

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BETHESDA CITY COUNCIL

AUGUST 30, 1965

W. C. THEATHER

8:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 PM

PRESENT: Wilkins, E. Hoffman, Mendola, Elliott, Nicholson

ABSENT: Sallison, J. Hoffman

Art Nicholson said the Taxi Ordinance which had had the first reading at the last council meeting, would be up for the second reading this evening.

I read the Taxi Ordinance in its entirety.

Art Nicholson asked if anyone in the taxi business had any comments to make. Tony Lewis said he would like to go through this ordinance section by section. He feels that by the time he met the requirements set by his insurance policy it would govern most of the regulations set down in Ordinance #26.

Art Nicholson said it was necessary to regulate the amount of insurance covered (carried) by each taxi business because it could be purchased in lesser amounts.

Tony Lewis stated that when he tried to hire someone under 21 years old his insurance agent called and said they would have to cancel his policy if he hired anyone under 21 years of age.

Art Nicholson said no one will be able to drive a taxi under the age of 21.

Toney Lewis read some of the regulations set down for a commercial driver: The driver shall not be under 21 yrs of age, he must have a good driving record - no serious accidents and must be of sound mind and good moral character.

Tony Lewis questioned as to whether the taxi business was taxable. Art Nicholson answered him saying yes, it is taxable under ordinance #1.

Art Nicholson said that we will not have the 3rd reading of the ordinance tonight because some of these things would be carried over to be discussed at the next council meeting.

Andy Edge pointed out that section 1A on this taxi ordinance would have to be corrected.

Jean Graves asked if this was written for a first class city. She questioned as to the possibility of a 4th class city being able to issue permits and licenses?

Art Nicholson answered Jean Graves - saying that the state wishes that the cities would take care of as many of these things for themselves as possible.

Art Nicholson stated that after studying the ordinance - the way it is written, leaving so many things up to the city clerk - that there are some things here that might well bring on a law suit, therefore it would be necessary to make some changes transferring the authority to the City Council instead of the City Clerk.

Tony Lewis asked to discuss Section III Par. 13. He said he felt this would be a burden to his record keeping.

Art Nicholson answered him stating that since there is to be a City Sales Tax on this business - the operator would have to keep such records to be able to fix the sales tax owed to the city.

Art Nicholson said it was his opinion that the ordinance #26 set the insurance requirements rather low for commercial drivers. The requirements are \$25,000 for any recovery for anyone person for bodily injury. He said there is not much difference in cost of \$25,000 to \$50,000. Prior to the next meeting - perhaps you can get an estimate from you insurance agent on the difference. If this would increase greatly - maybe we can consider it if it is greatly out of line.

Elliott stated that the age of the driver would have a lot to do with your premiums. We should define how old these drivers are to be.

Art Nicholson referred to Section III (B) penalty - it should read \$100 or 10 days in jail or both.

Section III D - Clarify to read "to the City Council" Leave out the word "the" and in Sec. III D (2) insert the words Person or corporation.

Section III D (13) change City clerk to read City Council and strike out line 6.

The Council discussed the necessity of the report being made 5 days after the end of the month. Elliott said he did not think this was necessary. This was left open to give Tony Lewis an opportunity to make a proposal at the next meeting as to what would be a convenient way of keeping his dispatch records.

Section III H (8) Add at the end of the sentence "before the Bethel City Council"

Section IV A Insert " "Until a vehicle permit thereon shall be obtained from the City Clerk of the City of Bethel"

Section IV F (h) Strike out "any inspection" typographical error.

Tony Lewis recommended to strike out the section on chauffers.

Ben Wilkins said there are some good points in this section. Art Nicholson added that this provided a great deal of protection for the driver and the employer.

Peter Mac Manus said I would like to make a suggestion - Why not say that the insurance policy for the taxi owner carrier should be approved by the City Council. Then you could strike this section of the ordinance?

Ben Wilkins asked Tony Lewis what are the restrictions set by your insurance agent. Tony answered 21 years of age, good driving record, no serious accidents and be of sound mind and good moral character. As soon as I hire a new driver - I have to report his name to the insurance company and they investigate his record.

Peter Macilanus asked if there is a charge for this permit?
Art Nicholson answered him "no"

Tony Lewis asked what will I do if my regular is sick or gets fired on a Friday? Will I be able to hire someone until Monday when a new driver could then obtain a chauffeur permit? Art Nicholson answered No.

It was suggested that some of the men around town could apply for a chauffeurs permit even though they are not employed as a driver. Then they could be hired temporarily over a weekend when the city office would be closed.

Tony Lewis requested to strike the Sec V C (8) requiring a driver to be a resident for 30 days.

A discussion followed and the council had no objections to strike Sec.V C (8)

Under Section V (E) change to read the city council of the city of Bethel may temporarily suspend

The Council discussed the number of days the ordinance will become effective after final passage of this ordinance.

MI Elliott/S/ J. Mendola I make a motion that this ordinance shall become effective within 30 days after final passage and approval of Ordinance # 26. All in favor 5 AYES 0 NAYS MC

Art Nicholson announced that the next item on the agenda "City Coordinator"

Andy Edge, City Coordinator gave the Mayor a letter to read. It was to the effect that he was giving a 30 day notice to become effective Sept. 30, 1965. A copy is attached to these minutes.

IM Wilkins/S/E. Hoffman I move we accept the resignation of Mr. Edge as submitted. All in favor 5 AYES 0 NAYS MC

Street Lights

Eddie Hoffmansaid street lights are needed in Lousetown. There is a \$500 allocation in the budget for 1965 for installation of street lights. Andy Edge recommended a mercury vapor be used. E. Hoffman said a light is needed between Mandregan's and L. Crews house. A pole is needed by the Trade Winds before we can put in a light.

MI Wilkins/S/Elliott I move we continue beyond 10:00 PM MC unanimous

Art Nicholson asked what is the expense of this installation? Wilkins approximately \$240. for 2 poles and a light by the Tradewinds. This location is a city street. The area should have more light. Not because of a business but because so many of our young people go through that area after dark to go to the restaurant.

Wilkins stated that all we need is approval.

Wilkins stated that there should be another light at the far end of the road on Graveyard Street.

MI E. Hoffman/S/Elliott I make a motion we put in three (3) street lights in the areas mentioned in this discussion. All in favor 4 AYES 1 NAY Mendola not in favor MC

ROADS

E. Hoffman suggested that the City extend the road 300 feet more on 7th St. east of Main St. This possibility was discussed.

MEM J. Mendola/S/Wilkins I make a motion that we do call for bids from Earth Movers to put in 300 ft. of road to say what it would cost to extend the road to Elia Salaffi's property 5 AYS 0 NAYS MC

Art Nicholson requested the secretary to write a letter to Earth Movers to ask for a bid.

DELINQUENT SANITATION ACCOUNTS

See attached letter to see what accounts were written off.

The Council members went over the list according to each as to their ability to pay. They will prosecute some of these to collect them.

MEM Wilkins/S/J. Mendola I move we accept the right offs as amended as signified by the check mark on the list 5 AYES 0 NAYS MC

Jean Graves suggested that the list should be given to Bart Graves a welfare officer. That perhaps he could make an effort to raise the welfare allowance to permit some of the people on welfare to pay for these sanitation services.

The collection of the rest of the accounts will be pursued vigorously. There is still approximately \$2,750.00 still to be collected as delinquent accounts. Art Nicholson suggested with the billings this time should include a letter stating that the account will be collected. These letters should be sent on the 30 day accounts that they will be prosecuted.

MEM Elliott/S/Wilkins I make a motion that we go along with Andy's recommendation on quarterly review of accounts by the Council. MC.

ELECTION ORDINANCE.

Andy Edge - Mr. Mayor, on the election ordinances. I have written a letter to Mr. Hugh Wade concerning the portion of Alaska laws about the ability to read or speak the English language. Section 16 as in our city ordinance #14. I recommend that we amend the ordinance to comply with the State Election Code. The letter refers to the election of last year as to the voting regulations and an amendment to #14 should be drawn up before October.

Art Nicholson said it should also conform to the Federal Qualifications as to the new law that has been passed.

Amending Section 16 of Ordinance #14 to amend with section 5D of the Alaska Statutes

MEM/Wilkins/S/Elliott I move that we amend ordinance #14 by deleting the section #16 and in its place the following holds "special problems any qualified voter who is incapable of reading, or marking the ballot, or sign his name may request any judge or anyone or not more than 2 other persons of his choice to assist him. If the judge is requested he shall assist the voter. If any other person is requested the person shall state under oath before the election judge that he will not divulge the vote cast by the person whom he assists and that the ballot will be marked in accordance with the wishes of the voter.

All in favor 4 AYES 1 NAY opposed by Eddie Hoffman MC

MEM Wilkins I move that we adjourn.

A. F. J.