
City of Bethel, Alaska

City Council Minutes

January 14, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on January 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:

Hugh Short, Jr.	Andrei Jacobs
David Trantham	Jerry Drake
Carl Berger	Joy Shantz
Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers – <i>Council Member Rodgers left the meeting at 6:40 p.m.</i>	

Excused absence(s): none

Unexcused absence(s): none

Also in attendance were the following:

Bob Herron, City Manager
Janette Persinger, City Clerk

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To remove Mayor Short from the office of Mayor
SECONDED BY:	Trantham	

Discussion moved to the council.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion failed by a roll call vote of 5 -1 (Trantham).
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PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

A. James Angaiak: Bethel Community Services

Mr. Angaiak:

- Spoke of property taken by BCS

B. Rich Gannon: Kuskokwim 300 Sled Dog Race

Mr. Gannon:

- Highlighted the activities of the K-300
- Thanked the City of Bethel for their sponsorship
- Asked that a representative of council attend the awards banquet

C. Colleen Soberay: Community Strategic Plan

Ms. Soberay:

- Provided an update of the progress of the Community Strategic Plan

D. Agnes Phillips: People's Learning Center

Ms. Phillips:

- Voiced her support of the People's Learning Center project

E. Janelle Vanasse: Trails

Ms. Vanasse:

- Asked that the council consider placing a small winter bridge out to the island in front of the Joe Lomack building

F. Thor Williams: Removal of Mayor

Mr. Williams:

- Voiced his opinion over removal of the mayor

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the amended minutes of the 12-10-02 regular meeting and the 12-17-02 special meeting
SECONDED BY:	Berger	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the agenda
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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MAYOR'S REPORT

Items included in the Mayor's report:

- Letter from the Kuskokwim 300 re: sponsorship
- Letter from Pioneer Memorial Park, Inc. re: name change
- Letter from Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development re: FY03 Mini-grant Assistance Program award letter
- Letter from Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development re: FY03 Safe Communities Program Payment
- Letter from Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development re: FY03 Payment in Lieu of Taxes Program payment
- Letter from Alaska Department of Community and Economic Development re: FY03 State Revenue Sharing payment
- Letter from Denali Commission re: Quarterly Denali Commission meeting
- Letter from Bearingsea.com re: website
- Letter from State of Alaska Department of Military and Veterans Affairs re: available grant money
- Letter from Bethel Native Corporation re: proposal to the City of Bethel for long term lease
- Letter from State of Alaska Department of Military and Veterans Affairs re: development of a local hazard mitigation plan and correspondence from City Clerk
- Letter from Alaska Municipal League re: Alaska Conference of Mayors/AML Board of Directors Legislative meeting
- Memorandum from City Manager Herron re: Council Member Trantham's request for information
- Memorandum from City Manager Herron re: Council Member Trantham's request for information
- Recommendation from the Public Safety and Transportation Commission
- Recommendation from the Public Works Committee and attached memo from Greg Sargent
- Recommendation from the Public Works Committee
- Recommendation from the Public Works Committee

Council Member Trantham asked that a memo from Deputy City Manager Soberay be read into the record. The memo discussed grant procedures.

MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT

City Manager Herron's report included the following:

- A memorandum from the Finance Director addressed to City Manager Herron
- A written report from the Public Works Director regarding the explosives in the landfill
- Personnel matters
- City Manager travel status

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Senior Advisory Board

Council Member Berger announced that the Senior Advisory Board is scheduled to meet later in the week and highlighted the Senior Center Director's report.

Parks and Recreation Committee

Council Member Jacobs highlighted the Parks & Recreation Director's report.

Planning Commission

Council Member Shantz announced that due to a lack of quorum, the January 9, 2003 Planning Commission meeting was rescheduled for January 23, 2003.

Port Commission

Council Member Rodgers was not present. City Manager Herron reported on the December 16, 2002 Port Commission minutes.

Public Works Committee

Council Member Trantham stated that the Public Works Committee met on January 17, 2003 and highlighted the minutes of the meeting.

Public Safety and Transportation Commission

Council Member Drake reported that John Hastie was elected as the chair of the Public Safety and Transportation Commission. John Dickens was elected Vice-Chair. Council Member Drake gave a report on the activities of the Alaska Municipal League.

Finance Committee

Mayor Short stated that the next Finance Committee meeting would be held on January 23, 2003.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item A – Public Hearing – Second Substitute Ordinance #02-33: An ordinance authorizing the disposal of a 10.3 acre parcel within the surface estate of the southwest quarter of section 8, range 71 west, township 8 north, seward meridian, to Yuut Elitnaurviat-People's Learning Center, Inc.

Mayor Short opened public hearing.

- A. Janelle Vanasse voiced her support of the ordinance.

Mayor Short closed public hearing.

MOVED BY:	Drake	To adopt ordinance #02-33
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	
Discussion moved to the council.		
VOTE ON MOTION	The vote on the motion was suspended until the January 28, 2003 meeting.	

Item B – Public Hearing – Ordinance #02-36: An ordinance amending Bethel Municipal Code section 5.40.020 to change the requirements for written and driving tests for renewal applicants operating a taxicab or river taxi from annual to every other year

Mayor Short opened public hearing.

- A. Thor Williams questioned the fee schedule for the testing procedures.

Mayor Short closed public hearing.

MOVED BY:	Drake	To adopt ordinance #02-36
SECONDED BY:	Shantz	
Discussion moved to the council.		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.	

Item C – Public Hearing – Ordinance #02-37: Authorizing the acquisition of land from Omni Enterprises, Inc.

Mayor Short opened public hearing.

- A. Oly Olson voiced his opposition of the ordinance.

Mayor Short closed public hearing.

MOVED BY:	Drake	To adopt ordinance #02-37
SECONDED BY:	Berger	
Discussion moved to council. City Manager Herron responded to questions from council.		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion fails by 1 – 5 roll call vote (Drake).	

Item D – Public Hearing – Ordinance #02-38: Appropriating three hundred and seventy five thousand dollars from the City's general fund to acquire land from Omni Enterprises, Inc.

MOVED BY:		To adopt ordinance #02-38
SECONDED BY:		
VOTE ON MOTION	With the failure of ordinance #02-37, ordinance #02-38 also failed.	

Item E – Public Hearing – Ordinance #02-39: Appropriating seven hundred and seventy thousand dollars from the City’s designated retained earnings for seawall maintenance in the municipal dock fund to meet the City’s local match obligation provided for in amendment no. 1 to the bank stabilization agreement with the U.S. Department of the Army

Mayor Short opened public hearing. With no members of the public to be heard, Mayor Short closed the public hearing.

MOVED BY:	Drake	To adopt ordinance #02-39
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
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Item F – Introduction – Substitute Ordinance #02-31: Amending sections of chapters 13.04, 13.08, 13.12 and 13.16 of the Bethel Municipal Code regarding water and sewer service

MOVED BY:	Drake	To introduce and set for public hearing ordinance #02-31
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by 6 -1 roll call vote (Trantham).
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Item G – Discussion item – Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Transportation

MOVED BY:	Trantham	To approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Transportation
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by 6 -1 voice vote (Drake).
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Item H – Discussion item – Recommendations from the Public Works Committee and Planning Commission regarding the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program

MOVED BY:	Jacobs	To approve the draft STIP and direct administration to draft a formal resolution approving the STIP
SECONDED BY:	Shantz	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item I – Mayor’s appointment to committees and commissions

MOVED BY:	Berger	To appoint James Blake to the Public Safety and Transportation Commission
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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MOVED BY:	Berger	To appoint Kevin Murphy and Vicki Malone to the Public Works Committee
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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MOVED BY:	Berger	To appoint Heath Martin to the Parks and Recreation Committee
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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MOVED BY:	Berger	To appoint Joan Hamilton to the Planning Commission
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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MOVED BY:	Berger	To appoint Dan Leinberger to the Finance Committee
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a 5 -1 voice vote (Trantham).
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MOVED BY:	Berger	To appoint Robin Thompson to the Finance Committee
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a 5 - 1 voice vote (Trantham).
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MOVED BY:	Berger	To appoint Helen Venes to the Finance Committee
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a 5 -1 voice vote (Trantham).
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NEW BUSINESS

Item A – Discussion Item – Constituent concerns regarding attorney costs over recent lawsuit

Discussion ensued regarding the attorney fees.

Item B – Discussion item – Memorandum or Agreement between Yuut Elitnaurviat Incorporated and Individual Partners

MOVED BY:	Drake	To enter into the memorandum of agreement between Yuut Elitnaurviat Incorporated and Individual Partners
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

Discussion moved to the council regarding the specifics of the memorandum.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion was withdrawn.
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COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Berger reminded members of council that each member represents all citizens of Bethel and not individual groups of constituents. He encouraged members of council to set aside differences and move forward.

Council Member Shantz thanked everyone for attending the meeting and encouraged everyone to treat each other with dignity. Council Member Shantz wished the K-300 musher’s good luck and wished Mayor Short a Happy Birthday.

Mayor Short commented on the K-300 and the activities surrounding it.

Council Member Jacobs encouraged members of the public to attend the Community Strategic Planning meeting on January 30, 2003.

Council Member Drake had no comment.

Council Member Trantham clarified his representation of constituents and read an article from the Anchorage Daily News.

Council Member Rodgers was not present.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Berger	To adjourn the meeting
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:24 pm.

APPROVED THIS 28th day of January 2003.

ATTEST:

Hugh Short, Jr., Mayor

Janette Persinger, City Clerk