

BETHEL CITY COUNCIL

MONDAY, APRIL 12

N.C. THEATRE

Present: Schimrer, Mendola, E. Hoffman, Howard Elliott
Absent: Sallison, Jimmy Hoffman

The minutes of March 22 were read and accepted as read.

Correspondence- A letter that had been sent to Volney Richmond of the Northern Commercial Co. was read. The letter stated that a pro-rata share based only on the actual cost would not fully reflect the over-all cost, such as the administering of the State Grants. Therefore, commercial enterprises would be charged 40% more than the actual cost and, if they choose to obtain tideland rights, the city would support their claim.

Mr. Richmond's reply was read. He states that the N.C.CO wanted to pay their share, and would participate in the project with the understanding that the entire waterfront be covered in one year. He said that he assumed that the 40% would be a local tax credited to the City of Bethel.

A letter from Senator McNealy was read, concerning the road situation. The Senator said he had been able to get the finance committee approval for from \$15,000 to \$30,000 to help with the local road situation.

Committee-Police- Don Schimmer told the council that the Troopers were unable to have complete radio contact due to "dead Areas", and that a base station antennae was needed. Harry Faulkner has one for sale for \$20.00 which was blown over in a storm and welded together again. Mr. Schirmer recommended that instead of getting the used one, that the City purchase two-one for each trooper's house- at an approximate cost of \$38.00 each.

MM Elliott/Schirmer that the two antennae be purchased at \$38.00 each.
E. Hoffman, Mendola, Schimmer, Elliott in favor. MC

Jail Maintenance- The city clerk told the council that there are several items of maintenance that need attention, and since she has been unable to get the N.C. CO to do it, it should be decided who is responsible for this maintenance. When water is needed, the trooper has to be called, who has to come to the jail and open the evidence room, open a valve, let the water in, close the valve and then return to his duties. This results in a time loss for the trooper and the water men.

Either a leak or condensation from a stove pipe is creating a dripping condition and a desk has been ruined in the matter of two months. Paul Beard said he knew nothing about this, but the City clerk said she has mentioned it to him personally, along with every other employee of N.C. Mr. Beard can't imagine why anyone would sit and let a desk be ruined. It was pointed out that there is no more room in which to put the desk, and the only alternative would be to put something like the filing cabinet in the leaky place.

The lack of heat in the clerk's office was discussed. It has been extremely cold since occupancy in January, and we have been unable to get any form of heat. The clerk is using an electric heater of her own, but mentioned that the electric bill is considerably higher.

After an exchange of words between the clerk and Mr. Beard, the Mayor said he didn't think that anything was being accomplished and that he would get together with Mr. Beard to try to determine who is responsible for the maintenance of the jail.

Playgrounds- Three playgrounds were leveled and filled last year, and the equipment for them should be ordered in time for the spring boat. Mr. Mendola will check prices and give them to the council for a vote.

Sanitation Contract- Mayor Nicholson announced that he will not be renewing his contract which expires in June. Suggests advertising and asking for bids.

The need for a city coordinator was again discussed. A letter has been written to Mr. Wynn about the possibility of his taking the job. In addition to the sanitation service, we will need someone to look after the river erosion project. Andy Edge has expressed interest in the job and a letter has been sent to him, asking him for a resume on background and qualifications.

River Erosion- The Mayor says that it would be impossible to do as Mr. Richmond stated, to finish the 3,000 feet of control in one year, since funds are not available. If N.C. CO does contribute cost plus 40%, it was suggested that the control start at the "brown" house and go 2,000 feet downstream.

Bolts, nails, etc. have been ordered for 1,000 feet, and additional materials for another 1,000 feet should be ordered.

It was pointed out that the City cannot impose a tax on anyone, or force them to participate in the program. This should be clarified with Mr. Richmond.

Don Schimmer had to leave the meeting, and was no longer a quorum. A discussion continued on the river front problem.

Mr. Mendola told the Council that Trooper Schouten is having a lot of trouble with the old pool hall and it is being kept open all night. The trooper suggests imposing a curfew. It was also mentioned that the place is extremely dirty and that they serve food. The Mayor will talk to Mr. Pensgard about the trouble being created by his clientele, and the City Clerk will write to the State Sanitarian about the conditions of the establishment.

Trooper Schouten is having trouble with kids playing in some old, abandoned houses. Letters will be written to MRS. Nerby and Lapalatto to see if they will tear the houses down.

MM Elliott/E. Hoffman that the meeting adjourn. MC

A. L. J.