

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MINUTES

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February 1, 1996

**City of Bethel
Transportation Commission**

Regular Meeting of

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was convened at 7:10 PM, at the City Offices, Bethel, Alaska, By Chairman Williams.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Thor Williams, Doreen O'Brien, Gloria Rhodes and Richard Robb.

Absent: Virginia Turner, Wally Richardson and James Bock (Informed Chairman of absence)

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Discussion to Amend the Minutes as follows.
Section VIII Item C River Taxi Status; change to say, see attached report.
Section VI Commission Member Comments; change in the first line, the word resent to present.

motion Made by Doreen, 2nd by Gloria to approve the minutes of the February 1, 1996, regular Commission meeting as amended. approved by all present.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Discussion to Amend the Agenda as follows:
Section IX New Business add
Item C: Chung Bro Purchase of Taxi Cab
Item D: Permit Transfers
Item E: Chauffeur Appeal

motion Made by Doreen, 2nd by Gloria to approve the agenda as amended. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

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V. TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR'S REPORT

The Chief discussed reviewing the Taxi permit fee structure because of foreseen decreases in City revenue through and an increase in expenditures for employee health benefits.

Chief Liu also discussed the amount of time it takes for the Police Department to administratively support the Vehicle for Hire Ordinance with the current number of cabs and chauffeurs. He asked that the possibility of hiring a part time person to fulfill these requirements be assessed.

See Attached Taxi Status Report.

VI. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Doreen suggested a sit down meeting with finance to assess both issues Chief Liu brought up. Doreen read a complaint from a citizen about her concern for respect of peoples private driveways and road front property.

Doreen also gave advance notice that she would miss the March meeting.

Rick expressed his thanks for the cab drivers that were present at the meeting. He also stated that the Transportation Commission may have to have a work session to come up with ideas on good and cost effective measures to relieve The Chief of his time constraints.

Gloria said she was glad to be able to attend the meetings now that they had changed the day it meets.

VII. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Gloria Made a motion to limit the time each person could speak to 3 minutes, it was 2nd by Doreen. Discussion ensued about giving the people enough time to express their concerns. Voice vote, 3 yes and 1 No. The Motion Failed.

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VII. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD Cont.

Teresa Williams invited the Commission Members to ride around with the Cab Drivers during a busy time to see what it's like. This idea was reiterated by several other cab drivers.

Jim Libby addressed the Commission with a suggestion that they change the ordinance so that cab transfers don't have to go through Commission approval. He argued that other forms of business don't say who you can hire and when you can hire them. He also addressed cab inspections. He said they should be done from a safety stand point and not on being pretty. He stated he felt a 4" dent limit was impractical for Bethel, being very costly for the cab drivers to comply and not contributing to the safety of the vehicle. Jim also expressed that he felt the cab companies keep the City out of the bus business.

Teresa Williams asked for a copy of the fee schedule that has been handed out to the public. She stated that .50 cents a minute for in route stops is too low.

Rick Robb stated, not changing that amount was an oversight when they redid the ordinance in 1993.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

ITEM A: Public Hearing: Record Keeping for Dispatch Permits.

Rick Robb said if we can't make it workable we should delete the whole section.

Doreen expressed her disappointment in the cab drivers not presenting a proposal for them to look at.

James Randall and Margaret Gregory stated they would get something together for next month. Margaret also said she was working with Greg at Motorola at getting a recording system that would work. It was expressed that recording would be expensive and use miles of tape.

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VIII. OLD BUSINESS Cont.

Thor stated that the ordinance says to maintain a system it doesn't have to be hard. Use codes so you don't have to write down long entries.

It was expressed by several drivers that the ordinance wasn't feasible. Gloria stated that the City Council wasn't just going to allow them to throw out part of the ordinance that they all had to work together to come up with a workable solution to present to the Council.

Thor asked Rick Robb to work with the cab companies to come up with a proposal.

ITEM B: FCC Forms Update

Chief Liu stated we have forms on hand now at the Police Department.

ITEM C: Update on Amendment to City Of Bethel Municipal Code Section 5.20.070 C thru E.

Thor announced that the City Council asked the Cab industry to be at the next meeting which is Feb. 13, 1996. It will be an open Hearing covering penalties for cabs. A discussion ensued about how the City attorney changed the proposed amendment and whether it made the penalty tougher.

Doreen made a motion that was 2nd by Gloria to send the amendment to City Council and inform them of the error, leaving it up to them to amend it if they see fit. Voice vote motion passed by all present.

ITEM D: Mr. Pack buying of Quyana Cab.

Chief Liu stated that we have not received any paperwork from him concerning this.

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IX. NEW BUSINESS

ITEM A: Dispatch Permits for River Taxi's.

Chief Liu asked the question does a River Taxi need a dispatch permit when they are based out of the villages?

A short discussion ensued. Chief Liu suggested not to address this issue now but wait until the summer when they are planning to update the river taxi part of the ordinance.

A work secession was set up for May 2, 1996 meeting at 6:00pm. Thor asked the Cab Company's to have any input about River Taxi's to him before the May meeting.

ITEM B: Ride Along Program with Taxi Drivers

Thor Thanked Teresa Williams for bringing this up to the Commission and that it could be educational. He asked Teresa to give him a list of drivers willing to participate and those that are non-smoking, by the next meeting.

ITEM C: Chung Brothers Purchase of Taxi Cab.

Chung Bros, Inc. DBA Taxi Cab Co.

The Corporate Share Holders are Tae Hwa Chung, Tae Ha Chung, and Dean Puchalski. Chief Liu stated they have met all the requirements for the sale.

Motion made by Gloria 2nd by Doreen to approve the sale of Himshoot to Chung. Approve by all present.

ITEM D: Permit Transfers

Chief Liu explained the policy of issuing a different letter designation after the permit number each time the same number is issued to a new VIN throughout the year. The transfers for this Month are as follows:

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ITEM D: Cont.

Yukon 19 to Quyana 209B
Yukon 22 to Quyana 22B
Quyana 207 to Taxi Cab #91
Yukon #28 to Taxi Cab #81
Yukon #27 to Taxi Cab #82

Motion Made by Doreen and 2nd by Gloria to approve transfers.
Passed by all present.

ITEM E: Chauffeur Appeal

Chief Liu read a letter to Mrs. Betty Evans
(See Attached)

She hadn't gone to trial yet so there wasn't any
recourse for the Commission. Thor told her to come
back next Month after her sentencing.

Thor told her she didn't have to pay another \$50.00
Appeal filing fee since there isn't anything we can do
until after her court date.

X. ADJOURNMENT

motion Made by Doreen, 2nd by Gloria to adjourn the meeting
at 9:10pm. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 1996.

Chairman



Bethel Police Department

P.O. Box 500 : Bethel, Alaska 99559
543-3785

January 15, 1996

Betty Evans
P.O. Box 1784
Bethel, Alaska 99559

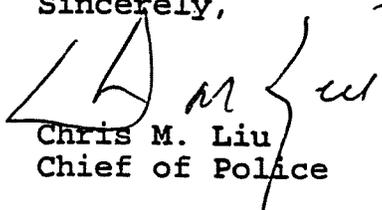
Dear Ms. Evans:

You were formally charged with Assault in the Third Degree on January 14, 1996. This a felony offense which is in violation of Bethel Municipal Code 5.20.060 (F). See attached.

Therefore your Chauffeur Permit will be revoked pending disposition of your current court case.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact me at 543-3781.

Sincerely,


Chris M. Liu
Chief of Police

CML:wkc

cc: transportation commission