
City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

March 4th, 2014

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety and Transportation Commission was held on March 4th, 2014 in the Bethel City Hall Council Chambers.

This meeting was called to order at 7:00PM

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Sharon Sigmon *Council Representative*
 Joan Dewey
 Pat Jennings
 Johnny Furlong *Vice Chair*
 Jennifer Dobson

Absent: Joe Yoon

Ex-Officio Present: Andre Achee for George Young *Acting Police Chief*
 KaJena Baty *Recorder and Transportation Inspector Designee*

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

No one present to be heard.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED:	Jennings	Motion to approve the agenda.
SECONDED:	Sigmon	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor	

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED:	Dewey	Motion to approve the minutes from the regular meetings of October 1 st , November 5 th , December 3 rd , 2013 and January 7 th and February 4 th , 2014.
SECONDED:	Jennings	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor	

VI. CHIEFS' COMMENTS

Andre Achee *Police Lieutenant*- Total calls at the end of February 888. On February 6th the Chief of Police officially tendered his resignation. Kristen Hirsch is the new Dispatch Supervisor; Aaron Fedolfi is currently at the police academy in Sitka, AK; Police Officer Mike Cox resigned on February 27th; we have a vacant Sergeants position, which has fallen under a hiring freeze and will not be filled until we are told to fill it. We have two open dispatcher positions, dispatch is below minimum staffing, and we have one dispatcher in training at this time. We have a vacant CSO position and one CSP position, soon to be two positions when a current CSP is promoted to CSO. We also have a vacant Admin Assistant position. The police department is also working on finishing up some grants.

George Young *Fire Chief*- *Not present to be heard.*

VII. TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT

KaJena Baty- Nothing to report.

VIII. COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Council Member Sigmon- City Clerk had asked her to follow up with the ordinances sent over from the City Attorney. Some of those ordinances we approved by council.

IX. SPECIAL ITEMS OF BUSINESS

A. Consideration of the Resignation of Joe Yoon

MOVED:	Furlong	Motion to accept the resignation of Joe Yoon.
SECONDED:	Jennings	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor	

B. Annual Election of Chair and Vice Chair

MOVED:	Jennings	Nomination of Johnny Furlong for Chair
SECONDED:	Dewey	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor	

MOVED:	Dobson	Nomination of Pat Jennings for Vice Chair
SECONDED:	Dewey	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor	

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Ordinance 13-16 Amendment for BMC 5.40

MOVED:	Sigmon	Motion to amend BMC 5.40.120 in (A) by inserting “with a passenger: for hire” after “regulated vehicle” in the first sentence and in (B) after “permitted vehicle,” and in (B) to strike “to his or her ear”.
SECONDED:	Jennings	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor	

MOVED:	Sigmon	Motion to amend BMC 5.40.120 (B) by striking “permitted” and inserting “regulated”.
SECONDED:	Furlong	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor	

B. Chapter 9- Minor Offenses

MOVED:	Sigmon	Motion to accept the changes made by the City Attorney to BMC Chapter 9- Minor Offenses.
SECONDED:	Jennings	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor	

XI. NEW BUSINESS

No Items

I. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Sharon Sigmon- *Is glad to be having a meeting, appreciates everyone showing up.*

Pat Jennings- *Would like to discuss a summer recess at the next meeting. Had questions about the sudden resignation of the Chief of Police.*

Joan Dewey- *Thought a lot about public safety a lot this past month. Believes it was stressful for the community when the Chief quit, hopes the Police Department gets stable. Also hopes the hiring freeze lifts so we can have both an efficient government and what we need to keep people safe.*

Naim Shabani- *Glad to be here as a new member.*

Jennifer Dobson- *Expecting to be absent for the next couple of months due to the arrival of a new baby.*

Andre Achee- *Thanks to all of Dispatch for their dedication and covering four shifts with only three people. Regarding complaints about police shutting down State Hwy. This was necessary due to the possibility of a fuel tank being on fire, as it turned out that was not the case, but the Fire Department did a great job keeping everyone safe.*

Johnny Furlong- *Welcome to Naim Shabani, Congratulations for Jennifer Dobson. Appreciates the nominations. Has concerns about how abruptly the Police Chief exited. Does not put blame on any party, as a citizen it was very disruptive to Public Safety and the flow that comes with*

working with the same people for so long. Is very curious about the justification for the hiring freeze especially since we just lost the Chief.

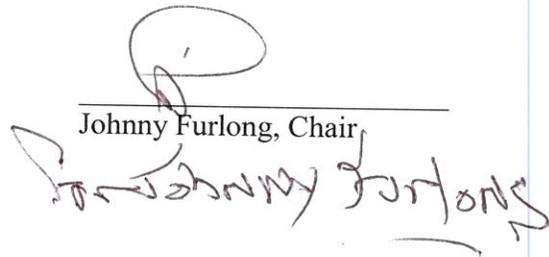
II. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED:	Sigmon	Motion to adjourn.
SECONDED:	Jennings	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor.	

Meeting adjourned at 7:54pm

APPROVED THIS 1st DAY OF April, 2014.


KaJena Baty, Recorder


Johnny Furlong, Chair