City of Bethel, Alaska
City Council Minutes

August 4, 2005 | Special Meeting | Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on August 4, 2005, at 6:30p, in the Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

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

ROLL CALL

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

Andy McGowan
R. Thor Williams (arrived at 6:32p)
Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers
David E. Trantham
Hugh Dyment
Yolonda Jorgensen

Excused Absence(s):

Dan Leinberger

Also in attendance were the following:

Wally Baird, City Manager
Sandra Modigh, City Clerk

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD:

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA AND REGUALR AGENDA

MOVED:	McGowan	To approve the agenda for the August 4, 2005 meeting.
SECONDED:	Rodgers	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	Passed	Council concurrence

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item A- To Discuss and Take Action Regarding the Staff Attorney Applicant's Counter-Offer-Mayor Dyment

Council Member McGowan stated that he believed we should re-advertise the position.

Council Member Jorgensen agreed with Council Member McGowan to re-advertise the position.

Council Member Rodgers stated that he had been advised by a private attorney in Bethel that the base salary should be increased to $83,000-$86,000.

Council members stated that they were not interested in accepting the applicants counter offer.

Council Member Rodgers suggested Council base the Staff Attorney salary on the legal fees spent on the out sourced City Attorney.

City Manager Baird stated that he would expect that a staff attorney brought to Bethel would be able to conduct private services to bring in outside funds.

City Manager Baird agreed with Council Member Rodgers that if the position is re-posted the salary should be increased.

Mayor Dyment stated that he would like to see the salary, if re-posted, offered in a range of 83,000-$87,000 depending on experience.

City Manager Baird stated that is his past experience he has found that an onsite staff attorney would be beneficial to the City.

Council Member Trantham stated that the City has made many mistakes during this process and he hoped Council will learn from these mistakes.

Council Member Trantham stated that he is sorry to lose this applicant, but he does not want to accept the applicant counter offer.

Council Member Williams stated that he has many concerns surrounding the applicant. He also stated that he agreed with City Manager Baird that the applicant would be able to conduct private business to bring in more money.

Council Member Williams also agreed that he would like to re-post the position.

Council Member McGowan stated that he believed it would infuriate the local attorneys to have the City staff attorney freelance on the side and could create problems.

Council Member Trantham stated that he thought the City should send the applicant a letter thanking him for his application.

Mayor Dyment volunteered to draft a letter to the applicant.

Council requested Administration contact the applicant to let him know the City is not interested in pursuing him as an applicant.

Council Member suggested the City advertise the position in the AML pamphlet.

HR Manager Hightower stated that the AML will post on their website for free.

MOVED:	Jorgensen	To add ordinance 05-02 to the 8/23/05 Council Meeting agenda.
SECONDED:	Rodgers	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	Passed	Vote 6-1 (No: Williams)

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED:	Williams	To adjourn the meeting at 7:25p
SECONDED:	Jorgensen	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	Passed	Concurrence

With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:25p.

APPROVED THIS 23rd DAY OF AUGUST, 2005.

ATTEST:

Sandra Modigh, City Clerk

Hugh Dyment, Mayor