconded by John Hastie.**

vote **Secret ballot Bruce Day 3; Sharon Neth 2; Bruce Day nominated as Vice Chairman passed accordingly.**

Chairman Hildreth congratulated Mr. Day as the new Vice Chairman of the City of Bethel, Public Safety Commission.

Item B. Fire Lanes and No Parking Areas

Chief Young spoke about access to parking areas with regard to the state Fire Safety Code and found it is indeed applicable in Bethel. Signs have been ordered and are to be placed at areas identified by the Fire Chief, the City Manager, the Chief of Police, the Public Works Department, and the Public Safety Commission. Chief Young is soliciting comments, recommendations to identify problem areas. Discussion followed to include the airport parking, loading/unloading, taxi and fire lanes.

IX. NEW BUSINESS (continued)

Item B. Fire Lanes and No Parking Areas (continued)

Chairman Hildreth requested that Mayor Richardson advise the Transportation Commission and the City Council on the discussion of parking at the airport. Chairman Hildreth stated that the council and commission could use this information for future long term planning purposes.

Item C. Age Restriction on Snow machines

Discussion by Sharon Neth whether the restrictions should be on age of child and or size of snow machine without adult supervision. Because this is a fairly heated topic and did not make it on the public notice it should wait for the next meeting when it can be publicized. Other villages cite the unsafe drivers of the Snow machines. Other concerns by the commission members were as follows:

- *The need for public awareness, and education for a couple of weeks before enforcement begins;
- *Using snow machine crossing signs, indicating safe places to cross;
- *Announcements in the newspaper and on the radio (KYUK - Knowing is Caring and Talkline shows and Friday Morning Talk Show).

It was decided to start with public service announcements and see what happens.

Mayor Richardson stated that she had heard a story about a private citizen trying to enforce snow machine driving on the side of the roads. I want the police department to put out a public notice that it is up to the police to enforce these issues; not private citizens.

The need to purchase and post signs to identify snow machine crossing areas was identified. Must be submitted to the City Council as a budget consideration. Ask Public Works if they know of grants for purchasing signs for snow machine traffic.

Item D. Building Key Pickup and Return

Darlene will take care of the key situation.

Item E. Time Management

Mayor Richardson stated concerns regarding the minutes of the December 2, 1996 commission meeting that the minutes reflected; and that no one was going to be getting into any area with the departments, both fire and police, regardless; that the commission was not authorized. I also appreciate Shari reading the ordinance on the responsibility of the Public Safety Commission. Discussion followed. If that was the purpose of the minutes, as they were presented in the minutes, the Chief and his people can come up with something and present it to the commission in advocating to the council for additional people. Rather than someone from the commission going in and identifying areas. Discussion followed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS (continued)

Item E. Time Management (continued)

Chief offered to create a form for documenting man-hours, traffic control, investigations, time writing reports, etc. Also, we are providing school patrol as time allows.

Mayor Richardson stated that she would like to see the kids have a field trip to the police department.

Next months agenda items Alcohol Beverage Control Site; Animal Control;

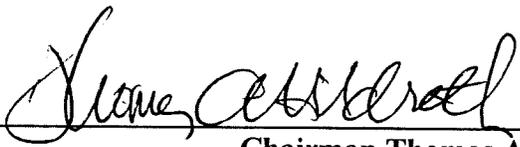
X. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting scheduled for February 3, 1997, 6:00 p.m. at the Log Cabin.

motion Mayor Richardson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.; seconded by Sharon Neth.

vote Voice vote passed unanimously.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 5 **DAY OF** May, 1997.



Chairman Thomas A. Hildreth

Attest:



Darlene F. Engebretson, Recording Secretary

John Hastie discussed the statistical reports in the Chief of Police management reports. He asked what kind of reports could be generated to determine the amount of time officers spend on calls and various other activities. He stated he would like to help the Department with time management. He requested copies of the officer activity logs be sent to him. Tom Hildreth suggested Mr. Hastie be the Commission statistician. Gary stated he didn't see a problem with this and if there was a problem with it, to have the Chief call him.

Shari Neth stated that she had a meeting on December 3, at 2:00pm on the alcohol issue everyone is invited to attend. She also thanked Gary for Serving as chairman for the past year. (she left the meeting)

Bruce Day said he liked Mr. Hastie's idea about generating a time management report.

Chief Young stated that he was familiar with the program the police department uses and it's an old DOS based program that is very difficult to use and the support company is difficult to deal with.

Chairman Vanasse welcomed back Admin assistant Kathy Coker to the Commission. He also stated that in January there will be two opening on the Commission. And in January the commission will be selecting a new chairperson.

VII. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

There were no people to be heard.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Item A. Animal Control Fees

There was a discussion about the proposed fees schedule.

Motion

M/M by Tom Hildreth 2nd by Bruce Day to approve the proposed changes with the exception of not raising the adoption and euthanizing fees.

Item B. E 911 System

There was a discussion about the purchasing agents memo stating