
City of Bethel, Alaska

City Council Minutes

February 07, 2005

Special Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on February 07, 2005, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

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

ROLL CALL

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

Andy McGowan	Dave Trantham
R. Thor Williams	Hugh Dymont
Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers	
Dan Leinberger	

Unexcused Absence(s): Yolonda Jorgensen

Also in attendance were the following:

Robert Herron, City Manager
Sandra Modigh, City Clerk

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

1. Mr. O'Brien
 - Thanked Mr. Leinberger for introducing Resolution #05-06 (regarding Ptarmigan Road) on the upcoming Agenda for the February 8, 2005 Regular Meeting.
 - Mr. O'Brien requested Resolution #05-06 be taken off the Consent Agenda at the February 8, 2005 Regular Meeting in order to give the general public an opportunity to hear the Council's discussion.
2. Mr. Trantham
 - Wanted to thank the people of Bethel for funding his 3 day work shop in Juneau.
 - Many people throughout the state were impressed with City of Bethel's ability to work in harmony with the tribe.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes for the January 25, 2005 Meeting will be discussed at the February 8, 2005 Regular Meeting.

MOVED BY:	Trantham	To approve travel (Bethel-Juneau-Bethel) for two Council Members to lobby. Travel dates 2/16-17 or 2/17-18.
SECONDED BY:	Williams	

Council Member discussion regarding the motion.

MOVED BY:	Leinberger	To amend the motion in order for the travel dates to be more flexible.
SECONDED BY:	Williams	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion passes 5-1 (No-Trantham)
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Mr. Trantham suggests that the two Council Members be selected for travel to Juneau (one senior council member and one relatively new Council Member).

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion passes 5-1 (No-Rodgers)
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Council appoints Council Member Williams and Council Member McGowan for Juneau travel.

MOVED BY:	Trantham	To approve travel (Bethel-Juneau-Bethel) for two Council Members to lobby mid March 2005.
SECONDED BY:	Williams	

Mr. Leinberger stated that approving the second trip before determining whether or not the first trip was a success may be premature.

Mr. Trantham advised Council time will be needed to plan the travel.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion fails 3-3 (No-Rodgers, Leinberger, and Dymment)
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MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Dymment's report included the following:

- Appoint Paul O'Brien to the Public Works Committee. Council confirmation-unanimous.
- Appoint Joy Shantz to the Planning Commission. Council confirmation- 4 in favor and two opposed (Mr. Rodgers & Mr. Leinberger).

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Herron's report included the following:

- Replacement Q2 Lift Station Business Plan
- Bethel Water & Sewer Facilities Plan Update
- STIP Amendment #8
- 1983 International Fire Truck
- Alaska Public Entity Insurance Company
- Personnel Matters
- Travel Status

MOVED BY:	Trantham	To show the Council's support to Mr. Herron for appointing Wayne Ogle as Public Works Director.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion passes unanimously 6-0
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Discussion regarding the Replacement Q2 Lift Station Business Plan, Bethel Water & Sewer Master Plan, and the engineering costs.

- Resignation
- Lawsuit filed
- Tobacco tax review
- Extension of TACAN stay
- Omni's proposed lease addendum
- Coastal Villages Seafood property purchase request

Mayor requested a recess at 7:49p. Meeting called to order at 7:58p.

Mayor directed Administration to begin advertising locally, state wide (AML), and nationally for the City Manager Vacancy (qualifications included). Requested by Council there is a 30 day recruitment period posted.

MOVED BY:	Williams	Administration provides Council at the 2.8.05 Meeting other City and Borough City Manager job descriptions.
SECONDED BY:	Trantahm	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion passes 5-1 (No-Dyment)
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MOVED BY:	Leinberger	Reconfirm the negotiating team to begin discussion with BNC.
SECONDED BY:	McGowan	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion fails 3-2 (No-Williams & Trantham, abstain-Rodgers)
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CLERK'S REPORT

- Codification Update
- RFP- Alaska Digital

MANAGEMENT TEAM REPORTS

Finance Department- - Discussion with Mr. Robert Strahan (Finance Director) regarding the Financial Plan prepared for the City of Bethel.

- Reconciliation
- Staff matters
- Sales tax audits

Council Member McGowan recommendation to scale the sales tax audit to one or two business a month

Council Member Williams recommended the Finance Department outsource the sales tax audit.

Council Member Leinberger recommended a budget modification be made in order for the Finance Department to reconstruct the salary package to recruit staff.

Council recommended to Mr. Strahan to hire the Finance GI Analyst applicant.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Planning Commission- Council Member Rodgers reported the new street names "Cakayak Rd" and "J.B. Crow Rd" have been voted on unanimously. Our new representative from the Regulatory Branch of the Corps, Marcia Heer has been contacted over our pending GP renewal (April '05). There will be a NFIP training program in March, recommended Emilee Kutch attend. The next meeting will be February 10, 2005.

Senior Advisory Board- Council Member Trantham reported the Board heard the concerns of several Senior Citizens during their last meeting. Council Member Trantham requested the Senior Advisory Board meeting minutes be provided for review in the Council Regular Meeting packets. A new financial survey will be sent out to Seniors to determine Senior Services needs. The Chairman of the Senior Advisory Board's resignation has been accepted by a vote of 7-0. The resignation is based on his health; he will continue to be on the Board by a vote of 7-0.

ONC submitted some options to the Council for review. Council Member Trantham requested to have the options discussed on the agenda for the upcoming meeting. Next meeting is February 15, 2005.

Port Commissions- Council Member Williams reported Chairman Richardson has resigned his position. Mr. Leary has suggested moving the warehouse in front of the front gates Wave Fuel. A five year Dock Improvement Plan is being discussed. Port Commissions requested Council Member Williams to remind Council of the importance of monitoring the Port Authority Legislation to protect the City's best interest. Calista is ready to move forward with the Coal Fire Plant.

Mayor Dymont requested Mr. Herron to invite Mr. Nicolai to attend the Regular Meeting February 22, 2005.

Discussion regarding the Coal-Fire Plant in Napakiak.

Public Safety and Transportation Commission- Mayor was not able to attend the last commission meeting. The animal control program is improving.

Council discussed whether or not an Ordinance has been written requiring all dogs to have a chip implant. Mr. Herron will research and report back to the Council.

Finance Committee- Council Member postponed the Finance Committee Report until the Regular Meeting February 8, 2005.

Public Works Committee- Council Member Leinberger reported the Commission decided unanimously to pave both ends (east & west) of Ptarmigan Rd.; Resolution #05-06 to be introduced at the February 8, 2005 meeting. Committee request Council to employ an Operations Manager; renamed as the Assistant Public Works Director.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Discussion of drafting an ordinance to provide COB Boards/Commissions/Committee members with E&O insurance (errors and omissions) per Council Member Trantham's request.

Administration directed to research E&O insurance.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Trantham- Representative Mary Kaspner will be visiting Dillingham and Bethel around the 10th of March. Accompanying Mrs. Kastner will be members of the Senate and House Finance Committee in order to acquaint them with the high cost of fuel, high cost of living, and the high cost of operating government. Council Member Trantham suggested to the Mayor that a Special Meeting be called to meet with them. Council Member Trantham informed Council that the City of Dillingham would like to change their status from a First Class to a Second Class City. There is a new 1-800 AML teleconference phone number. There is a renewed effort to reorganize boroughs. Thanked the City Clerk for assistance in completing last minute packets.

Council Member Williams- A constituent expressed his concern regarding cab drivers smoking in their vehicles.

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To adjourn the meeting
SECONDED BY:	Leinberger	

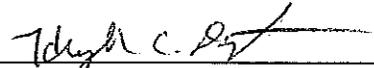
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion passes 5-2 (no-Rodgers and Williams)
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ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:47p

APPROVED THIS 22nd DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2005.

ATTEST:



Hugh Dymont, Mayor



Sandra Modigh, City Clerk