

PAGE 1  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
DECEMBER 22, 1992

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Feaster called the regular Council meeting of December 22, 1992, to order at 7:30.

**ROLL CALL** Present: Feaster, Jones, Trantham, Warner (late), Wintersteen  
Absent: Metcalfe, Vanasse

**APPROVAL/MINUTES** M/M by Wintersteen, 2nd by Jones to approve the minutes of the December 8, 1992, regular Council meeting as corrected. Councilman Trantham asked that the words "and DEC" be deleted. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL/AGENDA** M/M by Jones, 2nd by Wintersteen to approve the agenda as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**MAYOR'S REPORT** Mayor Feaster made two Committee/Commission appointments and one reappointment: Scott Robart to the Public Works Committee; Joan Hamilton to the Planning Commission; and the reappointment of Grant Fairbanks to the Port Commission.

**motion** M/M by Trantham, 2nd by Jones to ratify the three appointments as presented by the Mayor. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Feaster then presented an official letter of resignation from the Transportation Commission from Tony Lewis. Mr. Trantham asked that the opening be announced along with the other vacancies.

Some discussion regarding the rural sanitation plan proposed by the Alaska Sanitation Task Force was held. At Council's suggestion, Mayor Feaster stated that he would draft a letter endorsing the plan as requested by the Chairman of the Alaska Sanitation Task Force.

**MANAGER'S REPORT** Interim City Manager Gross reviewed her written Manager's report with Council. In addition to the written material, Ms. Gross stated that she was reviewing all of the job descriptions to make certain that they were

current, and that she would not approve any Personnel Action Requests unless a current position description accompanied the request.

Ms. Gross also reviewed the information from the AML concerning changes in State and Municipal Assistance, which could mean a reduction of 27% for Bethel. City Manager Gross encouraged the Mayor and the Council to participate in the Local Government Legislative Conference scheduled for February.

Ms. Gross relayed Bartz Englishoe's suggestion that she and Stuart Greydanus meet with Mr. Englishoe and the Department of Natural Resources on December 30 to discuss the Tidelands Lease Plan. Ms. Gross stated that she planned to be in Anchorage at this time and was willing to attend the meeting if the Council thought it appropriate. The Council approved the travel for Mr. Greydanus.

City Manager Gross informed Council that she was willing to extend her agreement to serve as Interim City Manager to January 15, 1993, and beyond if Council requested. Councilman Trantham asked if she would be willing to extend until January 31, with the option to extend further if the City Manager selection had not been made. Ms. Gross indicated that she was willing to agree to those terms.

Council next discussed setting a time table for the City Manager selection. It was decided to schedule the first work session for January 4, 1993, to select the finalists. Interviews could then be scheduled for the weeks of January 11 and 18, if necessary. If the Council made its selection at the January 26, 1993, meeting, Mayor Feaster stated that the successful candidate may need two to four weeks to take office, and therefore, the transition might take until the end of February. Ms. Gross stated that she did not wish to stay beyond the beginning of March, 1993.

**motion**

M/M by Trantham. 2nd by Wintersteen to extend City Manager Gross' contract to February 1, 1993, with a possible further extension to

**PAGE 3  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
DECEMBER 22, 1992**

March 1 or any date between February 1 and March 1 subject to the approval of the Interim City Manager and the Council. The terms and conditions of the agreement remain in force. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Gross stated that Jordan Suhr was planning to attend the January 12 Council meeting to update the Council on the Sewer Lagoon Project.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS  
COMMENTS**

Councilman Jones stated that he had received several complaints from residents concerning snow berms blocking their driveways.

Councilman Trantham thanked the VFW and Lions Club for providing a Christmas dinner for the Senior citizens. Mr. Trantham also thanked the Lions Club for distributing 100 Christmas baskets to needy families.

**REPORTS OF STANDING  
COMMITTEES**

Councilman Jones reported that the next meeting of the Finance Committee was scheduled for January 21, 1993.

Councilman Wintersteen reported that the Port Commission met and is still waiting for a reply from the State concerning the City taking over a portion of Second Avenue. Mr. Wintersteen also said a future Council agenda item would be a recommendation from the Port Commission to move the well house to the Port for use as an office building. The Port Commission also worked on its five year plan.

Councilman Warner reported that Planning Commission did not have a quorum to meet. Mr. Warner also reported that the Public Works Committee met and discussed the report prepared by Jerry Korhuis regarding future plans and goals.

Councilman Trantham reported that the Youth Services Committee did not have a quorum, but discussed how to deal with committee absenteeism. Mr. Trantham said that bids are going out for new flooring for the Youth Center. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for January 4 at 4:00 P.M.

Mayor Feaster reported that the Solid Waste Committee met and discussed the concept of establishing the committee as an officially sanctioned committee as opposed to an ad hoc committee.

**PEOPLE TO BE HEARD**

In response to a question from Jerry Korthuis regarding the results of the water samples obtained by Councilman Trantham, Mr. Trantham stated that while he was not prepared to present the results at that time he could comment on the sewage content: The results were consistent to sewage containing fecal chloroforms and were high in phosphates and some other material; the sample from Darios culvert was negative; the sample taken at the fish trap (one mile north of Uviuk subdivision) was positive; the sample taken at the Bethel Inn culvert was positive.

Geoff Kennedy announced a public forum sponsored by Kuskokwim College and KYUK on January 5, 1993, 7-9 PM at the KYUK Studios to discuss the subject of an asbestos dump site located in Bethel.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Item A: Passport Service

**PASSPORT ACCEPTANCE SERVICE DESIGNATING THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AS DESIGNATED AGENT(S)**

The City Clerk explained that the Seattle Passport Agency had contacted her asking if the Clerk's office would be interested in providing passport acceptance service for the residents of the Bethel area. Ms. Elam stated that the time involved in processing passport applications was not significant and would not interfere with the responsibilities of the City Clerk.

motion

M/M by Jones, 2nd by Trantham to designate the City Clerk as passport agent and that the City Manager designate an alternate person to serve in the same capacity. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Item B: Watson's Corner

**TRAFFIC PROBLEM ON RIDGECREST DRIVE (WATSON'S CORNER).**

Council reviewed the three suggestions that

were submitted as possible solutions to the traffic problem at Watson's Corner. Councilman Wintersteen stated that he felt that the most reasonable solution was to install a traffic light at the intersection which would be activated by pedestrians. However, it was pointed out that the installation of a traffic light was the responsibility of the State and that reconstruction of Ridgecrest by the Department of Transportation would not take place until 1997, therefore, that would not solve the immediate problem. Discussion followed. Council was also advised that Mr. Maggard of the DOT had informed City Administration that the Department was planning to hold a public hearing in Bethel in the spring of 1993 regarding the Ridgecrest reconstruction.

**motion**

M/M by Jones, 2nd by Trantham to table the discussion of the traffic problem at Watson's Corner to the January 12 meeting of the City Council. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item C: Numbering  
Ord. & Resolu.**

**NUMBERING OF ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

Mayor Feaster advised Council that the City's method of filing and numbering ordinances and resolutions was outdated, and that beginning January 1993 the City Clerk would like to implement a system that was generally used in most Alaska municipalities. The City Clerk provided a brief explanation of how the system would work.

**motion**

M/M by Warner, 2nd by Jones that the suggested method for renumbering ordinances and resolutions as presented be accepted. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item D: Re-eval.  
of City Clerk's  
position**

**RE-EVALUATION OF THE CITY CLERK'S POSITION ON  
THE PERSONNEL MATRIX**

City Manager Gross informed Council that she had discussed with the Personnel Office staff the need to do some major work on position descriptions. With regard to the revision of City Clerk's job description, Ms. Gross indicated that Personnel and the Clerk had

worked together on the revision and that she felt the process utilized by the Personnel Office was reasonable and that she was in agreement with the position description as presented. In addition, Mayor Feaster pointed out that the Alaska Legislature in July 1992 had amended that section of Title 29 which describes the duties of City Clerks in Alaska by adding additional responsibilities. Discussion followed.

**motion**

M/M by Warner, 2nd by Trantham to approve the job description as amended by deleting the sentence which begins "The Mayor, in his/her capacity... ." on page 3, under the "Reports To" section, and to table the re-evaluation of the Clerk's position on the personnel matrix to the January 12, 1993, regular Council meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Council broke at 8:50 PM for a short recess. At 9:00 PM, Mayor Feaster called the meeting back to order.

**Item E: Intro.  
Ord. #214**

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #214--DISPOSAL/SALE OF PROPERTY TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA/ KUSKOKWIM COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Mayor Feaster provided a brief explanation of the reason for disposing of City property.

**motion**

M/M by Trantham, 2nd by Wintersteen to approve the introduction of Ordinance #214 for public hearing at the January 12, 1993, regular City Council meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item F: Res.  
#727**

**RESOLUTION #727--A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE YUP'IK MUSEUM, LIBRARY, AND MULTIPURPOSE CULTURAL CENTER**

Mayor Feaster advised Council that the Chancellor of the University of Alaska had imposed the requirement of arranging for a joint use agreement between the City and the University for continuing facility operation monies before the project could go out for bid. Because the Cultural Center will not be completed for at least two years and it would

be difficult for the City to make a such a commitment for operation monies this far in advance, the University agreed that a resolution from the City Council demonstrating its support of the Cultural Center and the educational services provided by the Kuskokwim College would serve the University's purpose at this time.

**motion**

M/M by Wintersteen, 2nd by Trantham to adopt Resolution #727 as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**Item G: Joint  
Use Agreement**

**JOINT USE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BETHEL  
AND THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA/KUSKOKWIM  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR THE CULTURAL CENTER  
PARKING LOT**

Mayor Feaster advised Council that the Joint Use Agreement between the University of Alaska and the City of Bethel as presented was for a parking lot adjacent to the Cultural Center for use by both the University and the City. The Agreement was reviewed by the City Attorney who indicated that the proposed agreement adequately protected the City's interests. Discussion followed. It was brought to the City Manager's attention that a Mrs. Tomaganuk was residing in a house that was located on City property that would be used for the parking lot, and further that this situation should be resolved and the house relocated. City Manager Gross stated that she would research the matter.

**motion**

M/M by Jones, 2nd by Wintersteen to direct the City Manager to begin immediately to clear the residence from City property, Lots 4C and 3B. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**motion**

M/M by Jones, 2nd by Trantham to approve the Joint Use Agreement between the City of Bethel and the University of Alaska Fairbanks for joint use of parking adjacent to the Yup'ik Museum/Consortium Library and Multipurpose Cultural Center effective January 1, 1993. Voice vote. Motion carried. 4-yes; 1-no (Warner).

Item H: Intro.      **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE #215--AMENDING TITLE  
Ord. #215            1, CHAPTER 4 BY ADDING TWO SECTIONS THAT  
                      ADDRESS REPEALS OR AMENDMENTS OF MUNICIPAL  
                      ORDINANCES.**

Mayor Feaster explained that this Ordinance was a housekeeping change recommended by the City Attorney, Brooks Chandler.

motion              M/M by Warner, 2nd by Wintersteen to approve the introduction of Ordinance #215 for public hearing at the January 12, 1993, regular City Council meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Item I: Resol.      **RESOLUTION #726--A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE  
#726                 BETHEL RECYCLING EFFORT**

Jim Schaeffer, Chairman of the Solid Waste ad hoc committee gave a brief history of the origin of the resolution that was before the Council and spoke in favor of it. Mr. Schaeffer further stated that the purpose of the resolution was to heighten the awareness of the recycling effort in Bethel and to require City employees to cooperate with the recycling project. A lengthy discussion followed. It was the consensus of the Council to support recycling, however, several members of the Council expressed dissatisfaction with some of the statements as set forth in the resolution.

motion              Motion made by Jones to table Resolution #726. The motion died for lack of a second.

motion              M/M by Warner, 2nd by Trantham that proposed Resolution #726 be returned to the Solid Waste Committee for revision. Voice vote. Motion carried. 4-yes; 1-no (Feaster).

Item J: Gaming      **GAMING PERMIT APPLICATION  
Permit Appl.**

M/M by Warner, 2nd by Wintersteen to approve the gaming permit application for Bethel Community Service. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

PAGE 9  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
DECEMBER 22, 1992

motion

M/M by Wintersteen, 2nd by Warner to adjourn  
the meeting at 9:30 PM. Voice vote. Motion  
carried unanimously.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 12<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 1993.

James H. Feaster III  
James H. Feaster III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jane Elam  
Jane Elam, City Clerk