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# City of Bethel, Alaska

## Council Minutes

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October 27, 1998

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

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### CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on October 27, 1998, at 6:30 p.m. in the Log Cabin, Bethel, Alaska. Mayor Agnes Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

There were present:

Mayor Agnes Phillips	Mike O'Brien
Antone Anvil	Karol Pobrislo
Carl Berger	Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers

comprising a quorum of the Council.

Absent:

Dario Notti (excused)

Also in attendance were:

Bob Herron, City Manager  
Gaye Vaughan, City Clerk

### PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

*Carrie Sessarego*, Tundra Women's Coalition, stated that TWC is celebrating twenty years in Bethel. There will be a candle light ceremony to remember victims of physical abuse and those who have died. TWC will be holding a free lunch on November 18 to celebrate service providers in the community. She thanked the Council for their support. She also talked about domestic violence in the workplace and that it is a cause of absenteeism, sick leave, etc. She said everyone should make their workplace as comfortable and safe as possible.

*Dominic Malaj*, stated his taxi permit had been revoked. He was now driving for another company which greatly reduced his share of the fees while he has to pay vehicle insurance, etc. He asked to have his permit reinstated.

Mayor Phillips referred the matter to City Manager Herron.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Pobrislo	To approve the minutes of the regular council meeting of
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Rodgers	October 13, 1998.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion to approve the minutes carried by unanimous consent.
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### APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	O'Brien	To approve the consent agenda.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Pobrislo	

The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

***Resolution No. 98-29: Accepting a State Grant in the Amount of \$7,280 for Coastal Management Planning And Implementation (City Manager)***

***Ordinance #98-24: Authorizing the Disposal of an Interest in Land by the Granting of a Utility Easement to Bethel Utilities Corporation (City Manager/Planning Commission) (Public Hearing set for 11/17/98)***

***Ordinance #98-25: Authorizing the Disposal of Lot 15, US Survey 4117 to the State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources for a New Alaska National Guard Readiness Center and Memorial Park (City Manager/Planning Commission) (Public Hearing set for 11/17/98)***

***Ordinance #98-26: Amending BMC 13.08.160 (B), Requiring All Sewage Holding Tanks To Be Equipped With A Camlock And Changing Effective Dates (City Manager) (Public Hearing set for 11/17/98)***

***Ordinance #98-27: Repealing BMC Chapter 4.16 And Enacting A New Chapter, 4.16, Sales Tax (City Manager) (Public Hearing set for 11/17/98)***

***Ordinance #98-28: Amending BMC Chapter 3.029, Classification Plan, Seasonal Port Attendant (City Manager) (Public Hearing set for 11/17/98)***

***Ordinance #98-29: Amending BMC Chapter 5.04 Business Licenses (City Manager) (Public Hearing set for 11/17/98)***

***Approval of Request for Leave (City Clerk)***

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion to approve consent agenda carried by unanimous consent.	
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<b>MOVED BY:</b>	O'Brien	To approve the agenda as presented.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Rodgers	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion to approve agenda carried by unanimous consent.	
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**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Phillips announced the following:

- She was video taped in an interview with Red Boucher which had been shown on ARCS the previous week.
- She had joined TWC in their walk.
- The Mayor had attended the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ERA being in Bethel.
- She was a participant in the early childhood development steering committee.

Mayor Phillips asked for concurrence of the appointment of Carl Berger to the Transportation Commission for a term ending 2001.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	O'Brien	To concur with appointment of Carl Berger to the Transportation Commission.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Tundy	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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### **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Herron noted that department head reports were included in the council packets.

He announced that the Lions Club had approved a matching grant for a new ambulance. It will take eight to nine months to receive the ambulance.

Mr. Herron noted that three council members attended the presentations by the banks for the funding of the Braund Building. The approval for the funding is on the agenda.

Regarding the Port, the city engineers have presented the second draft of improvements to the bull rail and fendering system. The Port Director has made additional suggestions and these will be incorporated into the design. With no objection from Council, the administration will direct the engineers to finalize designs and to assist the City to begin the bid process for cement work for April/May 199 on the bull rail and a fendering system to arrive before or at first barge.

The City Manager stated the Finance Committee had met to revise the sales tax and business license draft ordinances which were received from the attorney. The revised versions will be set for hearing tonight and the Finance Committee will review again prior to the public hearing.

City Manager Herron announced that the old fire hall is being demolished by BNCI. The asbestos is being removed and bagged. He added that the eyesore will be gone by the next Council meeting.

Mr. Herron noted he had given "conditional" approval in the acceptance of the road system within Kasayuli Subdivision. The city will provide snow grading, water/sewer and police/fire services. At the time of inspection, there was snow cover over the recently laid gravel and it did not provide the best opportunity to give both the city and the developer a good look. The whole subdivision and, particularly, Nick Polty Blvd., will be inspected at a later date for "full" acceptance.

He stated that the city's lobbyist, Paul Richards, was due to be at the meeting but his flight was delayed. He will come to the meeting as soon as he arrives and will be in Bethel tomorrow to meet with people.

In response to Council Member O'Brien's questions, the City Manager replied that NBA is recommended for approval by the Council for funding the Braund Building project.

Mayor Phillips reminded council members that Congressman Don Young would be in town the following day and there would be a luncheon at the hospital.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### *Public Works Committee*

Council Member O'Brien stated there had been no meeting since the last Council meeting. There will be a meeting in November to review the department's projects.

### *Port Commission*

Council Member Rodgers stated the Commission met on October 20. He noted they discussed barges. The floats are out of the small boat harbor and it is now frozen. Work has to be done to keep the seawall from sliding into the river. Their next meeting is scheduled for November 15.

### *Senior Citizens' Advisory Board*

#### *Public Safety Commission*

Council Member Anvil has not attended the recent meetings of either board. He noted the next Public Safety meeting will be November 2 and the next Senior Citizens' meeting will be November 4.

### *Finance Committee*

Mayor Phillips stated the Committee held a special meeting to review the sales tax ordinance. She noted that the revised ordinance was in the council's red folders.

### *Planning Commission*

Council Member Notti was not present to give a report.

### *Transportation Commission*

Council Member Berger stated the Commission heard appeals from four cab drivers at their September meeting. These drivers lost their chauffeurs' licenses when they were charged with bootlegging. They had an attorney present at the meeting, but no action was taken. The letter they received revoking their licenses will stand.

### *Parks & Recreation Committee*

Council Member Sanchez-Pobrislo stated the Committee held a short work session on October 17. Their next meeting is scheduled for October 29.

Council Member Pobrislo asked about the vandals of the Kilbuck School break in and told of a rumor she had heard. City Manager Herron stated he would look into it and report back.

Council member Rodgers stated Major Dennis was present in regard to Ordinance #98-25. He would answer any questions of the Council.

Major Dennis stated the new armory would be used by the community in a similar manner as the current armory.

## OLD BUSINESS

### ***Ordinance #98-23: Amending : Amending Chapter 3.029, Classification Plan (City Manager)***

Mayor Phillips opened the public hearing. With no one coming forth to speak, public hearing was closed.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Rodgers	To enact Ordinance #98-23.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	O'Brien	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried unanimously.
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ANVIL Yes	BERGER Yes	NOTTI Absent	O'BRIEN Yes
PHILLIPS Yes	RODGERS Yes	SANCHEZ-POBRISLO Yes	6 YES 0 NO

**NEW BUSINESS**

***Reorganization of Council***

Mayor Phillips presented outgoing council member Carl Berger with a certificate of appreciation for his time spent on the council. Mr. Berger was appointed to a vacant seat in May.

City Clerk Vaughan administered the Oath of Office to newly election council member Joerene Hout, who then took her seat on Council.

The Mayor then called for nominations for mayor.

Council Member Rodgers nominated Ms. Phillips.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	O'Brien	To close nominations for mayor.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Rodgers	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Mayor Phillips thanked the Council for their support. She stated that her motivation for being mayor was in setting an example and role model for young Yup'ik children. She noted the variety of people and viewpoints in Bethel. She then opened the floor to nominations for vice mayor.

Council Member Rodgers nominated Mr. O'Brien for vice mayor.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Anvil	To close nominations for vice mayor.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Pobrislo	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Mayor Phillips asked the council members about their appointments to commissions and committees.

Council Member O'Brien requested to be appointed to the Public Safety Commission.

Council Member Anvil stated he had no problem in not being on the Public Safety Commission, but would like to retain his seat on the Senior Citizens Board.

Council Members Pobrislo, Rodgers and Phillips stated they preferred to stay on their assigned commissions. Council Member Hout stated she would accept a seat on the Transportation Commission.

Council Member O'Brien stated he would continue to attend Public Works Committee until council member Notti was present and could indicate his preference.

***Amending November and December 1998 Meeting Schedule (Mayor)***

Mayor Phillips stated that looking at her calendar after the last meeting when a meeting in both November and December had been cancelled, she thought a meeting date in the middle of those months would serve better.

Without objection, the November meeting date was set for November 17 and the December meeting date for December 15.

***Braund Building Renovation Financing (Finance Director)***

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	O'Brien	To authorize the renovation of the Braund Bldg., the approval of the financing with NBA and for the attorney to begin the bond process.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Rodgers	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council Member Hout stated she was sorry to miss the previous meeting. She had attended a March of Dimes conference in Pittsburgh, PA. On her return, she spent some time in Anchorage to work on her property. She indicated she was glad to be a part of the Council.

Council Member Pobrislo welcomed Ms. Hout to the Council. She expressed appreciation to the "hippie" lawyers for opening a soup kitchen at the Lions Clubhouse.

Mayor Phillips thanked Carl Berger for his time spent on the Council. She also welcomed Ms. Hout to the Council noting that Ms. Hout was a 35-year resident of Bethel. She thanked the council members for electing her mayor again and thanked TWC for their work in the community.

Council Member Anvil also welcomed Ms. Hout to the council.

Council Member Rodgers also congratulated Ms. Hout on her election to council.

Council Member O'Brien thanked Carl Berger for his work on the council and for volunteering when a vacancy occurred. He gave his congratulations to Mayor Agnes. He noted that the river is beginning to freeze and there were caribou on Lonely Hill.

**ADJOURNMENT**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	O'Brien	To adjourn the meeting
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Pobrislo	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous consent.
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With no further business to come before the City Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

**PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 17<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1998.**

ATTEST:

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Agnes L. Phillips, Mayor

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Gaye J. Vaughan, City Clerk