
City of Bethel, Alaska

City Council Minutes

October 12, 2004

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on October 12, 2004, 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:

Michael O'Brien	Dave Trantham
Hugh Short, Jr.	R. Thor Williams
Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers	Hugh Dymont

Also in attendance were the following:

Robert Herron, City Manager
Selena Malone, City Clerk

Mayor Short advised Council and the community that the Special Order of Business posted on the agenda will not be addressed this evening due to a request for a recount of the Municipal Election by Yolanda Jorgensen.

Mayor Short called a Special Meeting on October 26th to address the matters mentioned above.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

1. Yolanda Jorgensen
 - Requested that Council Member Williams make a public apology to City Clerk Selena Malone regarding public humiliation. Mr. Jorgensen also stated that he is disrespectful and dishonors the seat he sits in.
 - Thanked everyone that got out to vote and wished that more people would get out and vote.
2. Oly Olson
 - Thanked those that voted for him as a write-in and stated that he sat on the Canvass Board.
3. Agnes Phillips
 - Thanked her supporters for voting for her and reminded people to vote
 - Thanked the City Manager and the City departments for their hard work
 - Stated the need for everyone to work together

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

MOVED BY:	O'Brien	To approve the meeting minutes from 7/27/04 as amended.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

Vice-Mayor stated that on page 6 both amendment motions votes should be changed from unanimously to the actual vote. Page 14 should read 12th day of October.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
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MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To approve the meeting minutes from 8/2/04.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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MOVED BY:	O'Brien	To approve the meeting minutes from 8/18/04 as amended.
SECONDED BY:	Trantham	

Revise the last page to state the 12th day of October 2004.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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MOVED BY:	Trantham	To approve the meeting minutes from 9/7/04 as amended.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

Revise the last page to state the 12th day of October 2004.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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MOVED BY:	O'Brien	To approve the meeting minutes from 9/20/04 as amended.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

Revise the last page to state the 12th day of October 2004.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To approve the meeting minutes from 9/29/04.
SECONDED BY:	Trantham	

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

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To approve agenda for October 12, 2004 Regular Meeting as amended
SECONDED BY:	Dyment	

Council Member O'Brien added under New Business-Discussion of City Clerk's resignation

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

- 2004 PFD is \$919.84

Mayor Short appointed Mark Miller to the Public Safety & Transportation Committee

MOVED BY:	O'Brien	To appointed Mark Miller to the Public Safety & Transportation Committee
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

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

- DOT transfer of the Dock & recommendation of Port Commission
- Personal & Business travel
- Notice to union for negotiation dates
- Status of the Court Building Project

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Public Safety & Transportation Commission (Council Member Dyment)- reported that the Commission discussed the following at their past meeting:

- Passed a resolution unanimously to request administration to devise a RFP with the Chief of Police to have an impound lot for the City.

MOVED BY:	Dyment	To direct administration to devise a RFP with the Chief of Police to have an impound lot for the City of Bethel and provide a feasibility report.
SECONDED BY:	Williams	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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- Actively enforce laws already in place by the Police Department

Finance Committee (Mayor Short)-reported that the Committee has not had a meeting since the last Council Meeting.

Port Commission (Vice-Mayor Williams)-reported the Commission met on 9/20/04 and discussed the following:

- Concerns about the break-ins in the east buildings
- Cost of upcoming barges
- Reviewed log & raft ordinance

Senior Advisory Board (Council Member Trantham)-reported that the Board met on 10/12/04 and discussed the following:

- Advised Council that there was a great turnout at this mornings meeting
- Stressed participation
- Next meeting is 11/9/05

Alaska Municipal League (Council Member Trantham)-reported that there will be a meeting in Fairbanks for Newly elected Officials and encouraged new Council members to participate. AML questionnaire for upcoming candidate seat results.

Planning Commission (Council Member Rodger)-reported that they have not met since the last Council Meeting. Their next meeting is 11/14/05.

Council concurred to take a brief recess

NEW BUSINESS

Item A – Public Hearing of Ordinance #04-25: An Ordinance amending section 2.04.050 of the Bethel Municipal Code to add the Clerk’s Report as part of the order of business at the Council’s regular meetings

Public Hearing:

none

MOVED BY:	Williams	To adopt ordinance #04-25 as amended.
SECONDED BY:	Dyment	

MOVED BY:	Dyment	To amend ordinance #04-25 to add Manager’s Report after the Mayor’s Report.
SECONDED BY:	Trantham	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
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VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a roll call vote of 5-1 (No: Short)
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Item B-Discussion: Public Transit System Plan for the City of Bethel, Draft Final Report

John Sargent addressed Council to discuss the draft report and requested Council provide him any revisions to the draft.

MOVED BY:	O’Brien	To direct administration to set a date and time to invite interested parties and agencies in town to participate in a meeting regarding the Public Transit System Plan.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
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Item C-Discussion: Administration's 8-18-04 memo regarding determination of water rates

Council Member Dymont stated that a rate study needs to be addressed.

Council discussed the water & sewer rates and how it would affect the master plan.

MOVED BY:	Dymont	To direct administration draft a resolution to incorporate in the Master Plan update a comprehensive water rate study that includes a discussion of the pros and cons related to the creation of the Utilities Commission.
SECONDED BY:	Trantham	

Council concurred to add the resolution to the next City Council Meeting.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
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New Business

Item B-Resolution #04-43: A Resolution directing the City Administrator to draft an agreement between David Salzbrun and the City's Public Works Department for use of a car crusher

MOVED BY:	O'Brien	To adopt resolution #04-43 as amended.
SECONDED BY:	Dymont	

MOVED BY:	Dymont	To amend the resolution to insert a where as that states the City of Bethel seeks to improve the quality of life through beautification effort to remove abandoned vehicles, whereas the City will pursue the implementation of a car fee to cover the cost of cars that die in Bethel, and whereas the City will access pollution liability issues.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by voice vote of 5-1 (No: Rodgers)
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VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote
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Item C-Resolution #04-44: A Resolution by the Bethel City Council to accept the award for a Vista member to assist in the Bethel Tourism Promotion Project

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To adopt resolution #04-44.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item D-Resolution #04-46: A Resolution supporting the preparation and submission of a grant application for a Let's Just Play grant from Nickelodeon

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To adopt resolution #04-46.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Council concurred to take a brief recess

Council concurred to suspend the rules to revisit agenda Item A previously passed on the consent agenda.

Item A-Ordinance #04-26: An Ordinance authorizing the acquisition of interests in land from various owners for utility easements involving City Subdivision

MOVED BY:	Williams	To introduce ordinance #04-26 and set for public hearing on October 26 th
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item E-Resolution #04-47: A resolution by the Bethel City Council opposing the YK Road Project

MOVED BY:	Williams	To adopt resolution #04-47 as amended.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

MOVED BY:	Dyment	To amend the resolution to insert a whereas stating the YK Road Project threatens to destabilize the economic well being of Bethel and the surrounding Kuskokwim villages and retard growth by not allowing these communities to continue to act in these capacity as a major shipment point in the region
SECONDED BY:	Williams	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by voice vote of 5-2 (No: Rodgers & Trantham)
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VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a roll call vote of 5-2 (No: Rodgers & Trantham)
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Item F-Resolution #04-48: A Resolution by the Bethel City Council to accept the FY05 mini-grant award in the amount of \$30,000 for a multiuse recreation facility plan

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To adopt resolution #04-48.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item G-Discussion: FTR Gold Bid

City Clerk Malone advised Council that the corporation For The Record gave a demonstration on September 24th, however, due to a lack of a quorum the meeting became a work session. City Clerk Malone suggested that the City update their recording system from analog to digital.

MOVED BY:	Dyment	To direct administration to devise a RFP for a digital audio recording system and that any further cost incurred will be taken out of the City Council Training/Travel budget.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item H-Discussion: Restaurant Sales Tax

Council Member Dyment stated that some restaurants establishments are cheating the system and stated that this is a concern for the community.

Council Member Dyment inquired about a direction give to administration to draft an ordinance to focus on collection of restaurant sales tax.

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To suspend the rules to allow public testimony.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

Allen Hipler, member of the Finance Committee and the Sales Tax Task Force addressed Council to advise Council that they did not want to focus on a single industry per ordinance.

A recommendation to Council will be provided to Council regarding proposed changes to the BMC.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item I-Discussion: City of Bethel phone system

Council Member Rodgers stated that the City Clerk is on the phone all day long and the all phone calls should be filtered through administration so the City Clerk can complete her daily duties.

MOVED BY:	Williams	To direct administration to contact Unicom to change the phone book for 2005 to switch the City Clerk to the second number and Administration to the 1 st number in the phone book.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Item J-City Clerk Resignation

City Clerk Malone stated that she forwarded resignation to all Council Members regarding her resignation. Mrs. Malone stated that she would like to spend more time with her family and also stated that there are some in-house issues with Council and herself that need to be taken care of for future City Clerks.

MOVED BY:	Dyment	To create a chain of command (Mayor, Vice-Mayor, and Council Member with most seniority) for the City Clerk to follow.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Council concurred to direct administration to help the City Clerk at her request will office duties until she is caught up.

MOVED BY:	Dyment	To take codification off of the City Clerks priority list.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

MOVED BY:	O'Brien	To suspend the rules to proceed past 10p.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a voice vote of 5-1 (No: Williams)
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Council Member Comments

Council Member Rodgers-stated that the inflation of cost of living is outrageous. Hug an elder

Council Member Trantham-thanked the people of Bethel that voted and suggested that in the month of November the Council only meets once allowing Council Members to attend the Annual AML Meeting.

MOVED BY:	Williams	To put the 1 st meeting in the month of November on the 16 th and the second meeting on the 30 th .
SECONDED BY:	Trantham	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion failed by a voice vote of 3-3 (No: Dyment, Short, O'Brien)
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Vice-Mayor Williams-stated that he received a letter stating that he was driving too fast in the small boat harbor and apologized if that were the case although he didn't believe that is something he had done.

Council concurred to send Mr. Leinberger, Mr. McGowan, Council Member Trantham, and the newly elected Mayor to the AML conference

Council Member O'Brien-stated he was pleased with the voter turn out and thanked all voters.

Council Member Dyment- stated that at the last Council meeting they unfunded a position of the operations manager with out enough community discussion.

Mayor Dyment-stated that he'll save a speech for the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

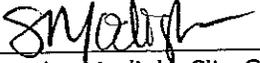
MOVED BY:	Williams	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a voice vote of 4-2 (No: Rodgers & O'Brien)
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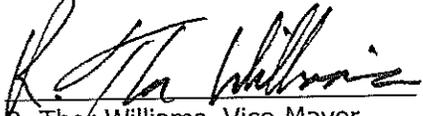
With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned (time not documented in the record).

APPROVED THIS 10th DAY OF JANUARY, 2006.

ATTEST:



Sandra Modigh, City Clerk



R. Thor Williams, Vice-Mayor