
City of Bethel, Alaska

City Council Minutes

March 11, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on March 11, 2003, at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

Mayor Short called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Andrei Jacobs	Hugh Short, Jr.
David Trantham	Jerry Drake
Joy Shantz	Carl Berger

Excused absence(s): Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers

Unexcused absence(s): none

Also in attendance were the following:

Bob Herron, City Manager
Janette Persinger, City Clerk

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

A. Raymond Pete: Safety and River Patrol Program

- Stated that he felt that it was time to begin a Safety & River Patrol program
- Read a resolution written by ONC
- Stated that the cost for the Safety & River Patrol program would be \$600,000

B. Howard Morris: Quality of Care at Yukon-Kuskokwim Regional Hospital

- Reported that he received a high quality of care during his recent stay at the hospital

C. Joan Hamilton: Liquor Store Ballot

- Stated her objection to the proposed liquor store
- Stated that additional funding sources for the City could be property and sales taxes rather than the proposed liquor store

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Shantz	To approve the amended minutes of the 2-25-03 regular meeting
SECONDED BY:	Berger	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by 5 – 1 roll call vote (Trantham).
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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the agenda as amended
SECONDED BY:	Shantz	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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MAYOR'S REPORT

Items included in the Mayor's report:

- Letter from Representative Mary Kapsner
- Letter from Jacqueline Cleveland re: donation for Camai festival travel and production
- Article from Anchorage Daily News re: Governor Murkowski's proposed budget plan
- Election district Detail – proposed Governor's 2004 Capital Budget for Bethel region
- Press release from Senator Hoffman
- Read a resolution regarding Donlin Creek Road

MOVED BY:	Berger	To donate \$500 to Jacqueline Cleveland for a Camai Festival documentary
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion was withdrawn.
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MOVED BY:	Jacobs	To adopt resolution #03-10: Supporting regional road improvement projects specifically the Donlin Creek Access Road
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

M/M by Jacobs to add the language and participate in the discussion of after analyze.
2nd by Drake.

Motion passes with 5 – 1 voice vote (Trantham).

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by 5 – 1 voice vote (Trantham).
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MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT

City Manager Herron's report included the following:

- Grant status and activity report from the Deputy City Manager
- Yuut Elitnaurviat status letter to Governor Murkowski
- Personnel matters
- Travel status
- Municipal Revenue Sharing questionnaire from the Alaska Municipal League

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Senior Advisory Board

Council Member Berger reported that the Senior Advisory Board is continuing to recruit members and reported on the status of the Senior Center.

Parks and Recreation Committee

Council Member Jacobs reported that the Parks and Recreation Committee had not met.

Planning Commission

Council Member Shantz stated that the Planning Commission will meet on March 13, 2003.

Port Commission

Council Member Rodgers was not present.

Public Works Committee

Council Member Trantham announced that the Public Works Committee will meet on March 18, 2003 at 12:00 p.m. and highlighted the items on the agenda.

Public Safety and Transportation Commission

Council Member Drake stated that the Public Safety and Transportation Commission had not met.

Finance Committee

Mayor Short stated that the Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 6, 2003 but due to a lack of quorum, the meeting was not held.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item A – Public Hearing – Ordinance #02-19 (A) – FY 03 Mid-year budget modifications

Mayor Short opened public hearing.

- A. Oly Olson voiced his opposition to the attorney fee line item of the ordinance and raised questions regarding purchases of gravel and completion of roads

Mayor Short closed public hearing.

MOVED BY:	Drake	To adopt ordinance #02-19 (A)
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

Discussion moved to the council.

Council Member Berger asked that the matters raised by Mr. Olson be addressed.

City Manager Herron explained the purchase of the gravel, the roads completed, and the line item of legal settlements.

M/M Jacobs. To reduce the mid-year budget modification by \$20,000.
2nd by Shantz.
Motion carried by roll call vote of 5 – 1 (Drake).

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by 5 – 1 roll call vote (Trantham).
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Item B – Public Hearing – Ordinance #03-03: Placing the question of whether to approve a city owned liquor store on the October 7, 2003 ballot

Mayor Short opened public hearing.

- A. Sherry Neth voiced her opposition of the ordinance
- B. Agnes Phillips voiced her opposition of the ordinance
- C. Peter Jacobs voiced his opposition of the ordinance
- D. Oscar Nick voiced his opposition of the ordinance
- E. John Lewis voiced his opposition of the ordinance

- F. Buster Richardson voiced his opposition of the ordinance and raised the question of whether Council Members have the right to propose that a liquor store be placed on the ballot
- G. John Dickens voiced his support of the ordinance
- H. Darlene Mojin voiced her opposition of the ordinance
- I. Mardy Hansen voiced her opposition of the ordinance

Mayor Short closed public hearing.

MOVED BY:	Jacobs	To adopt ordinance #03-03
SECONDED BY:	Drake	
Discussion moved to the council.		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion failed by a (0 – 5) roll call vote.	

Item C – Public Hearing – Substitute Ordinance #02-30: Repealing Bethel Municipal Code section 5.20.080(D)(9) requirement that only regulated vehicles operate with headlights at all times and adding a new Bethel Municipal Code chapter entitled Public Transportation Requiring Regulated Vehicles and Certain Other Vehicles that Provide Public Transportation to Operate with Headlights At All Times

Mayor Short opened public hearing.

- A. John Dickens voiced his support of the ordinance
- B. Rex Lauber voiced his support of the ordinance
- C. Howard Morris, Chief of Police explained the origin of the ordinance and voiced his support of the ordinance

Mayor Short closed public hearing.

MOVED BY:	Drake	To adopt substitute ordinance #02-30
SECONDED BY:	Shantz	
Discussion moved to the council.		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.	

NEW BUSINESS

Item A – Discussion item – Date change for the April 22, 2003 City Council Meeting

Council consensus was to move the April 22, 2003 meeting to April 29, 2003.

Item B – Intent to award bid to Osborne Construction for Bethel Water and Sewer Improvements – Phase B

- A. Rex Lauber highlighted a newspaper article written by Jerry Graff in the Indianapolis Star regarding the proposed pump system in the Osborne Construction bid. The article negatively reflected the pumps.

MOVED BY:	Drake	To accept the bid and award the contract to Osborne Construction for Bethel Water and Sewer Improvements – Phase B
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	
Council directed the City Manager to speak with Osborne Construction regarding the proposed pumps.		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by 5 -1 roll call vote (Shantz).	

Item C – Resolution #03-09: Opposing cuts to Municipal Revenue Sharing and Municipal Assistance (Safe Communities) Programs

Resolution #03-09 was passed under the consent agenda.

Item D – Discussion item – Expansion of the State Correctional Facility

Council consensus was to add this item to the March 25, 2003 agenda.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Berger voiced his appreciation of the discussion of ordinance #03-03 and further stated his concerns over the City of Bethel budget situation.

Council Member Shantz had no comment.

Mayor Short stated his participation in the Mardi Gras parade.

Council Member Jacobs thanked the Mayor for placing ordinance #03-03 on the agenda and stated his intentions to travel to Juneau for lobbying.

Council Member Drake had no comment.

Council Member Trantham commented on a 1991 financial spread sheet.

Council Member Rodgers was not present.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Jacobs	To adjourn the meeting
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

APPROVED THIS 25th day of March 2003.

Hugh Short, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Janette Persinger, City Clerk