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# City of Bethel, Alaska

## City Council Minutes

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May 22, 2001

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

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### CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on May 22, 2001, at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

Vice Mayor Pobrislo called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the Council, the following were present:

Jerry Drake	Agnes Phillips— <i>arrived 6:40 p.m.</i>
Karol Pobrislo	Dario Notti
Carl Berger	

Also in attendance were the following:

Robert Herron, City Manager  
Colleen Soberay, City Clerk

### SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

#### Item A — Proclamation congratulating the JROTC Drill Team and Color Guard for their performance in Nationals

*Vice Mayor Pobrislo read the proclamation and presented it to the JROTC Drill Team and Color Guard.*

### PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

**Rich Gannon**, new K-300 manager, introduced himself to council. He asked that council remember the K-300 during the budget cycle for donations or sponsorship.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To approve the minutes of the May 8 regular meeting
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Phillips	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To approve the consent agenda with the addition of a financial matter in executive discussion and addition of new business item D—resolution 01-16
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Berger	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor's Report included the following:

- Governor's Talking Points for the weeks of May 9, 11, and 14, 2001
- Fax Alert — *Re: Legislature adjourns—update on budget information*
- Press Release — *Re: Senior Air Guard to Retire—Brigadier General George Cannelos retires after 32 years of service to State, Nation*
- Letter from Dept. of Health and Social Services — *Re: AK Medicaid program—possible funding problems which may occur as a result of changes by the federal government (Downloaded from State's website—attached information not included)*
- Letter written to U.S. Senate from Office of the Gov. — *Re: Response to possible reductions in Federal Matching Assistance Percentage (FMAP) for Medicaid (Downloaded from State's website)*
- 2001 State legislative priorities and federal legislative priorities
- Office of the Gov. Press Release — *Re: Department forecasts lower prices, higher production*
- Letter from Gilbert Keywehak — *Re: Request drainage be installed by the Bethel group home*
- Economic Development Administration (EDA) Activity Report
- 2001 Municipal calendar of events

## **MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT**

City Manager Herron, noted the management reports included in council packets and reviewed the following items with council:

- 2001 Legislative Capital Budget—reviewed appropriations approved for Bethel
  - Water and sewer improvements: \$3,030,900
  - Armory Readiness Center planning and design: \$750,000
  - Boardwalk construction: \$470,000
  - Tundra Ridge Road: \$1,200,000
  - Chief Eddie Hoffman pathway: \$1,900,000
  - City Hall renovation: \$112, 278

## **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **Senior Advisory Board**

Council member Berger said the SAB met May 8 and its next meeting is tentatively scheduled for the summer.

### **Planning Commission**

Council member Notti said the commission hasn't met since the last meeting.

### **Port Commission**

*Mayor Rodgers was not present.*

**Public Works Committee**

Council member Drake said the committee was scheduled to meet May 16, but did not have a quorum. He said the committee’s next meeting is June 20.

**Public Safety and Transportation Commission**

*Council member O’Brien was not present.*

**Finance Committee**

Council member Phillips said the committee has not met due to lack of quorum.

**Parks and Recreation Committee**

Council member Pobrislo said the committee was scheduled to meet May 16, but did not have a quorum. She said the committee’s next regular meeting is June 20 and reviewed the agenda.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Item A — Public Hearing on Ordinance #01-16: Police department budget modification**

*Vice Mayor Pobrislo opened the public hearing. There was no one from the public to be heard.*

Manager Herron explained the current vehicle situation at the police department and rotation of the vehicles. He requested council approve the purchase of two 2002 Ford Explorers and two 1994 Crown Victorias for a total of \$81,200—\$71,200 for the Explorers and \$10,000 for the Crown Victorias.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To adopt Ordinance #01-16
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Phillips	

Council member Drake clarified that council was unable to appropriate capital funds in the FY02 police department budget. Council member Berger asked the city manager to clarify how many vehicles the department would have if this ordinance is approved. City manager Herron said 11 vehicles total after the approval of this ordinance. Discussion briefly ensued.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by a unanimous roll-call vote 5-0.
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**Item B — Bristol Alliance Fuels request to lease City property**

City manager Herron explained the letter from Bristol Alliance Fuels requesting that council take action. He recommended, at the city attorney’s request, that council postpone action on this item until the June 12. He said the city attorney would like to be present during the discussion of this item.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To postpone action on item B until the June 12, 2001 regular council meeting
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Phillips	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote
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**Item C — Redistricting**

City manager Herron explained the redistricting board plans to decide on a final plan this week. He said it's important council take a position on this issue. Mr. Herron explained the four draft plans. He said Plan 1 and 2 do not serve Bethel well because these plans would join district 39T and 36T. He said the Alaskans for Fair Redistricting (AFFR) statewide plan keeps the Bethel district boundaries similar to current ones, while the intent of the Calista Plan is valid, it isn't ideal for Bethel.

Council member Berger said the Calista Plan is unlikely to be approved. He said the AFFR Plan maintains homogeneity and he is in favor of a plan similar to the AFFR Plan. Council member Drake said he is in favor of the AFFR Plan. Discussion briefly ensued.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To adopt a resolution opposing Plans 1 and 2 and supporting a plan that maintains existing census areas such as the AFFR Plan.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Phillips	

Council directed city clerk to write a resolution. Discussion briefly ensued to clarify points of the resolution.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by an unanimous voice vote
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**NEW BUSINESS**

**Item A — Introduction: Ordinance 01-19: An ordinance amending section 3.16.020 of the BMC regarding the fees charged for City of Bethel water and sewer**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To introduce Ordinance #01-19 and set public hearing for June 12, 2001
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Berger	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
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**Item B — Introduction: Ordinance 01-20 An ordinance amending certain sections of Chapters 5.40 and 5.50 of the BMC regarding taxicab dispatch services**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To introduce Ordinance #01-20 and set public hearing for June 12, 2001
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Berger	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
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**Item C — Introduction: Ordinance 01-22: City of Bethel FY02 Budget**

City manager Herron reviewed the FY02 budget amounts at set out in the ordinance.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To introduce Ordinance #01-22 and set public hearing for June 12, 2001
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Phillips	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote
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**Item D — Resolution 01-16: A resolution requesting participation in a determination of a safe speed zone**

City manager Herron explained that last year council supported a crosswalk between YKHC and the hospital, while DOT denied a crosswalk. He said the City has a legal right to participate in the discussion of safety. Manager Herron said this resolution calls for the DOT, YKHC and the City of Bethel to decide if a lower speed limit is warranted in the hospital area of town.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To adopt resolution 01-16
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Notti	

Council member Phillips said many people already slow down when they approach the hospital area, which is good. Council member Berger said a public hearing on a determination of a safe speed gives the community an opportunity to provide input on the situation.

Council member Pobrislo said putting a crosswalk in that area would be dangerous if the speed limit is not reduced. She asked if this would cost the City money. Manager Herron responded that by law the City could request that DOT hold a public hearing and the City would request that DOT come to Bethel to hold the public hearing. Council member Pobrislo said people should be educated on the use of crosswalks for their own safety.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote
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**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Council Member Berger** wished everyone a happy and safe Memorial Day weekend.

**Council Member Pobrislo** congratulated the JROTC Drill Team and Color Guard and commended Major Bailey and MSG Wright for all of the work they do with the JROTC. She wished Laurie Jagman a happy birthday.

**Council Member Drake** extended his condolences to the Hall Family. He congratulated the high school graduates. Mr. Drake gave a special thanks to all of the kids who went out of their way to do so many good things for the community this year. He also wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day weekend.

**Council Member Notti** gave his condolences to the Hall Family and wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day weekend.

**Council Member Phillips** thanked all of the staff for working so hard on the budget and said those who attended the budget meetings now know why the City doesn't have enough money to do what everyone would like to have done. Ms. Phillips said future councils have a great mission to raise revenues so the City will have enough funds for all community needs. Ms. Phillips gave her condolences to the Hall Family.

*The city clerk read Council member O'Brien's letter of resignation.*

Mr. Mayor, Fellow Council Members, and most importantly, the citizens of Bethel,

With the travel requirements of my position with Yute Air Alaska it is impossible to put the amount of time into City business that I feel necessary to do a good job. Representing the citizens of Bethel, both here and at the Alaska Municipal League, for the last six years has been an ongoing highlight in my life. A challenge, but always rewarding.

I do hope the people of Bethel know how hard this decision has been to make. I have struggled with it for months now, but wanting to do the best for the people and City, I feel it is time to step aside and let the seat be filled by someone that has the time to give such a worthwhile endeavor the attention it deserves.

It is with deep regret that I tend my resignation.

Sincerely,  
Mike O'Brien

Council agreed letters of interest to fill the vacant council seat are due to the city clerk by June 11, 2001. Council agreed to vote a candidate into the vacant seat at its June 12, 2001 regular meeting.

Council member Notti said he is interested in filling Council member O'Brien's AML Board of Directors seat, now vacant. Council member Drake said he is also interested in filling the AML Board of Directors seat. Council agreed to vote on who will fill the AML Board of Directors seat during the June 12, 2001 regular meeting.

Council member Phillips requested a plaque be presented to Council member O'Brien.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Notti	To go into executive session to discuss city manager's annual evaluation and a financial matter.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Drake	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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#### **ADJOURNMENT**

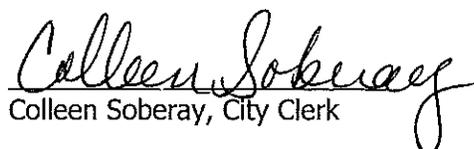
<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Agnes	To adjourn the meeting.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Drake	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

**APPROVED THIS 12<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE 2001.**

ATTEST:

  
Colleen Soberay, City Clerk

  
Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers, Mayor