
City of Bethel, Alaska

City Council Minutes

November 1, 2004

Special Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on November 1, 2004, at 6:30 p.m., at the Log Cabin, Bethel, Alaska.

Acting Mayor (Vice-Mayor) Williams called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Tundy Rodgers	Dave Trantham	Yolanda Jorgensen
Andy McGowan	Hugh Dymont	
R. Thor Williams	Dan Leinberger	

Also in attendance were the following:

Robert Herron, City Manager

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

1. Agnes Phillips – Thanked the City Council for appointing Yolanda Jorgensen to fill the council vacancy and for keeping their word. Also commented that women had fought for the right to vote and Elizabeth Peratrovich fought for Alaska Natives' and women's rights.
2. Mike O'Brien- Commented that the responsibility of selecting a mayor and a vice-mayor is an important matter. The people the Council selects will be the faces of Bethel. This is a job that all council members should be reminded to choose wisely, choose well.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Dymont	To approve agenda for November 1, 2004, Special Meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

Motion by Trantham, 2nd by McGowan to amend the agenda to remove the selection of vice-mayor. The motion was defeated by a voice vote.

VOTE ON MOTION	Main Motion carried by voice vote of 6-1 (Trantham).
-----------------------	--

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Item a) – Election of new Mayor and Vice Mayor.

Acting Mayor Williams called for nominations for Mayor.

Rodgers nominated himself.

Williams nominated himself.

Jorgensen nominated Dymment.

MOVED BY:	Trantham	To close nominations for Mayor.
SECONDED BY:	Leinberger	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion passed 7-0.
-----------------------	--------------------

Councilman Trantham asked for unanimous consent to hear the candidates' comments and their reasons for running for Mayor. All Council Members concurred.

The sequence of candidates' comments was chosen by drawing names from a hat by a member of the audience in attendance.

Councilman Rodgers said that the remarks that he heard during past council meetings that individual council members had said that they "had their four votes" and that was all that mattered. He said we all have to work together and if he is elected that it would be the most important job for him was to keep the council working together and moving forward for the community.

Acting Mayor Williams said that he talked to two Council Members about the position of mayor. He talked Councilman Dymment and Councilman Trantham. He indicated that as mayor: he can help the City, residents and employees; work with other council members; would not be dictatorial; has been the vice-mayor for one year; his job allows the time needed to travel to Juneau during legislative session to lobby for the City.

Councilman Dymment said that it is an honor to be nominated for Mayor. He indicated that he would work with the other council members to set 5 or 6 common goals that they could work on together for the next year. He said that he would be even-tempered, hold principles before personalities, would not hold grudges, have no secret agendas, work with local entities like BNC and ONC, and be honest and frank.

Voting was done by secret ballot and the results were:

Rodgers – 3 votes

Dymment – 3 votes

Williams – 1 vote

The runoff vote was done by secret ballot and results were:

Rodgers – 3 votes

Dymment – 4 votes

Mayor Hugh Dymment assumed the gavel and called for nominations for Vice-Mayor.

Rodgers nominated Trantham who immediately declined.

Dymment nominated Rodgers.

Jorgensen nominated Leinberger who immediately declined.

Williams nominated McGowan.

Dymment nominated Williams.

Voting was done by secret ballot and the results were:

Rodgers – 4 votes.

McGowan – 1 vote.

Williams – 2 votes.

Hugh Dymment – Mayor
Tundy Rodgers – Vice-Mayor

NEW BUSINESS

Item b) – Assignment of Council Members to Committees/Commissions

Mayor Hugh Dymment asked for unanimous consent that assignment process be done by seniority and then by high vote-getter for the new members. All concurred.

Rodgers – Planning

Trantham – Asked the Mayor to select on his behalf. The Mayor decided to wait until the other council members had made their selections.

Williams – Port Commission

Dymment – Public Safety & Transportation Commission

McGowan – Finance Committee

Leinberger – Public Works Committee

Jorgensen – Parks & Recreation Committee

Mayor Dymment appointed Councilman Trantham to the Senior Advisory Board.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member McGowan

- Had no comments

Council Member Williams

- Had no comments

Council Member Jorgensen

- Thanked the voters and the City Council for their support

Mayor Dymment

- Looked forward to working as a team

Council Member Leinberger

- Commented that the a council "work session" is a good idea

Council Member Trantham

- Reminded the Mayor about AML's "Mayor's Auction"

Vice-Mayor Rodgers

- Reminded everyone that the river and the tundra ponds are unsafe

There was a general discussion by all council members to send a Mayor-designee to Fairbanks for the AML meeting if Mayor Dymont could not attend.

Motion by Williams, 2nd by Rodgers that Mayor Dymont appoint Councilman Trantham as the Mayor-designee to AML.

(Councilman Trantham immediately declined and asked that other council members vote no)

Roll call vote was 1-6 (Williams).

Mayor Dymont indicated that he would review his work schedule for possible changes to travel to AML in Fairbanks.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m.
SECONDED BY:	McGowan	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote 7-0
-----------------------	--

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 30th DAY OF November, 2004.

ATTEST:

Hugh Dymont, Mayor

Bob Herron, City Manager