

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bainton called the meeting to order at 7.30.

ROLL CALL

Present: Bainton, Carpenter, Chris, Reich, Warner
Absent: Aloysius, Andrew

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/M by Chris, 2nd by Carpenter to approve the minutes of the 6/10/86 Council meeting as presented. Voice vote, motion carried.

motion

M/M by Warner, 2nd by Carpenter to approve the minutes of the 6/17/86 Council meeting as presented. Voice vote, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/M by Warner, 2nd by Chris to approve the agenda as presented. Voice vote, motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT

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Mayor Bainton requested that parents keep their children off the seawall.

MANAGER'S REPORT

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City Manager Widom reported on the following items:

- a. preparation for the 4th of July celebration. Councilmember Chris noted for Council that non-profit organizations have indicated that booth lease space is priced too high. City Manager Widom noted the lease rate for space is the only fee charged by the City for participation by organizations; that the City is not requiring 10% of the receipts to go to the City.
- b. the balance of the Bethel Centennial Book contract is due; that sales will have to be suspended if the remainder of the books are not delivered soon.
- c. the City is transferring its legal work to the firm of Hicks and Boyd
- d. the status of social security and municipal participation is being reviewed
- e. the sandbag operation along the riverfront is underway
- f. introduced Jo Ann Bernier who is conducting the PATC review study
- g. sales tax audit letters have been sent to the firms and individuals recently audited

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENT

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Councilmember Warner asked why the cost of the water/sewer study was so high. City Manager Widom noted that the proposal selected was the least expensive proposal received.

Councilmember Reich suggested that Council and Administration develop an action policy regarding bootlegging. City Manager Widom suggested that the City conduct a community attitudinal study regarding bootlegging and bootleggers.

City Manager Widom recommended that the City not pay the \$1000 reward offered for the arrest and conviction of bootleggers suggesting that the reward was not achieving the desire goal of increasing convictions for bootlegging. Diane Carpenter of the Alcohol Drug Task Force recommended keeping the reward. Mayor Bainton suggested that the money could be better spent and concurred with the City Manager's recommendation to conduct a study regarding bootlegging and bootleggers at Bethel. The matter will be reviewed at the July 8 meeting.

Councilmember Warner asked if the City had an investment policy for unexpended funds. City Manager Widom noted that a policy is being developed.

Councilmember Warner asked if the City refunds utility deposits with interest. City Manager Widom indicated that he would report back to Council on the matter.

REPORTS OF STANDING
COMMITTEES

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Port Commission - Councilmember Chris reported to Council that the Commission is reviewing options for the operation of the City dock beginning in 1987. City Manager Widom noted that an RFP should be ready to go out by July 7 on the management/operation of the dock.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

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There were no public comments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MUSEUM LAND LEASE

Item A: Museum
Land Lease

City Manager Widom reviewed for Council the proposed lease recommending that the lease be forwarded to the City Attorney for review.

Dan Branch, attorney for the Moravian Church, requested that the matter be resolved by June 30.

motion

M/M by Warner, 2nd by Chris to table the museum lease until the City Attorney reviews the document and to return as quickly as possible with an acceptable document. Voice vote, 4 yes, 1 no, motion carried. (Carpenter voting no)

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Item B: City
Attorney Contract

CITY ATTORNEY CONTRACT

City Manager Widom reviewed for Council the proposed City Attorney contract with the firm of Hicks and Boyd. Councilmember Chris asked why the rate for this firm was more than the rate for the previous City Attorney, which rate was thought to be too high. City Manager Widom noted that the firm of Hicks and Boyd was experienced in municipal law and that the long term cost for legal services by the City would be less overall.

Councilmember Warner expressed concern that other firms were not included in the interview process. City Manager Widom noted that he was directed by Council to bring to Council the names of interested firms and to not go with an RFP for a city attorney.

motion

M/M by Reich, 2nd by Carpenter to approve the agreement with the firm of Hicks and Boyd for legal services for the City of Bethel. Poll vote, motion carried.

Item C: Employee
Utility Benefit

EMPLOYEE UTILITY BENEFIT

City employees presented to Council written recommendations concerning the utility benefit.

City Manager Widom suggested that Council proceed with caution concerning changes to the utility benefit; that discontinuing the benefit could have a negative impact on employee morale.

Councilmembers Chris, Carpenter, Reich, and Mayor Bainton spoke in favor of retaining the benefit but with some changes to reflect expected utility rate increases and to reduce abuses of the benefit.

Councilmember Warner spoke in opposition to the benefit suggesting that Council should consider either discontinuing the benefit or increasing the amount paid by the employees for the benefit or use a salary cap to determine which employees would be eligible for the benefit.

motion

M/M by Chris, 2nd by Reich to retain the employee utility benefit and to reconsider the benefit at next year's budget hearings in the light of any employee pay increase. Poll vote, motion failed Bainton and Warner voting no.

motion

M/M by Warner to limit the utility benefit to \$50 per month with employees to pay all charges above that amount. Motion failed for lack of a second.

motion

M/M by Chris, 2nd by Carpenter to continue the utility benefit at the rate of \$125 per month and to reconsider the benefit, with employee input, at next year's budget review. Poll vote, motion failed, Bainton, Reich, Warner voting no.

motion

M/M by Carpenter, 2nd by Warner to table until the next Council meeting consideration of the employee utility benefit. Voice vote, motion carried.

Item D: Ordinance
172 FY '87 Budget

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 172 - FY 87 CITY BUDGET

City Manager Widom reviewed for Council the proposed budget for FY '87 noting for Council that the budget is premised on a 1¢ sales tax increase and a utility rate increase.

A discussion took place concerning the retention of the teen counselor position at the Teen Center. Councilmembers Chris and Carpenter spoke in support of including the position in the budget. Diane Carpenter of the Alcohol, Drug Task Force noted for Council that the Task Force had recommended retention of the teen counselor position.

Fire Chief Barker asked Council to consider additional staffing and equipment for the fire department noting that the City needs greater water capacity for fighting fires.

A discussion took place as to the amount budgeted for professional services.

Councilmember Warner noted that it was his understanding that the proposed budget would not be based upon passage by the voters of an increase in the sales tax. City Manager Widom noted that the consideration of the sales tax increase is only one of a number of methods used to balance the budget, including, limited overtime, not filling vacant positions, and a "leaner and meaner" attitude concerning the operation of City government. City Manager Widom noted that if the voters do not approve the sales tax increase that the City will be forced to make cuts later in the year.

Councilmember Carpenter asked for an explanation of miscellaneous expenses. Finance Director Donnell reviewed for Council the miscellaneous expense item listed in the budget and, at the request of Diane Carpenter, also reviewed for Council the proposed Public Works Department budget.

motion

M/M by Warner, 2nd by Chris to adopt Ordinance 172, a City budget for FY '87, as presented. Poll vote, motion carried.

Item E: Emergency
Ordinance 86-2

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 86-2 - WATERCRAFT REGULATIONS

Police Chief Clayton reviewed for Council the proposed emergency ordinance which would set for 60 days certain boat regulations for watercraft operating within the City limits, the regulations concerning on-board fire extinguishers, running lights, and life preservers.

Councilmember Warner asked if the City had jurisdiction. Administration noted that the City has concurrent jurisdiction on the river. Councilmember Warner suggested that the City pass, but not enforce this year, the fire extinguisher section citing the lateness of the year and the cost to comply as reasons for not enforcing that section. Police Chief Clayton spoke in opposition to the suggestion.

Fire Chief Barker spoke in support of the proposed emergency ordinance.

Councilmember Reich expressed his concern that the emergency ordinance would be an additional cost to boaters for items infrequently needed.

City Manager Widom suggested that fire extinguishers should be required only when carrying bulk fuel.

Councilmember Warner suggested deleting the impound sections of the ordinance (section 2 and 3).

motion

M/M by Warner, 2nd by Reich to adopt Emergency Ordinance 86-2, Watercraft Regulations, with the following changes:

1. deletion of sections 2 and 3
2. penalty set at a maximum fine of \$100.00

Voice vote, motion carried.

Councilmember Carpenter excused himself from the meeting.

Item F: Water/Sewer Master Plan
WATER/SEWER MASTER PLAN

City Manager Widom reviewed for Council the water/sewer master plan proposal recommending that Council award the contract for the review study to Quadra Engineering noting that Quadra is familiar with the Bethel system and was the low bidder for the study at \$90,000.

motion

M/M by Chris, 2nd by Reich to accept the proposal by Quadra Engineering to conduct a water/sewer study for the City of Bethel, cost of the study not to exceed \$90,000, the study to be completed no later than January 1, 1987. Poll vote, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

EXTENSION OF 5TH AVENUE

Item A: Extension
of 5th Avenue

Steve Gaber, Planning Director, reviewed for Council the request by Gary Tolson to extend 5th Avenue, noting that the Planning Commission had denied the request.

Councilmember Reich noted that he is a major landowner in the area and as such has a conflict of interest and would abstain from voting on the matter.

Mayor Bainton noted that with Councilmember Reich's abstaining from voting on the matter Council would not be able to take any action on the request because only three voting members of Council were present to vote. The matter was referred to a future Council meeting.

Item B: Land
Exchange

LAND EXCHANGE, TRACT A TURNKEY 3 FOR LOT 1C BOARDWALK SUBDIVISION

Planning Director Steve Gaber reviewed for Council the proposed exchange of land between the City and the owner of Lot 1C, an exchange of approximately like size parcels which would define property lines and grant the City clear access to the boardwalk running between Pinky's Park and ASHA Housing.

motion

M/M by Warner, 2nd by Chris to approve the land exchange. Voice vote, motion carried.

Item C: Delair

DELAIR REQUEST TO OPERATE A FLOATPLANE SERVICE ACROSS THE SEAWALL

Councilmember Chris presented to Council a resolution from the Port Commission recommending against the proposed operation.

Councilmember Warner spoke in support of the request by Delair.

City Manager Widom spoke in opposition to the request citing potential City liability and the hazardous nature of the operation if located in the requested area.

motion

M/M by Reich, 2nd by Chris to adopt Port Commission Resolution 86-2 denying the request by Delair to operate a floatplace service across the seawall. Voice vote, motion carried. (Resolution attached)

Item D: Barge
Operation Regulation

BARGE OPERATION REGULATIONS

Harbormaster Connick reviewed for Council the proposed regulations which designate a turning area for barges at Bethel and set requirements for the use of an assist tug by barges operating at Bethel.

motion

M/M by Reich, 2nd by Chris to adopt Port Commission Resolution 86-1 establishing regulations for the operation of barges at Bethel. Voice vote, motion carried. (Resolution attached)

Item E: Dock
Placement Brown
Slough

REQUEST TO PLACE DOCK IN BROWN SLOUGH

Councilmember Chris reviewed for Council the request by Ben Dale to place a dock in Brown Slough for use as a marine fueling station.

Harbormaster Connick noted that the fuel tank to be used is less than the 10,000 gallon size that would place the tank under Coast Guard regulations; that the fueling facility cannot be over a wooden dock; that a catch basin will be required to catch fuel spilled in the operation.

Planning Director Gaber informed Council that the Planning Department had approved the land portion of the operation.

motion

M/M by Reich, 2nd by Chris to approve the request by Ben Dale for placement of a floating dock in Brown Slough to be used as a marine fueling station. Voice vote, motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

M/M by Reich to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 12.28 pm.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 8th DAY OF JULY, 1986.

ATTEST:


Marge Bainton, Mayor


Wayne J. Maiers, City Clerk
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