



CITY OF BETHEL

P.O. Box 388 • Bethel, Alaska 99559

543-2297—Area Code 907

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 22, 1993

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Abrant called the December 22, 1993, regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee to order at 12:21 p.m.

ROLL CALL Present: Abrant, Tubbs, Gregory
Absent: Susan Rapoza (excused), Twitchell

APPROVAL/MINUTES M/M by Tubbs, 2nd by Gregory to approve the minutes of the November 3, 1993, meeting as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL/AGENDA M/M by Tubbs, 2nd by Gregory to amend the agenda to include New Business Item C: Snow machine crossings. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS
-Mr. Abrant welcomed Paul Gregory to his new position on the committee.
-Mr. Gregory noted that he had served on this committee years ago with Tom Dillon, and he is glad to be back to assist in public safety matters.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD (postponed to end of meeting because Mr. Stanley Hoffman had not yet arrived, and it was known that he wished to be heard.)

OLD BUSINESS
Item A: School Crossing Guards
-Mr. Tubbs reported that he had attended the ASB meeting. The ASB is forming a sub-committee which will include one member of the Public Safety Committee.
-General discussion followed about the continuing safety hazards for school children. Progress reports on the existence of crossing guards, and on the status of the

ASB sub-committee were called for, and the item was referred to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Item A: FY95
Budget

-Due to Chief Liu's absence, the police budget report was referred to the next meeting.

-Chief Young stated that he could bring a printout of the budget to the next meeting. Young announced that he does not anticipate major changes in next year's budget. He expects the City's upcoming financial concerns to outweigh the need for any major purchases for the fire department.

-Chairman Abrant encouraged all committee members to seriously consider the budget issues. He reviewed some of the pros and cons of the size of the police department.

-All committee members agreed that this item should be referred to the next meeting.

Item B: Police
Department Rank
Structure

-Chairman Abrant stated that this item was proposed by Twitchell, in response to Officer Nick Evan resigning from the police department. Abrant described the old rank system that included corporals, and strict qualifications for each rank.

-Lt. Meece described the point system that was used to assess the training background of the applicants for the sergeant position.

-Mr. Tubbs requested the qualifications for each position, and the item was referred to the next meeting.

Item C: Snow
Machine Crossings

-Mr. Gregory voiced concern over the traffic accidents occurring at snow machine crossings.

-General discussion followed, during which it was explained that snow machines do not have the right of way, but caution signs might be erected to alert drivers on the road.

-Chairman Abrant requested that the police department recommend 10-12 sites for caution signs, based on high risk locations and/or high traffic volume. "Snow Machine Crossing Signs" was proposed as an agenda item for the next meeting.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

-Mr. Stanley Hoffman stated that he wanted to

sell fireworks, and that he understood that the committee could give him an answer. -Chief Young described the process of business licenses, permits, proof of insurance, and review by the State Fire Marshall. He explained that, per ordinance, a decision could be reached by the City Manager, Fire Chief, and Police Chief, as to whether the sale would be permitted within City limits before Mr. Hoffman began the paperwork.

motion

M/M by Tubbs, 2nd by Gregory to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE WILL OCCUR ON JANUARY 5, 1994, 12:00 P.M., AT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.



Connie Johnson
Police Department Admin. Asst.