

Introduced by: Lee Foley, City Manager  
Date: February 9, 2010  
Action: Passed  
Vote: 7-0

## *CITY OF BETHEL*

### **Resolution # 10-15**

#### **CITY OF BETHEL PRIORITIES FOR THE FY 2011 STATE OF ALASKA CAPITAL BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, the City plans to hire a construction company to complete each project, creating a short-term demand for architects, engineers, and laborers in the construction, electrical, and mechanical trades;

**WHEREAS**, the City intends to exhibit transparency, oversight, and accountability for all funds awarded through this request;

**WHEREAS**, the Bethel City Council is a seven-member body elected by resident voters of Bethel to act in the best interest of the community;

**WHEREAS**, the priorities established herein are rank-ordered and vital to the well-being of the community and municipality of Bethel;

**WHEREAS**, a summary of the City of Bethel's priorities and requested funding amounts are listed in the following table:

<b>Top Three Priorities</b>	<b>Request</b>
1. Bethel Fire Station (repairs)	\$1,000,000
2. Bethel Police Station (new construction)	\$3,000,000
3. Bethel Aquatic Training and Health Center (new construction)	\$4,000,000
Total	\$8,000,000

#### **#1 Bethel Fire Station**

**WHEREAS**, the Bethel Fire Station is more than 28 years old and has deteriorated over time due to water intrusion, a faulty roof design that allowed no ventilation in the roof cavity, and the use of sprayed foam insulation instead of fiberglass insulation as required in the original building plans;

**WHEREAS**, the station's failing structural condition that includes roof trusses and sheeting, rotted top wall plates, delaminated siding/plywood, decayed wall studs and disintegrating

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beams, while temporarily mitigated through emergency repairs, has not been sufficient to extend the operational life of the facility;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bethel was awarded \$1,200,000.00 in a Legislative Grant from the State of Alaska to repair, or replace the fire station roof, and plans to use the funds requested herein, if approved, to effect the additional repairs necessary to extend the life expectancy of the building;

**WHEREAS**, the Bethel Fire Station serves as a regional emergency assistance hub for fire and emergency medical services, search and rescue support, and as the Emergency Operations Center for the community of Bethel;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Bethel City Council, as elected representatives of the community and city of Bethel, do hereby formally request that the State of Alaska provide \$1,000,000.00 in its FY 2011 Capital Budget to be used in repairing the fire station.

## **#2 New Bethel Police Station**

**WHEREAS**, the current Bethel Police Station is more than 30 years old and was constructed by combining 3 mismatched smaller structures that are incapable of supporting the twelve sworn officers, five dispatchers, and one administrative assistant who provide public safety needs for a community of approximately 6,000 souls in bush Alaska;

**WHEREAS**, the current facility is almost impossible to heat, is cramped to the point of seriously restricting internal performance duties, projects a consistently offensive odor that cannot be eliminated, has mold buildup in the walls, no protection for police vehicles in periods of extreme inhospitable weather, and no place to interview victims, or suspects;

**WHEREAS**, the deplorable conditions stated herein have had a negative impact on recruitment and retention of police officers and dispatchers;

**WHEREAS**, if this request is approved, the City intends to construct the new facility so as to minimize impact on current operations and ability to serve the public;

**WHEREAS**, the essential nature of the emergency services provided by Bethel Police Department personnel require that a new, improved, and healthy environment be created by constructing a totally new police station;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Bethel City Council, as elected representatives of the community and city of Bethel, do hereby formally request that the State of Alaska provide \$3,000,000.00 in its FY 2011 Capital Budget to be used for constructing a new police station.

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**# 3 Bethel Aquatic Training and Health Center**

**WHEREAS**, the need for a multi-use recreation facility that included a swimming pool has been expressed by the community of Bethel in numerous community plans since the early 1970s;

**WHEREAS**, the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region experiences one of the highest drowning rates in Alaska—largely because residents and visitors live near the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers, engage in boating and water play activities, do not know how to swim, do not know how to rescue individuals from the water, and do not know how to resuscitate victims;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bethel Aquatic Training and Health Center Plan, completed by Agnew Beck Consultants in 2005, identifies a swimming pool as the number one activity voted on by community members to include in the Aquatic Training and Health Center;

**WHEREAS**, the pool in the Bethel Aquatic Training and Health Center would provide the following benefits to any of the YK-Delta's 26,000 residents: allow children and adults to learn how to swim, provide courses to certify lifeguards, provide a place where families and friends come together to recreate and exercise, reduce the onset of diabetes, obesity, and other health problems, provide a venue for physical therapy, and provide special programs for seniors, youth, and people with physical disabilities;

**WHEREAS**, the Bethel Aquatic Training and Health Center Committee is a group of concerned citizens formed in November 2007 that meet twice a month to assist in the development of the multi-use recreation center, make recommendations to the City Manager, and assure that the project design, construction, operation, and maintenance costs are affordable;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bethel signed a contract with Architects Alaska, Inc. in January 2009 and agreed to pay \$390,933 for the architects to complete the 35% schematic design by July 31, 2009, which has been accomplished;

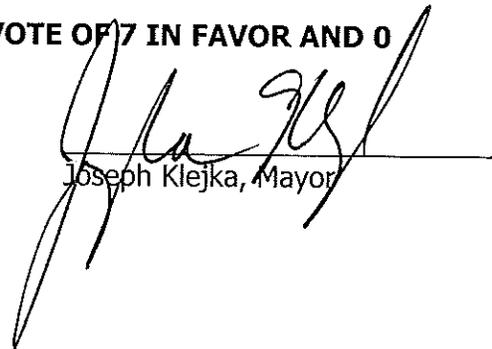
**WHEREAS**, the City requests that \$4,000,000 be put in the FY 2011 State of Alaska Capital Budget for the City of Bethel to pay for the first phase of construction of the new Bethel Aquatic Training and Health Center;

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**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Bethel City Council, as elected representatives of the community and city of Bethel, do hereby formally request that the State of Alaska provide \$4,000,000.00 in its FY 2011 Capital Budget to be matched with other designated and approved funding sources to construct a new Aquatic Training and Health Center.

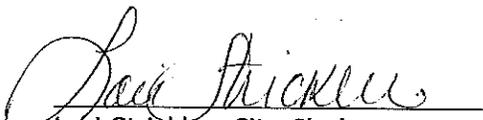
**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Bethel City Council, as elected representatives of the community and city of Bethel, hereby set and reaffirm the three funding priorities for the FY 2011 State of Alaska Capital Budget as: 1) Bethel Fire Station, 2) Bethel Police Station, and 3) Bethel Aquatic Training and health Center.

**ENACTED THIS 9<sup>th</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2010 BY A VOTE OF 7 IN FAVOR AND 0 OPPOSED.**



Joseph Klejka, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lori Strickler, City Clerk