



CITY of BETHEL

P. O. Box 537 • Bethel, Alaska 99559

543-2297 — Area Code 907

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 22, 1976

CITY OFFICE

7:40 P.M.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Peltola at 7:40 P.M.
Present: Hickling, Alexie, Elliott, Stichick.
Absent: Guinn, Hinsvark.

INVOCATION - None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/M by Councilman Stichick to approve the Minutes of the November 8, 1976 Regular Council Meeting as written.
Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/M by Councilman Alexie to accept the Agenda of the November 22, 1976 Regular Council Meeting as presented.
Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS

Manager Bartlett disseminated two items in addition to the Council packets. The first item was a letter sent to the Alaska Public Utilities Commission (Alaska PUC) requesting that they sponsor a public hearing in Bethel concerning power fluctuations and outages of the Bethel Utilities Corporation. The purpose of the hearing would be to inform citizens of Bethel of the technicalities involved in outages and to elucidate whether or not culpability for damages exists. Manager Bartlett recapitulated a response from the Alaska PUC that a public hearing per se would not be possible, but that Mr. Zerbetz, the Chairman of the Alaska PUC, would consent to a pre-hearing or conference. Manager Bartlett said he expressed an interest to the Commission that such a conference be held no later than November 29 or 30, or December 1, and would again contact Mr. Zerbetz to finalize arrangements for the meeting. The second item was a telegram sent to Mr. Steve Haflinger of the Commission of Alaska State Labor Relations Agency in Anchorage that binding arbitration be instituted to resolve the grievances between administration and teaching personnel in the current strike by teachers in community colleges. A phone call was received from the Student Board of KCC expressing thanks to the City Office for sending the telegram.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Bartlett informed Council of the submission of the Energy Research and Development Administration grant on a timely basis, and he advised the adoption of a resolution which would be prepared at a Council work session. Such resolution would be sent to the Chicago ERDA Office in support of the grant.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Peltola recounted that Billy McCann asked for taxi cab permits for the winter months.

Manager Bartlett stated that there currently exists a limitation on permits, and that all permits available have been allocated. As a result, it would be necessary to amend the permit ordinance to include a provision for allocating a special permit(s).

Mayor Peltola interjected that this item of business could be dealt with at a work session.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - None.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Eddie Hoffman read to Council a letter received from Ernest Mueller, inviting him to serve as policy advisor on the Water Quality Commission. He announced to Council that he would accept the position.

Manager Bartlett assured Mr. Hoffman of his and Council's concurrence with his decision.

Mr. Hoffman's second item of business concerned the inordinately high insurance rates at the BNC and that insurance rates would decrease with adequate water truck service.

John Sanchez informed Mr. Hoffman and those in attendance that, after receipt of an additional water truck, the ISO may revise the rate structure. Mr. Sanchez exculpated his department by reflecting on the State of Alaska's overall tremendous fire loss and subsequent high insurance rates.

Manager Bartlett reported on currently implemented fire truck renovation, with pressure pumps which will enhance the capability of trucks for fighting fire.

Mr. Sanchez furthered that the Fire Substation would be operable by January 2, 1977 and that the new Station would be ready for limited use by January 10, 1977. In February of 1977, an ISO agent would be requested to reappraise insurance risks and rates.

Councilman Elliott suggested that fire trucks be kept at the new power

plant until the Fire Station is completed, as there is sufficient space and it would prevent the water from freezing while providing fire insurance for the power plant.

Mr. Hoffman admonished that when the City takes over jurisdiction of the Division of Aviation and Department of Highways, the City would then be responsible for paying union scale wages for the state contracts.

Mayor Peltola reduced the tone of the remark, saying that such had been offered, but nothing had gelled.

Manager Bartlett reiterated that no negotiations had transpired, but that the City was well aware of the stipulations involved in the assumption of a state contract.

Rosy Porter queried as to who has jurisdiction of Ridgecrest Drive, between 7th Avenue and Housing.

Mayor Peltola replied that it was a state highway and that requests for repairs had been submitted, but without response.

Manager Bartlett stated that a letter had been sent to Mr. Springer of the Western District Office of the State Highway Department supporting his efforts to procure sufficient funds for renovating the state highway in Bethel.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item A. MAYORAL ELECTION

M/M by Councilman Elliott to open nominations for mayoral candidacy. Roll call vote: Yes, Hickling, Alexie, Elliott, Peltola; Nay, Stichick. Motion passed.

Councilman Elliott nominated incumbent Peltola.

Councilwoman Hickling nominated Councilman Guinn.

M/M by Councilman Elliott to close the nominations. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

A secret ballot was taken and Mayor Peltola was re-elected unanimously.

Item B. BETHEL HEIGHTS WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM STUDY PRESENTATION (URS ENGINEERING)

Mr. Jim Olsen from URS Engineering presented to Council and those in attendance four plans for the replacement of the Bethel Heights water/sewer system. Manager Bartlett disbursed URS' Draft Report, entitled "Bethel Heights Utility System Rehabilitation", suggested that Council consider the alternatives and adopt one of the four to be heard.

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Mr. Olsen, utilizing site plans, explained "Plan A", described as a "Parallel Water and a Parallel Sewer System". "Plan A" depicted an aboveground pipe network with the exception of a small amount of pipe placed underground to make gravity flow possible. The "Plan A" system is beneficial due to accessible aboveground pipe and minimum damage incurable by frost heave. Installation and maintenance costs on said plan are lower than the other proposals. "Plan A"'s total cost equals \$5,839,000. "Plan B-1" was described as a "Looped Aboveground Water and Underground Lateral Sewer System". This plan involves the least amount of pipe, but due to excavation for the underground sewer, the construction cost is higher, totaling \$6,234,000. "Plan B-2" was described as a "Parallel Water System and Underground Lateral Sewer System", the distinction from "Plan B-1" being in water line configuration, with more pipe than "Plan B-1" and a subsequent higher cost, totaling \$6,789,000. "Plan C" is familiar, described as a "Hauled Water and Hauled Sewage System". This system would involve large holding tanks and running water. URS warns against this system as it is dependent on mechanical equipment and personnel performing without error, which is foreign to Bethel. The overall operating costs of the system are greater than a piped system, estimated at \$300,000 per year, though initial installation cost is relatively low, at \$2,643,000. "Plan D" was described as a "Hauled Water with Piped Sewer System". This system has a high cost of operation, with initial capital costs of \$4,491,000. Mr. Olsen then concluded that "Plan A" is the most cost effective; most accessible for maintenance and repairs; designed to utilize common pipe supports; and has fewer drain points than the looped system so the system could be drained to avoid permanent damage in case of another disaster.

Manager Bartlett recommended that Council adopt "Plan A".

M/M by Councilman Elliott to accept "Plan A" of the URS Engineering "Bethel Heights Utility System Rehabilitation" Report.

Roll call vote: Yes, Hickling, Alexie, Elliott, Peltola, Stichick.
Motion passed.

Item C. COURT HOUSE PROGRESS REPORT

Manager Bartlett disseminated a cost sheet in support of relocating the City Offices to the new Court House space originally slated for leasing to Court-related agencies, and lease out the present City Offices site in the Braund Building instead. Manager Bartlett advocated the move now rather than fifteen years in the future, at which time the bank loan would be paid. With the combined lease money from the Court system and from the Braund Building, the City would realize a \$13,786.32 annual profit, while upgrading City administrative facilities and instituting a formal Council Chambers with adequate seating capacity for public hearings.

M/M by Councilwoman Hickling to approve the relocation of the City

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Offices to the new Court House.

Roll call vote: Yes, Hickling, Peltola, Alexie, Elliott; Abstain, Stichick. Motion passed.

Item D. PROGRESS REPORT ON BETHEL NATIVE CORPORATION AND CITY OF BETHEL LAND EXCHANGE

Manager Bartlett stated that the land exchange terms and conditions approved by voter ratification on November 2, 1976, as specified in Ordinance No. 74, requires a public hearing. Since the City will acquire land near the sewage lagoon, various rights-of-way and local service roads, and will relinquish its interest in land adjacent to the state highway to the Bethel Utilities Corporation, a public hearing has been established for December 13, 1976.

NEW BUSINESS

Item A. ORDINANCE No. 84 (AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF GARBAGE, RUBBISH, WASTE MATERIAL IN RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS)

Manager Bartlett recommended that Ordinance No. 84 be accepted for publication and the establishment of a public hearing on December 13, 1976.

M/M by Councilman Stichick to accept Ordinance No. 84 as introduced for publication and the establishment of a public hearing on December 13, 1976.

Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

Item B. ORDINANCE No. 85 (AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING RATES FOR GARBAGE SERVICE AND MODIFYING RATES FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICE)

Manager Bartlett introduced Ordinance No. 85, stating that due to the inordinate losses of the City's Utility Services Division last fiscal year, the rates must increase and be simplified by the usage of flat rates. Manager Bartlett indicated that rate changes must be adopted by ordinance and recommended that Ordinance No. 85 be accepted for publication in a newspaper of general circulation and that a public hearing be scheduled for December 20, 1976. He further recommended that the ordinance be amended at this time by the inclusion of a new Section 4 and the renumbering of consecutive sections. Section 4 shall read:

Section 4.

(1) The monthly Residential/Commercial rates charged for the collection of garbage, rubbish and waste material; delivery of water; and removal of sewage within the City, shall not include providing such services on or during officially recognized City holidays as described in the City's Personnel Policies, Rules and Regulations.

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(2) *The monthly Residential/Commercial rates charged for the collection of garbage, rubbish and waste material; delivery of water; and removal of sewage within the City, are also established on the basis of three (3) days per annum for garbage service, three (3) days per annum for water service, and three (3) days per annum for sewer service which may not be implemented because of mechanical malfunctions experienced by City-owned vehicles engaged in providing the utility services described herein.*

(3) *Customers who do not receive Residential/Commercial garbage, water or sewer services four (4) or more times a year in each of the aforementioned utility service areas, excluding officially recognized City holidays; physical or other impediments created by the customer to all Residential/Commercial garbage, water or sewer areas (e.g., locked doors, the presence of animals); and the three (3) days per annum per utility service area which may not be implemented because of mechanical malfunctions experienced by City-owned vehicles engaged in providing the utility services described herein, may request and shall be granted by the City, an adjustment to their utility bills as supported by utility records maintained by the City's Public Works Department and Finance Department.*

M/M by Councilman Stichick to amend Ordinance No. 85 by the inclusion of a new Section 4 and the renumbering of consecutive sections. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

M/M by Councilwoman Hickling that Ordinance No. 85 (An Ordinance Establishing Rates for Garbage Service and Modifying Rates for Water and Sewer Service) be accepted for publication and public hearing on December 20, 1976.

Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

Item C. ESTABLISHMENT OF WORK SESSION RE: CODIFIED ORDINANCES, UTILITY RATES, PERSONNEL POLICIES, RULES AND REGULATIONS, FORMATION OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND THE CITY OF BETHEL'S GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR FY 1977

Manager Bartlett recommended the scheduling of a Council work session on November 29, 1976 for codified ordinances and utility rates; December 6, 1976 for standing committees, Goals and Objectives; and December 14, 1976 for Personnel Policies, Rules and Regulations.

M/M by Councilman Stichick to establish said work sessions. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

Item D. RATIFICATION OF MUSEUM GRANT

Manager Bartlett introduced the National Endowment for the Humanities Museum Grant, entitled "Interpretation and Exhibition of Yupik Eskimo Children's Toys and Games", and requested that Council ratify the sub-

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mission of the NEH grant application.

M/M by Councilman Stichick to ratify the NEH Museum Exhibition grant application.

Roll call vote: Yes, Stichick, Hickling, Peltola, Alexie, Elliott.
Motion passed.

M/M by Councilman Stichick to continue the Council Meeting beyond 10:00 P.M.

Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

Item E. ORDINANCES Nos. 82 and 83 PUBLIC HEARINGS: ORDINANCE No. 82 (AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RATES TO BE CHARGED FOR WATER SERVICE BY THE CITY OF BETHEL, FOR THE OPERATION AND USE OF THE WATER SYSTEM, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR NON-PAYMENT FOR WATER SERVICE AND FOR VIOLATIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE); ORDINANCE No. 83 (AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RATES TO BE CHARGED FOR SEWER SERVICE BY THE CITY OF BETHEL, FOR SEWER SERVICE AND FOR VIOLATIONS OF THIS ORDINANCE)

Manager Bartlett recommended a series of amendments to Ordinance No. 82, as follows: Section 1 (2) 'City of Bethel Public Works Department'; Section 2 (1) add after line three 'by resolution'; Section 2 (2) capitalize City Clerk (and throughout the Ordinance); Section 4 (2) add subsection (a) 'Establishment of Credit. Credit will be established based on an applicant's past utility records and an utility deposit will not be required if it is determined that an applicant has a good credit rating. A deposit equal to the estimated bill for one (1) month's service, but not less than twenty dollars (\$20.00), shall be required if an applicant has been delinquent in the payment of utility bills issued by the City or if such applicant is considered to be a poor credit risk.'; Section 4 (2) (c) add after line six 'equal to the estimated bill for two (2) months' service at the time service is discontinued, together with a ten dollar (\$10.00) service charge for restoration of services.'; Section 6 (3) change '(1970)' to '(Current Edition)'; Section 6 (3) add after line 3 'by resolution'.; Section 6 (6) add after line 6 'by resolution,'; Section 6 (6) after line 7 add 'by ordinance'.; Section 6 (8) after line 5 add 'by ordinance'.; Section 6 (9) (b) add after line 5 'except in the case of emergencies'.; Section 9 (2) line 3 add 'Utility Services Foreman'; Section 9 add subsection (3) 'Notice of Discontinuance for Repairs. Notices from the Department to a customer providing for the discontinuance of service for the purpose of repairs shall be given to a customer in writing twenty four (24) hours prior to such discontinuance, except in the case of emergencies.'; Section 15 add after line 4 'by ordinance'; Section 15 change 'Treasurer' to 'City Finance Director'.

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M/M by Councilman Elliott to accept Ordinance No. 82 according to State Statutes, Title 29, as amended.
Roll call vote: Yes, Elliott, Hickling, Stichick, Alexie; Abstain, Peltola. Motion passed.

Manager Bartlett recommended a series of amendments to Ordinance No. 83 as follows: Section 1 (2) 'Public Works Department'.; Section 2 (1) add after line three 'by resolution'.; Section 2 (2) line eight capitalize City Clerk (and throughout the Ordinance); Section 4 (1) add after line seven 'and the applicant agrees to have placed in an approved location a number which conforms to the street numbering system of the City of Bethel'.; Section 4 (2) add subsection (a) 'Establishment of Credit. Credit will be established based on an applicant's past utility records and an utility deposit will not be required if it is determined that an applicant has a good credit rating. A deposit equal to the estimated bill for one (1) month's service, but not less than twenty dollars (\$20.00), shall be required if an applicant has been delinquent in the payment of utility bills issued by the City or if such applicant is considered to be a poor credit risk'.; Section 4 (2) (c) add after line 6 'equal to the estimated bill for two (2) months' service at the time service is discontinued',; Section 6 (3) add after line three 'by resolution'.; Section 6 (3) change '(1970)' to '(Current Edition)'; Section 6 add subsection (6) 'Sewage Holding Tanks/Buckets. Customers to whom a sewer line is not available may have sewage evacuated from their property, provided that the location, type of holding tank/bucket, and access thereto is approved by the Department. Quantity and frequency of sewer services shall be determined by regulations or orders of the Department and approved by the Council by resolution, and the rate charged for such sewage evacuation services shall be determined by the Council by ordinance.'; Section 6 add subsection (7) 'Temporary Sewer Use. Temporary sewer extensions and sewer connections may be provided by the Department for a period not to exceed six (6) months, unless an extension is granted by the Department. Cost of connection, deposits, charges for installation and removal of equipment shall be established by the Department, subject to approval by the Council by ordinance.'; Section 6 add subsection (8) 'Customer's Plumbing. (a) The customer's plumbing, which shall include the sewer extension lines and all plumbing, piping, fixtures and all other appurtenances carrying or intended to carry sewage on property owned or controlled by the customer, shall comply with the plumbing regulations of the City of Bethel. (b) Customers shall install a suitable control valve on the sewer extension line at a location approved by the Department, the operation of which valve will control the entire sewage supply from the premises served. It will be a violation of this Ordinance for the customer to operate, cause or permit unauthorized operation of the control valve, except in the case of emergencies.'; Section 7 add after line one 'adopted by ordinance,'; Section 8 (2) add after line three 'Utility Services Foreman'; Section 8 add subsection (3) 'Notice of Discontinuance for Repairs. Notices from the Department to a customer providing for the

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discontinuance of service for the purpose of repairs shall be given to a customer in writing twenty four (24) hours prior to such discontinuance, except in the case of emergencies.'; Section 13 (4) delete from line two 'or other waste material'; Section 14 add after line four 'by ordinance'; Section 14 change 'Treasurer' to 'City Finance Director'.

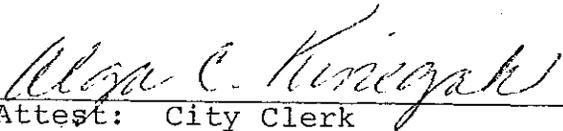
M/M by Elliott to accept Ordinance No. 83 according to State Statutes, Title 29, as amended.
Roll call vote: Yes, Stichick, Hickling, Alexie, Elliott; Abstain, Peltola. Motion passed.

M/M by Councilman Stichick to adjourn.
Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 P.M.



Mayor



Attest: City Clerk