
City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

December 2, 2002

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety & Transportation Commission was held on December 2, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

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

ROLL CALL

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

John Hastie	John Dickens
Tae Hwa Chung	Jerry Drake
Don Poe	

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Howard H. Morris, Chief of Police and Taxi Inspector
George Young, Fire Chief
Andrew Steele, Taxi Technician
Nicole Williams, Recorder

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Frank Mazzaro addressed trip sheets and inquired if trip sheets are being done accordingly by other taxi drivers.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the regular agenda.
SECONDED BY:	Dickens	

Under New Business added – Taxi rates and zoning

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting on November 12, 2002
SECONDED BY:	Dickens	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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CHIEFS' COMMENTS

Fire Chief, George Young, briefly discussed the lack of volunteers and the process by which one becomes a volunteer for the Fire Department. They are currently advertising to fill two paid positions which are open.

Discussion ensued regarding explorer programs for high school students to get young people involved and educated in Public Safety, Fire and Police work.

In addition to regular classes for volunteers, the Fire Department is offering free State Certification EMT I and Firefighter I classes.

Chief Morris mentioned incentives such as housing supplement and increase in pay to better draw in qualified applicants and new hires. He briefly noted that the trip sheets to be done by all taxi drivers are an absolute necessity.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTORS REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

Taxi Technician, Andrew Steele, reported the following:

- A/C manager, David Hicks, is not prepared to allow the free for all that had been the norm with cabs in the parking lot to continue.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Flashing Caution Light at Kilbuck School

Chief Morris stated that the light is in the process of being wired to a timer and should be operating properly soon.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Taxi Rates and Zoning

John Hastie touched base on this issue referring to some phone calls he has received over the last couple of months regarding zoning and how rates are calculated and exactly what is considered the center of town now.

Discussion ensued and Chief Morris said that he would furnish a condensed map to the Commission to help clarify this situation.

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To allow Mr. Mazzaro to be heard once again under People to be Heard.
SECONDED BY:	Hastie	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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Mr. Mazzaro commented on rates and zones of taxi cabs and responsibilities of the drivers.

COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

John Dickens and Jerry Drake would like to send a recommendation to council stating that the Public Safety & Transportation Commission supports the CSO concept and all of the endeavors that Chief Morris is making to bring it about.

John Dickens spoke on behalf of Tom Fazzini regarding a helmet law for adolescents. He also would like to convey to the city drivers the safety and precautions that need to be taken especially by the drivers of the big trucks and the potential of injury to children when these are operating.

Mr. Dickens briefly mentioned a road to Napakiak and the benefits it would bring to the community.

Chief Morris stated that the snowmobiles for the Police Department have arrived and should be operating within 30 days. The Police Department is also looking at a Reserve Program and neighborhood watches.

John Hastie mentioned the honking of horns by cabs around YKHC disturbing the doctors and nurses trying to sleep while working long shifts. He also mentioned the dark corners in town due to street lights not working.

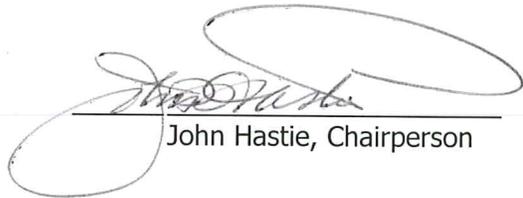
ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Drake	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Poe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m., December 2, 2002

Approved this 13th day of January, 200~~2~~³


John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Nicole Williams, Recorder