City of Bethel, Alaska
Public Safety & Transportation Commission

Date: June 7, 2011 Regular Meeting Bethel, Alaska

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety and Transportation Commission was held on June 7, 2011 at 7:00 pm in the City Hall, Meeting Room and moved to Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska. Chairperson Mark Springer called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the Commission, the following members were present for roll call:
Mark Springer-
Brian Lefferts- Excused Absent
Charley Chung
Paul Gregory
Carol (Annette) Sutton
Council Member Richard Robb
Ex-Officio members present were the following:
Chief of Fire George Young
Chief of Police Larry Elarton
Recorder Sharri Salyers

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF June 7, 2011

MOVED BY:	Chung	
SECONDED BY:	Sutton	
Discussion		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	

IV. MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF May 3, 2011

MOVED BY:	Chung	
SECONDED BY:	Sutton	
Discussion		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF May 9, 2011

MOVED BY:	Sutton	
SECONDED BY:	Chung	
Discussion		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGUALR MEETING OF April 5, 2011

MOVED BY:	Chung	
SECONDED BY:	Gregory	
Discussion		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	

V. **CHIEFS' COMMENTS –** Fire Chief George Young

A: Media – The fire department has been contacted by the media in reference to the tundra fires. The fire department has decided to discontinue discussing fire safety information with the radio station on Friday mornings and sending out fliers to the newspapers in hopes to curb the children in the area from setting fires. Most of these fires have been set by children and I feel they are doing it for notoriety in the papers and from the radio stations.

B: Building- is near completion we still have some concrete and some electrical work needing to be done. I am very pleased with the building and we didn't need to use as much of the Cities monies as we were expecting.

C: Budget- The fire department budget was presented a couple of weeks ago and everything turned out well

Police Chief Larry Elarton

A: Building- There is going to be an architect coming in this week to look at the foundation of the building. I am unsure as to when construction will start. If we do not start construction until next year then we will be shutting down the Annex so we are not having to heat both buildings.

B: Personnel- Sharri Salyers has moved to city finance. We are job sharing her for the time being she is coming over helping out with the cabs. There has been two people that have put in for the admin assistant position. They are both from the police department in dispatch, neither one has any experience. With Sharri and Lori Strickler being next door they both can assist in training issues.

Dispatch is losing Amy Licht she is moving to Colorado.

CSO Cory Brian left and we have moved Dextor Sherman up into that position.

CSP We hired Timothy Michaels to cover Dextor Sherman's position.

C: Equipment- We are still working on the command trailer. The new patrol car should be in Anchorage this month.

D: Dispatch- Policy is done it is still being reviewed by the dispatch supervisor and the Lieutenant and myself will review it and hope it will be done by next week.

E: Case- Three officers and I will be going Anchorage next week to testify in Federal Court in reference to the stolen vehicle case.

G: Questions- Mark Springer asked how is the property disposal for the City going? Chief Elarton stated he hasn't had a chance to get it implemented yet

Paul Gregory asked if the Tribal Courts were operating here in Bethel. Chief Elarton stated that he hasn't worked with the Tribal Courts since he has been here.

VI. **TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT-** Sharri Salyers

A: Vehicle Inspections- 11

B: Vehicle Transfers- 2

C: Chauffeur Permits-4

D: Bus Chauffeur Permits-1

VII. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT- Councilman Robb-

A: Yukon Lodge- Discussions of the Yukon Lodge and the Public Nuisance. This is being handled through planning and the City Manager.

B: Brown Jug-April 28th a representative from the Brown Jug in Anchorage came to council and proposed to hire an agent to take orders here in Bethel. The next month there was a resolution opposing a liquor license that passed. Resolution 11-13

C: Entertainment Ordinance- Passed on April 12th

D: Rate and Fee's Schedule Ordinance - Passed

E: Ordinance 11-09- Has been proposed to Council. Council taking action on behalf of commissions when a commission cannot take action due to lack of quorum. This action will only be taken if a quorum has not been established for more than sixty days.

F: Questions- Mark Springer asked If ordinance's are being introduced to the Council that might be of some interest the commissions or committees that the Council send it to those bodies for review before any action is taken? Councilman Robb answered by saying that someone would need to propose that it be reviewed by the commission or the committee. But it isn't an automatic commitment to send it to the commission or committee.

Chief Elarton wanted to Thank Councilman Robb for passing the Rates and Fees Ordinance The police department didn't have a lot of new changes in the fees. We did change the adoption fees for the animals in the pound so it didn't cost more to adopt then it was to euthanize an animal. We also changed some of the fees for record releases.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS-

A: Strategies at combating bootlegging- Requested by Councilman Robb, he didn't have anything new to add other then he wanted to check on the tip line.

Chief Elarton said that the tip line is still running, there are a few calls that we receive but I feel that it will pay dividends. Mark Springer asked if the Chief felt that there was more bootlegging going on? Chief Elarton stated that he didn't see any more going on then what we have had. Chief Elarton did state that he had met with the new detachment commander and let him know that we are interested in working with them with Want.

B: Proposed Animal Control Ordinance- Request by Mark Springer he read the proposed ordinance aloud to the commission. Discussion between members as to if there should be any changes to the proposed ordinance no changes needed.

MOTION TO SEND ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE TO CITY COUCIL

MOVED BY:	Robb	
SECONDED BY:	Chung	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

IX. NEW BUSINESS-

A: Discussion on review of ordinance 9.28 Places of Public Entertainment-

Requested by-Chairman Mark Springer, He wanted to advise the commission that he attended to the City Council meeting representing the commission concerns as asked by the commission in the April meeting. The ordinance was repealed by City Council.

Chief Young stated that he had been in attendance at the City Council meeting when Mark Springer addressed the concerns of the commission for this ordinance being repealed and he felt that Mark represented the concerns spot on as to what the commission had requested. The intent of the original language to the ordinance parallels to that of Anchorage, Fairbanks, Arizona and Juneau do. It was to give us a hand hold over some of the places that we were having a hard time getting a handle on. When this comes back to Council hopefully all the

question areas will be answered and the Council will pass the new ordinance. The fire department and police department doesn't have an issue ordering meals at two or three o'clock in the morning the issues we have is having entertainment places open where there is a possibility for a high crime rate.
Chief Elarton stated that the Spot is the area of his greatest concern with this ordinance being repealed, because even though there is a curfew for the kids. Curfew laws state that if there is an organized event as long as the kids have their parents' permission they can be there. If you go to the Spot at eleven o'clock at night you see young kids running around like it is a playground out front and on the street in front of the address as well.
Richard Robb stated that he understands that the curfew ordinance is hard to enforce.

B: Proposed Budget for Public Safety- Requested by Councilman Robb, He was hoping to have this brought up in May before it went to Council so if there was any questions or any revisions wanting to be made. There were no cuts for both the fire department and the police department. IT may be moved out to its own budget is the only proposed change to be made.

C: Review and Possible Modification of Ordinance 9.36 Public Nuisance Abatemenmt- Requested by Councilman Robb, He stated that this ordinance is long and confusing. As in 9.36.040(B) it states that there has to be five or more separate violations which serve as the basis for the issuance of the notice or order but under 9.36.020(G) states two or more separate violations in ninety day period. So there are inconsistencies in this ordinance.
Mark Springer suggested that the City Attorney should look this over because of the inconsistencies and how complex this ordinance is.
Richard Robb was hoping to bring this to the commission to have some discussion and direction from the commission before having to send it to the City Attorney for review.
I was also thinking of adding title 4 from Alaska Statute for bootlegging as a public nuisance.
I am thinking of adding to 9.36.090(F) Being able to revoke a Business license.
Request to continue discussion, Review and Possible Modification of Ordinance 9.36 to next month's meeting.

D: Public Announcement for PFD's- Requested by Paul Gregory.
Mark Springer stated that there had been a lot of announcements on the radio to have people wear their PFD's while on the river.

E: Discussion on Rules and Regulations of ATV's- Requested by Paul Gregory to many kids are running around on ATV's without wearing helmets. He would like to see more enforcement on the helmet laws and more enforcement of keeping the ATV's off of the highways.

F: Drug Use in the Bethel area- Requested by Paul Gregory.
Question to the Chief of Police what types of drugs are you seeing more of in Bethel.
Marijuana, Oxycotton other prescription drugs, Heroin, Cocaine and Alcohol.
Councilman Robb asked if there have been any new arrests with drug cases. We haven't had any new big cases of drugs at this time.

G: Scheduling Public Safety Meeting for the Summer-

MOTION SCHEDULING PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING FOR AUGUST 2, 2011

MOVED BY:	Robb	
SECONDED BY:	Chung	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

X. COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMENTS

Charlie Chung- No Comment

Carol (Annette) Sutton- I really would like to start working on the 9.36 ordinance.

Rick Robb- It's good that we had the meeting; we were able to get a lot done tonight and took some action on some of the agenda items.

Mark Springer- It is good to see that they were able to get the slough out of the small boat harbor cleaned up. Thank you Sharri we appreciate your hard work that you do for us here on behalf of the commission. Wear your float coat and if you see that the stand at the harbor is low on PFD's go to YKHC and let them know so we can get more out there. I made this suggestion many years ago Bethel needs a Harbor master, covering the small boat harbor and other areas of the river. I would like to have the City look into that.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOVED BY:	Gregory	
SECONDED BY:	Chung	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Next meeting on Tuesday – August 2, 2011

_____, Chairperson

ATTEST:

_____, Recorder