



CITY of BETHEL

P. O. Box 388 • Bethel, Alaska 99559

543-2297 — Area Code 907

MUNICIPALITY OF BETHEL CITY COUNCIL MINUTES JULY 12, 1978

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

7:30 P.M.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor, John Guinn. Councilpersons present: Elliott, Hickling, Hoffman, Twitchel, and Guinn. Councilpersons absent: Charles, and Gregory.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/M by Councilperson Hickling to approve the minutes of the June 28, 1978, City Council meeting as written. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/M by Councilperson Hickling to approve the agenda with the following additions: To add under Unfinished Business, Item B. Resolution No. 242, A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHEL TO ESTABLISH THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF TAXI CAB AND LIMOUSINE PERMITS TO BE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY: AND TO ESTABLISH THE TAXI CAB AND LIMOUSINE PERMITS: under New Business, Item A. Resolution No. 241, A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHEL AUTHORIZING BETHEL SOCIAL SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE BETHEL RECEIVING HOME TO ACT IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO PHASE II OF THE BETHEL RECEIVING HOME PROJECT. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

NONE

MAYOR'S REPORT

NONE.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Finance Director Engebretth presented the May 31, 1978, financial statements. Mr. Engebretth stated that the expenditures are much less than the revenues, the City is spending under sixty percent of the budget.

The auditor's have included the expected subdivision land payments in the audit ending September 30, 1978. This will be an addition of \$144,000.00 to the budget deficit.

Mr. Engebretth also stated that insurance cost for general liability and automobile insurance have been decreased, with a savings to the City of \$15,000.00.

Mayor Guinn stated that further questions on the financial statement and the audit will be answered at the next Council meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORT'S

Councilperson Hoffman stated that the Bethel Native Corporation will be holding a meeting on July 13, 1978 to discuss taking a new census in the Bethel area.

Councilperson Hickling gave a breif update on the seawall project. Hickling reported that \$60,000, has been requested to fund preliminary work on the seawall project. The Army Corps of Engineers will be placing nets on the river front this week to hold back the errosion, some sections of the bank will be filled in before the netting is put in.

Councilperson Hickling asked for Police protection of the river bank, so that the netting is not vandalized.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ITEM A. PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE NO. 71, VEHICLES FOR HIRE.

Assistant City Manager Kraning read and introduced Ordinance No. 110, AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE 71 AND 73, AND ESTABLISHING ORDINANCE 110, AS THE CURRENT AND COMPLETE VEHICLE FOR HIRE ORDINANCE: the following changes have been made in this new ordinance:

1. Section 6.04.020 General Requirements of Permits
The City of Bethel shall not issue a license or permit under this section to any person who: (d) has within the past five years been convicted of a felony involving assaultive conduct, theft, possession of or traffic in drugs, or sexual misconduct.

2. Section 6.04.100 Insurance Required, has been changed from \$25,000-\$50,000 total coverage to \$100,000-\$300,000

total cost.

3. Section 6.04.230 Terms and cost of Permit(s), the cost of permits has been changed, all permits will be \$300 each year.

Mayor Guinn opened the Public Hearing at 8:00 p.m.

Planning Commissioner Rosie Porter requested that changes in fares be made by Ordinance only and not by Resolution. Also that all drivers display their chauffeurs permit in the taxi cabs and limousines.

Mr. J.B. Crow stated that if changes in taxi fares are made by Resolution it will not give the Special Committee on Transportation an opportunity to review the changes before they are presented to Council. Mr. Crow also stated that Section 6.04.190 Minimum utilization of Taxi-cab Permits is not clear and should be rewritten. Mr. Crow stated that the Transportation Committee does not think that it is necessary for taxi drivers to display their permits, the drivers name can be obtained by calling the taxi-cab company.

Councilperson Twitchell stated that the Transportation Committee has approved Mr. Mute's limousine route to run from the airport to any point in town and to the airport from any point in town.

Councilperson Hickling asked Mr. Mute if his limousine service ran and operated on a regular schedule.

Mr. Mute stated that he does not operate on a regular schedule. Mr. Mute requested that the City Council give him another Limousine permit.

Assistant City Manager Kraning suggested that Mr. Mute be given a taxi permit because he is operating his limousine like a taxi-cab.

Finance Committee Member Freeman suggested that the cost of a taxi permits be changed to \$1,200 per year and make taxi fares exempt from City sales tax. This will help to solve the problem of the drivers not paying city sales tax.

At the present time eighteen of the twenty taxi permits have not been paid for.

Finance Director Engebretth stated that the taxi cab drivers should have a business license.

Mr. Oto Lincoln, a concerned citizen, expressed his concern that the City should not be involved with the way the taxi companies are running. He stated that he feels there is too much arguing between the City and the taxi companies. Mr. Lincoln stated that the taxi drivers can not afford to pay sales tax.

Mr. Lewis stated that the increased insurance to \$100,000 - \$300,000 will cost the taxi companies too much.

Assistant Manager Kraning stated that the City Attorney strongly recommends \$100,000 - \$300,000. She went on to state that several insurance companies that she has contacted will offer fleet insurance or insurance on an individual basis.

Mayor Guinn called for a short break at this time.

After the break Mayor Guinn read the following changes Council has made in Ordinance 110:

1. Section 6.04.070 Appeal Process of Denied or Suspended Chauffeur's Permit, paragraph three has been rewritten to read as follows: The Committee shall determine whether or not the challenging party is qualified to receive a license after a hearing and if the challenging party has proven by preponderance of evidence that the disability which was presented by the Chief of Police from issuing the license will not adversely affect the applicants ability to operate a vehicle for hire or present a reasonable possibility of danger to the citizens of the City of Bethel.

If it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Chief of Police that the challenging party has met the burden of proof outlined above it shall direct the Chief of Police to issue a license.

2. Section 6.04.140 Regulation and Display of Fares, the first sentence shall read as follows: The City Council may regulate, by Ordinance, the fares for the use of any motor vehicle for hire licensed pursuant to this ordinance.

3. Section 6.04.200, A. (5) Each taxicab shall display the name of the owners and chauffeurs permit of the driver. B. (4) Each limousine shall display the name and address of the owner and Chauffeurs permit of the driver.

4. Section 6.04.230 Terms and Cost of Permit(s). The fee schedule for permits issued pursuant to this section shall be as follows: \$1,200 for all permits, per year. The last sentence in the last paragraph of Section 6.04.230, shall read taxi and limousine fares shall be exempt from City sales tax.

Paula Maloy stated that last year taxi drivers payed sales tax to the taxi companies and they inturn paid the sales tax to the City.

Mayor Guinn closed the Public Hearing at 10:02 p.m.

M/M by Councilperson Elliott that the City Council of the City of Bethel adopt Ordinance No. 110, AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 71 AND 73, AND ESTABLISHING ORDINANCE 110, AS THE CURRENT AND COMPLETE VEHICLE FOR HIRE ORDINANCE, with the following corrections: Section 6.04.070, Appeal Process of Denied or Suspended Chauffeur's Permit, paragraph three; The Committee shall determine whether or not the challenging party is qualified to receive a license after a hearing and if the challenging party has proven by preponderance of evidence that the disability which was presented by the Chief of Police from issuing the license will not adversely affect the applicants ability to operate a vehicle for hire or present a reasonable possiblility of danger to the citizens of the City of Bethel. If it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Chief of Police that the challenging party has met the burden of proof outlined above it shall direct the Chief of Police to issue a license. Section 6.04.140, Regulation and Display of Fares, the first sentence shall read as follows: The City Council may regulate, by Ordinance, the fares for the use of any motor vehicle hire licensed pursuant to this ordinance. Section 6.04.200, A. (5) Each taxicab shall display the name of the owners and chauffuers permit of the driver. B. (4) Each limousine shall display the name and address of the owner and Chauffuers permit of the driver. Section 6.04.230 Terms and Cost of Permit(s) The fee schedule for permits issued pursuant to this section shall be \$1,200, year, taxi and limousine fares shall be exempt from city sales tax.. Roll call vote was taken. In favor: Councilpersons Elliott, Hickling, Hoffman, Twitchell, and Guinn. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

ITEM B. RESOLUTION NO. 242, A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHEL TO ESTABLISH THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF TAXI CAB AND LIMOUSINE PERMITS TO BE AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY: AND TO ESTABLISH THE TAXI CAB AND LIMOUSINE PERMITS.

M/M by Councilperson Elliott to table item B. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM A. RESOLUTION NO. 241, A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHEL AUTHORIZING BETHEL SOCIAL SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE BETHEL RECEIVING HOME TO ACT IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO PHASE II OF THE BETHEL RECEIVING HOME PROJECT.

M/M by Councilperson Elliott to preceed past 10:00 p.m.
Voice bote was taken and was unanimous. Motion carried.

Assistant City Manager Kraning read and introduced Resolution
No. 241.

M/M by Councilperson Elliott to approve Resolution No. 241,
as written. Roll call vote was taken. In favor: Councilperson
Elliott, Hickling, Hoffman, Twitchell, and Guinn. Opposed:
None. Motion carried.

M/M by Councilperson Hickling that all eighteen of the unpaid
taxi permits must be paid by August 12, 1978, thirty days from
today or they will be revoded. Voice vote was taken and was
unanimous. Motion carried.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Councilperson Hoffman requested that People to be Heard
be placed back at the begining of the agenda. Hoffman expressed his
concern that the Police department is taking to long to respond
to calls and stated that if they were short on manpower they should
hire another Police Officer.

Councilperson Hickling stated that she receives many complaints
at the Govenor's Office concerning the Bethel Police Department.

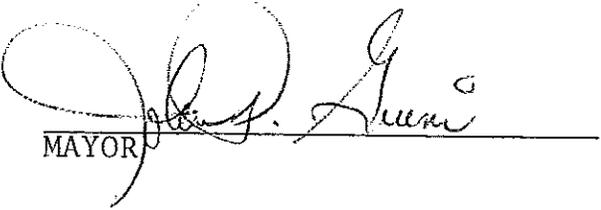
Mayor Guinn suggested that the Police Department meet with the
Personnel Committee and report back to the City Council.

M/M by Councilperson Hickling to call for an executive session.
Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion carried.

Council reopened the Council meetingat 11:15 p.m.

M/M by Councilperson Elliott to adjourn. Voice vote was taken and
was unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVED BY:


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK