
City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

February 15th, 2005

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety and Transportation Commission was held on Tuesday February 15th, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

Chairperson John Hastie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Hastie	John Dickens	Michael Cho
Charley Chung	Hugh Dymont	Kyla Hagan
Mark Springer		

Ex-Officio members present were the following:
Chief of Police Benjamin Dudley
Administrative Assistant Brodie Broerman
Fire Department Rep. Raymond Russel

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF February 15th, 2005

MOVED BY:	Dickens	
SECONDED BY:	Springer	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF November 3rd, 2004 and January 3rd, 2005

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES of January 3rd, 2004

MOVED BY:	Dymont	
SECONDED BY:	Dickens	

Clarification requested on item X. of the November 3rd, 2004 minutes was not mailed out to members to review.

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

A. NONE

VII. TRANSPORTATION TECHNICIAN

- A. TRANSLATOR CLARIFICATION FOR CHAUFFEUR WRITTEN TEST
- Transportation inspector is against translating on tests for two reasons

- i. The test has been given without translators to date, and has been effective in testing the applicants English communication skills
- ii. Translators open up the chance for cheating to occur, seeing as there is no one available to monitor the information being given through the translator.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL FOR SPEED LIMIT CHANGE IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS
 - a. Discussion on the actual effectiveness of the speed decrease, Bethel roads being below national and state standard, and the quick growth of our community.
 - b. City Council will want to see facts before they pass the change. Ms. Hagan nominated to find information on motor vehicle/pedestrian accident injuries and the likeness injuries occurring at different speeds. Chief Dudley nominated to find statistics on motor vehicle/ pedestrian accidents, Mr. Springer requested to find population growth statistics and road condition comparisons, and Mr. Dickens nominated to find information on the physics of motor vehicle pedestrian accidents.
 - c. PS & TC to continue brainstorming practical reasons to reduce the speeds as well, i.e. dust reduction.
 - d. This agenda item is to be further discussed at next PS & TC meeting.

Motion to Make Recommendation to Council

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To reduce speed limit in residential areas to 20 mph
SECONDED BY:	Springer	
<i>Discussion on the need for more factual information before presenting to council</i>		
VOTE ON MOTION	MOTION WITHDRAWN by Mr. Dickens and Mr. Springer	

- B. RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL FOR ANIMAL CONTROL FEE SCHEDULE
 - a. Animal Control Officer (ACO) Gary Watson was available for comment.
 - b. ACO Watson recommends two changes.
 - i. Add language to BMC to reflect that owner may either pay an annual fee for a dog tag, or a one time fee for a micro chip.
 - 1. Discussion on whether or not the micro chip should be mandatory.
 - 2. Discussion on raising the price of the unchipped annual fee to the same amount as the chipped one time fee.
 - 3. Look at Anchorage ordinance on chipping to clarify their language use.
 - ii. The impound fee was changed to run parallel to BMC Animal Control violation fee schedule.
 - iii. Mayor Dymont to find out how we are to submit the request to council.
 - iv. Presented changes are attached with these minutes.
- C. ELECTIONS FOR VICE CHAIR
 - a. Mr. Dickens accepted the nomination for Vice-Chair, no other nominations for Vice-Chair were made.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. DMV ROAD TESTER
 - a. Chief Dudley had to leave early, and was unavailable for comment. Item to be addressed at the next PS & TC meeting.
- B. DISCUSSION OF BETHEL PUBLIC TRANSIT SUSTEM, PROGRESS REPORT (JOHN SARGENT)
 - a. City of Bethel Grant Development Manager, John Sargent was present for presentation of Bethel Public Transit System Resolution.
 - i. The resolution has already been passed by City Council, but our Public Safety and Transportation Commission is going to be expected to be more involved with this resolution as well as other upcoming grant resolutions concerning public safety, and transportation. See attached PS & TC ordinance.

- ii. The resolution Mr. Sargent presented has been attached with these minutes.
- iii. The plan is for the City of Bethel to start up the program and then hand it over to ONC to maintain.
- iv. There would be three bus routes, with a thirty minute turn around.
- v. Discussion was held on different specifics as well as pros and cons of the bus transit system.

X. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Springer would like to begin discussion on a new Police Department facility at the next meeting. He would also like a preview of the table exercise from the Bethel Fire Department.

Mr. Cho had no comment.

Mr. Dymont is glad to see seven members on board, and stated that the PS & TC's unanimous recommendation to council to reduce the seats on the commission from 9 to 7 has been sent by the City Council to the City Attorney for editing.

Mr. Dickens requests help to compensate public safety workers. He stated that the pay our City offers is below National and State standards. Mr. Dickens stated that he respects the two industry members on their commitment and professionalism.

Mr. Chung had a comment on the change of number of industry commission member from two to one member. The commission will look into writing the change in such a way as to accommodate present members.

Mr. Hastie has several items he would like to discuss at the table top exercise.

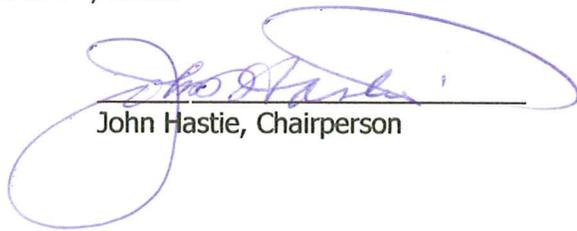
Ms. Hagan had no comment.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Dickens	
SECONDED BY:	Cho	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m., February 15th, 2005. Next meeting on Monday – March 7th, 2005.



 John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:



 Brodie Broerman, Recorder