
City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

January 12th, 2006

Special Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety and Transportation Commission was held on Thursday, January 12th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Log Cabin, Bethel, Alaska. Chairperson John Hastie called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Compromising a quorum of the Commission, the following members were present for roll call:

John Hastie
 Charley Chung
 Kyla Hagan
 Mark Springer

Hugh Dymment's absence excused due to illness.

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Chief of Police Benjamin H. Dudley
 Transportation Inspector Molly Bailie
 Administrative Assistant Lori Strickler

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

A. Frank Mazzaro

- a. Inquiring whether or not the trip sheet would be deleted.
- b. Discussing the inconvenience of getting a permit every twelve months.

B. Benny Kadrionski

- a. Inquiring whether or not the trip sheet would be deleted.
- b. Discussed the importance of reporting unusual occurrences while the situation is familiar, which will help with any investigation into the event.

C. Woo Yoon

- a. Stated that it has been since 2001 since the last increase in cab fare.
- b. A suggested increase of at least \$0.50 in the cab fare to accommodate for the increased cost of oil and the elevated cost of living.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF January 12th, 2006 AS AMENDED

MOVED BY:	Springer	Changed the spelling of regulated and investigate as well as BMC.
SECONDED BY:	Hagan	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF December 5th, 2005

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF

MOVED BY:	Springer	
SECONDED BY:	Chung	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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VI. CHIEF'S COMMENTS

- A. He is glad to be back.
- B. Apologize for the errors within the January agenda.
- C. Stated that he had received an e-mail from Hugh Dymont referencing complaints the public had made toward cab drivers and their lack of hospitality. Dudley replied to this accusation by stating that the cab drivers are not violating an ordinance, they are not required to be nice.
- E. The cab drivers are aware of the inspection and permit deadlines and the last minute need for completion on these should stop.
- F. Molly Bailie and Chief Dudley are working on streamlining the process of permits.

VII. TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT

- A. Suggests that we use a system in updating Chauffeur Permits by using stickers or a stamp rather than having to process new permits, saving time and money.
- B. Stating the importance of using the car seats for the children riding in the cab. It is in violation of the law if they are not used and the driver will be reprimanded if pulled over for that offence.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Discussion of vehicle impound
 - a. Two options regarding the vehicle impound, Kenny and Kusko. Between the two there are no problems.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Regarding the taxi cab ordinance
 - a. Rewriting would not be possible, it would need to be reworked.
 - b. A work session will be held once the actual changes are created.

X. PUBLIC HEARING TO INVESTIGATE THE QUALITY OF SERVICES RENDERED BY REGULATED PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS (BMC 5.20.030 C)

- A. Mark Springer
 - a. Although the showing of cab drivers was good the meeting still lacked the people of the public therefore it is difficult to have a sensible understanding of the quality of service rendered.
- B. Frank Mazzaro
 - a. Although the public has been complaining about the treatment they have received from some of the cab drivers it is important to bring up the fact that the cab drivers have to deal with passengers who are acting in the same manor.
- C. John Hastie
 - a. Situations of the cab driver dropping off a passenger who is unable to pay, making the other passengers in the cab wait for the money to be retrieved.
 - b. Perhaps the drivers of the cab could render money prior to the ride therefore the other passengers would not be inconvenienced during their time of travel.
- D. Benjamin Dudley
 - a. Receiving calls at the police department regarding the speeding and reckless driving of cabs.
 - b. In order to save money which has become an issue, the cabs could have less idle time.

E. Mark Springer

- a. It is important for the cab companies/drivers to keep the interior as well as the trunk of the cabs clean.
- b. Cabs are driving too fast through parking lots.
- c. Regarding the increase in cab fares, perhaps the cab companies should take into account the number of permits they have working for them. By depleting the number of permits out on the road it would in turn allow for the cabs left on the road an opportunity to make more money.

XI. COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMENTS

A. Charley Chung

- a. Disappointed, it is difficult to get feedback from the people when there are only the cab drivers present.

B. Kyla Hagan

- a. Stating a major importance for the cab drivers to put children into a car seat.
- b. Suggesting a preferred driving list for the cab drivers who carry and use a car seat.
- c. Advising the public to call her if they have any questions regarding installation and use of a car seat.
- d. Offering newer car seats to the cab drivers who have not received one within the past five years.
- c. Adding to the next agenda a discussion for increase in cab fares.

C. Mark Springer

- a. It is possible that the public does not have a lot of concern regarding the issues.
- b. Yesterday the State House passed a bill which would make not wearing a seat belt a primary offence. This would still however need to be signed by the senate and the governor.
- c. Beginning to create a pool of 50 to 60 questions available to chauffeurs to assist in studying for the BMC.

D. John Hastie

- a. There is a need to advertise for the available seat on the Public Safety and Transportation Committee due to the resignation of the Vice Chair, John Dickens.
- b. There will be an appointing of a Vice Chair at the next meeting.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOVED BY:	Springer	January 12 th , 2006 at 8:20 p.m.
SECONDED BY:	Hagan	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Next meeting on Monday – February 6th, 2006

John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Lori Strickler, Recorder