

Introduced by: Dan Leinberger, Council Member
Date: February 28, 2006
Action: Passed
Vote: 6-1

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

Resolution # 06-06

A SECOND RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE ALASKA ENERGY AUTHORITY FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A SMALL COMMERCIAL WIND TURBINE

WHEREAS, analysis of one year's worth of wind data collected from a meteorological tower stationed in Bethel since December 2004, revealed average wind speeds of 14.5 miles per hour at a height of 30 meters, giving Bethel a Wind Power Class 4 rating, and demonstrating that it has a commercially viable wind resource;

WHEREAS, the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) expressed interest in having Bethel serve as a wind energy hub that could help share its wind energy project experience, host training sessions, deliver technical expertise, and distribute parts and supplies to villages in the Kuskokwim River area actively engaged in wind power development;

WHEREAS, the Alaska Energy Authority issued Request for Proposals #AEA-06-018 on February 13, 2006 to solicit proposals for construction of wind energy projects that can be funded from the \$1.47 million available;

WHEREAS, the Bethel City Council passed Resolution #05-31 on August 9, 2005 supporting wind power development in Bethel as a way to reduce/eliminate the cost of electricity to the City, other profit- and not-for-profit entities, and/or the community as a whole;

WHEREAS, the Bethel City Council unanimously passed Resolution #05-42 on December 13, 2005, supporting the preparation and submission of a grant application to the Alaska Energy Authority for the purchase and installation of a small commercial wind turbine;

WHEREAS, the Alternative Energy Committee, a volunteer administrative committee for the City of Bethel, is pursuing its short-term goal of installing and operating a small commercial wind turbine as a demonstration project and its long-term goal of owning and operating a commercial wind farm that would have the potential to lower the cost of electricity for Bethel residents;

WHEREAS, the City expects to request a grant from AEA to fund total project costs of \$200,000 to \$250,000;

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WHEREAS, the grant requirement of a 25% local match will be met by maximizing in-kind contributions and a cash match from the City's general fund not to exceed \$62,000;

WHEREAS, this second resolution supporting the preparation and submission of a grant application to the Alaska Energy Authority for the purchase and installation of a small commercial wind turbine specifically: (1) authorizes the AEA application for project funding; (2) authorizes Don W. Baird, City Manager, to represent the applicant for purposes of this application, and (3) states that the City of Bethel is in good standing with respect to its existing credit and federal tax obligations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bethel City Council supports the preparation and submission of a grant application to the Alaska Energy Authority to fund the purchase and installation of a small commercial wind turbine for use on one of its buildings, and pledges to operate, maintain, and clean it so that it will continue to produce power for the City;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Bethel City Council commits no more than \$62,000 from the City's general fund as part of the local match required to receive this grant.

ENACTED THIS 28th DAY OF February 2006 BY A VOTE OF 6 IN FAVOR AND 1 OPPOSED.


R. Thor Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sandra Modjgh, City Clerk