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# City of Bethel, Alaska

## City Council Minutes

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October 14, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

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### CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on October 14, 2003, at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

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

### ROLL CALL

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

Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers	Andrei Jacobs
Joy Shantz	Dave Trantham
Jerry Drake	Hugh Short, Jr.
Carl berger	

Excused absence(s): none

Unexcused absence(s): none

Also in attendance were the following:

Bob Herron, City Manager  
Amanda Roudebush, City Clerk

### SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

#### Item A – Resolution #03-30: Certifying City Election

The precinct tallies as recorded by the Canvass Board are as follows:

CITY COUNCIL	
(Three - 3 year terms)	
Hugh Dymant .....	245
Dario Notti .....	268
Yolanda Jorgensen .....	229
Jerry Drake .....	231
Agnes Phillips .....	196
Willie Keppel .....	171
Raymond "Thor" Williams .....	299
Carl Berger .....	187

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Trantham	To accept the results of the canvass board
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Shantz	

Raymond "Thor" Williams was elected to a 3-year term, having received the greatest number of votes cast.

Dario Notti was elected to a 3-year term, having received the second greatest number of votes cast.

Hugh Dymant was elected to a 3-year term, having received the third greatest number of votes cast.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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**Item B – Oath administered to newly elected City Council members**

**Item C – Election of Mayor and Vice Mayor**

The nomination of Hugh Short, Jr. for Mayor.

The nomination of Stanly "Tundy" Rodgers for Mayor.

**Hugh Short, Jr. was elected mayor by a vote of 4 – 3.**

The nomination of Andrei Jacobs for Vice-Mayor.

The nomination of Raymond "Thor" Williams for Vice-Mayor.

**Raymond "Thor" Williams was elected Vice-Mayor by a vote of 4 – 3.**

**Item D – Assignment of committees/commissions**

Council Member Rodgers assigned to the Planning Commission.

Council Member Trantham assigned to the Senior Advisory Board.

Council Member Dymant assigned to the Public Safety and Transportation Commission.

Mayor Short assigned to the Finance Committee.

Council Member Williams assigned to the Port Commission.

Council Member Jacobs assigned to the Parks & Recreation Committee.

Council Member Notti assigned to the Public Works Committee.

## Comments

Former Council Member Shantz addressed the new Council. She spoke about the good experiences she had while serving on Council. She urged the new Council to keep up the good communication that was happening while she served on the Council. She also urged the Council to use their teamwork capabilities.

## Award Presentation

Certificate of Appreciation to Joy Shantz for one year of service on the Bethel City Council.

Certificate of Appreciation to Council Member Rodgers for eight years of service on the Bethel City Council.

Certificate of Appreciation to Council Member Trantham for perfect attendance over the past year.

Certificate of Appreciation to the Bethel Police Department presented by Council Member Rodgers.

Discussion of the extension of the People to be Heard by Council Member Notti wanting to know about the Ordinance limiting the People to be Heard to three minutes.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Rodgers	To extend the People to be Heard to 15 Minutes
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Trantham	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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## COMMENTS

Council Member Trantham gave a detailed explanation of why he wanted to remove the lobbyist Paul Richards from the City of Bethel FY 04 Budget. He is concerned that there has been little to no communication between the lobbyist and the Council.

Mayor Short gave discussion on why the City should keep the lobbyist.

Council Member Notti spoke in favor of keeping the lobbyist because he is the neutral party in the government.

City Manager Herron spoke on the reasons the City has a lobbyist. He gave several examples, and then he suggested that the Council meet with the lobbyist Paul Richard while he is in town on October 28, 2003.

Council Member Rodgers discussed the importance of having a lobbyist. He gave examples and spoke from experience that cutting the lobbyist from the budget was not a good idea.

Council Member Williams agreed that a meeting with the lobbyist a good idea. He spoke that the lobbyist very important to the City and spoke on what the lobbyist does for the City.

Council Member Jacobs wanted to suggest a communications system that would be consistent. He would like better communication between the lobbyist and the Council.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Trantham	To amend the FY04 Budget by \$40,000.00 by eliminating the Lobbyist.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Williams	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion failed by vote of 1-6 (Trantham).
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**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Council Member Williams wants the City of Bethel to open the Council Chambers to the election press after the election ends on the night the election ends.

City Clerk Roudebush commented that all suggestions and comments are welcome and urged Council to utilize the City Clerk.

Mayor Short commented on the job of the City Clerk and also urged Council to utilize the Clerk.

**PEOPLE TO BE HEARD**

R.A. Dillon of the Tundra Drums commented about the election

Joan Hamilton spoke of a child hit in a cross walk in Anchorage and urged the citizens of Bethel to please be careful during the long winter nights. Mayor Short had same comment.

William Upgrove spoke on the concerns of electricity costs on the new water and sewer system in City Subdivision. He thinks the cost savings on water, will be off set by the electricity charges to run the new system.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Jacobs	To approve the minutes from the September 23,2003 meeting and the minutes from the September 18, 2003 special meeting
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Trantham	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AND REGULAR AGENDA**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Rodgers	To approve the agenda as amended
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Williams	

*Add items: E. Resolution #03-29, F. AML Discussion G. Bethel Strategic Plan & November workshops H. City of Bethel Newsletter discussion*

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Items included in the Mayor's report:

- Proclamation for "Datu" Samuelson Day 10-7-03, read by Council Member Rodgers
- Proclamation for Health Fair Day 10-25-03, read by Council Member Jacobs
- Application by Joy Shantz to be on the Planning Commission

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Rodgers	To appoint Joy Shantz to the Planning Commission
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Trantham	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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- Alaska Homeland Security Grant Award, and 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Grant and Discussion from the City Manager Herron
- Letter from Leonard R. Devaney about the Therapeutic Court Graduation
- AML in Nome on November 11 and November 12, 2003
- Bethel Health Fair
- Letter from the Alaska Development and Export Authority, Energy Division Conference
- Governor Murkowski weekly update
- PILT Money increases

**Comments**

Council Member Trantham discussed missed opportunity because not informed of the Wind Energy Conference in Dillingham.

City Clerk Roudebush reassured Council that it would not happen again

**MANAGEMENT TEAM’S REPORT**

City Manager Herron’s report included the following:

- Crow Property Closing
- Job vacancies within the City of Bethel
- Travel Status – Homeland Security Workshop
- Future Travel AMMA and AML in Nome
- Kasayuli Subdivision Feasibility Study complete, copies available in City Managers’ office
- YKHC requests inspection of Noel Polty Boulevard (Kasayuli Subdivision Road).

**Comments**

A brief discussion of the City of Bethel website with all Council Members ensued.

*Break at 7:44 for 10 minutes*

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Senior Advisory Board** – No Report

**Parks and Recreation Committee** – Dance coming up, all is well

**Planning Commission** – No Report

**Port Commission** – No Report

**Public Works Committee** – Reported the next meeting date

**Public Safety and Transportation Commission** – No Report

**Finance Committee** – Spoke about sales tax audit and Code

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**Item A** – Fire Log discussion lead by Jill Maynard. She discussed trademark issues, and the issues of the binding material used in the fire logs. She also gave information on the contractor used to make the machine profiles and set up. She spoke on the sewage lagoon and how this project will help with the Bethel landfill overflow.

Joan Hamilton spoke on behalf of the Fire Log Recycling Project. She said it is a very good project and voiced her acceptance of the project.

Pamela Bumstead spoke against the Fire Log Project. She said the emissions were not tested thoroughly enough to be accurate. She also made comments about there not being accurate information on the percentage of the wood and paper in the landfill. Mrs. Bumstead requests that there be more options considered for Bethel, and she wants more research done on the Bethel Fire Log Recycling Project.

The City Council made a request to Jill Maynard she do more research on the numbers of the Fire Log Project. They asked for her return when she can get it together for their consideration.

**Item B** – City Manager Herron reported to the Council that as far as he was aware the Crowley and Yukon Fuel negotiations have stalled.

A brief discussion about the potential Crowley / Yukon acquisition ensued. A resolution to the Attorney General was requested to be prepared for the next Council meeting.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Item A** – Court System Expansion. A letter from the Alaska Court System indicating their need for expansion and remodeling of the Bethel Court Complex due to increasing caseloads. Cost estimates were addressed along with lease payments and mortgage payments. Discussion ensued between City Manager Herron and Council. A request for a court system staff to come to Bethel for a meeting with City Council was made.

**Item B** – Introduction of Ordinance #03-14: Authorizing a lease of City owned real property to Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation for an Assisted Living Home for the elderly and/or adults with disabilities.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Williams	To set Public Hearing for Ordinance#03-14 for 10-28-03 Council Meeting
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Notti	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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**Item C** – Introduction of Ordinance #03-15: Authorizing the City to sell the Phillips Ayagnirvik Treatment Center to, and enter into a ground lease with, Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation. A public hearing was set for October 28, 2003.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Rodgers	To set Public Hearing for Ordinance #03-15 for 10-28-03 Council Meeting
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Williams	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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**Item D** – Resolution # 03-31: Supporting the Lower Kuskokwim Economic Development Council’s effort to promote a future economic development plan for the City of Bethel. Resolution was passed unanimously.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>		To adopt Resolution #03-31
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>		

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Rodgers	To suspend the Rules to go past 10:00 p.m.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Trantham	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Williams	To amend the Rules to allow further comments.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Rodgers	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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**Item E** – Resolution #03-29: Requesting FY 04 Payment in Lieu of Taxes funding from the Department of Community and Economical Development. Resolution was passed unanimously.

**Item F** – Discussion of the Alaska Municipal League Conference. The council took a vote to see who would be Bethel’s representative in the chair on the Board of AML. Council Member Jacobs was elected to go as representative. Also took a vote to see who was interested in going to the conference. Six of the Seven members were interested in attending.

**Item G** – Bethel Strategic Plan and Workshops. Discussion ensued on the communication between the Council and the rest of the City of Bethel. Suggestions were made that the City Council should set up regular meetings, with the public attending, to speak informally on issues concerning the community, such as the Bethel Strategic Plan. Another suggestion that was discussed was that the Council and the other businesses in Bethel attend each others board meetings to get a better understanding of what each corporations concerns are.

**Item H** – City of Bethel Newsletter. Newsletter was discussed and a preliminary date set for November 1, 2003 for the first release of the quarterly newsletter.

**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Council Member Dymont thanked the community for their votes, and promised to do a good job.

Council Member Jacobs said he feels more like he is serving the public now. He is excited about the upcoming year and is looking forward to it.

Council Member Notti thanked all the voters for their support and will do his best.

Council Member Williams thanked the Bethel voters for their votes. Thanked everyone for their support on the PTA. The movies they sold made \$5,000.00 for the PTA. He wants to move the deadline for the budget up a week. He has some concerns about waste oil. He wished Duke Ballard a speedy recovery.

Council Member Trantham thanked the Council for supporting him on his move to the Senior Advisory Board. He encouraged all Council members to utilize the City Clerk, and to attend a Therapeutic Court Session. He felt there was good discussion at the meeting and hopes it will continue.

Council Member Rodgers gave his condolences to the Samuelson and Laroux family for their loss. He thanked the Council for the Certificate of Appreciation. He wants everyone to hug an elder and wished them all a happy birthday.

Mayor Short thanked the community for their support for his father. He gave his condolences to the Laroux and Samuelson families for their loss. He thanked Council for their appointment to Mayor again and looks forward to the upcoming year.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Jacobs	To adjourn the meeting
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Rodgers	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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**APPROVED THIS 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2002.**

ATTEST:

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Hugh Short, Jr., Mayor

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Amanda Roudebsuh, City Clerk