



CITY of BETHEL

P. O. Box 537 • Bethel, Alaska 99559

543-2297 — Area Code 907

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 10, 1977

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

7:40 P.M.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Peltola at 7:40 P.M.
Present: Elliott, Guinn, Stichick.
Absent: Alexie, Hickling, Hinsvark.

INVOCATION - None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/M by Councilman Guinn to approve the Minutes of the December 20, 1976 Regular Council Meeting as written.
Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

M/M by Councilman Stichick to approve the City Council Meeting Agenda of January 10, 1977 as written.
Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS

Manager Bartlett dispersed a letter received from the Division of Local Government Assistance of the Department of Community and Regional Affairs regarding the FY 1977 State Revenue Sharing Grant Entitlement. Manager Bartlett synopsised the letter as indicating that the Prematernal Home was excluded from the Grant Entitlement due to the Department of Community and Regional Affairs' misconception that the Prematernal Home was not constructed or operating when, in fact, it had only been relocated. The City has ten days in which to appeal the decision. Manager Bartlett reported that the City has already appealed certain provisions of the letter by requesting that the Department reconsider their determination of Bethel's population, and that the Prematernal Home be categorized as a health facility. The City justifies itself in requesting a reconsideration of population figures based on increased student enrollment, voter registration and utility records. The City will receive a decision on the appeal in February when the final Grant Entitlement is allocated.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Bartlett reported on the non-acceptance of Bethel's Economic Development Administration grant applications for the Community/

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Recreation Center and the Alcohol Treatment Center. He informed Council that the applications were rejected because the grants were contingent on percentage of low-income, not only raw numbers. The applications were filtered through a point system based on labor force data and fed into a computer. Bethel might have had the highest number of unemployed, underemployed or low-income, but its larger population proportionately decreased its percentage in relation to the smaller villages and communities within the Yukon/Kuskokwim Delta Region. Manager Bartlett stated that a similar bill to allocate an additional \$4 billion in the same capacity is now under consideration by Congress. Manager Bartlett further reported on the non-acceptance of the Energy Research and Development Administration grant, but that Northwest Industries, Inc. has support from the State of Alaska Energy Office, and is in the process of seeking ancillary funding sources.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Peltola reported on the Finance Committee meeting scheduled later in the month. Mayor Peltola's second item of business concerned children in violation of curfew and directed the City Manager to notify the effective City Department for corrective action. Thirdly, Mayor Peltola reported on a work session later in the month for Goals and Objectives and advised Council to consider ideas. Mayor Peltola then intimated that Councilman Alexie is considering resigning from Council due to his extended working hours prohibiting his effective participation in Council activities.

Manager Bartlett stated that he had received no formal notice of resignation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Manager Bartlett recapitulated motions made at the December 3, 1976 Planning Commission Meeting for Council's consideration: M/M by Commissioner Malone to adopt a promissory note with a deed of trust, in the form of a commercially saleable document; M/M by Commissioner Malone that a list of individuals who will be in violation of the covenants of the deeds of trust be sent to the AVCP for review; M/M by Commissioner Porter that the Planning Commission allocate lots through a lottery system, that December 20, 1976 be established as the opening date for application acceptance, and that awardees be enabled to trade lots within a 30 day period; (Commissioner Malone added to the above motion that January 31, 1977 be the deadline for submission of applications from the date of opening); M/M by Commissioner Malone to request the opinion of the City Attorney concerning an appraisal, noting that, as the purpose of the Subdivision is to grant certain tracts of land to low-income individuals, the Planning Commission would need to know how the appraisal price would affect the sale to said individuals; M/M by Commissioner Guinn that accident prevention be considered at the first meeting of the Public Safety Committee; M/M by Commissioner Porter that an interim animal impound center be instituted adjacent to the green honeybucket

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truck garage building until the permanent animal impound center is constructed at the new City sanitary land fill during the summer of 1977.

M/M by Councilman Elliott to ratify the Minutes of the December 3, 1976 Planning Commission Meeting.
Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Eddie Hoffman addressed Council with several items of community concern. He notified Council of a letter he received in reference to the need for the promulgation of a new resolution pertaining to the seawall. Mr. Hoffman then condemned Victor Krumm's authorization for the City Police Chief to raid the VFW on December 31, 1976, stating it should have been the State, not the City.

Mayor Peltola remarked that the City Police can work in amenable conjunction with the District Attorney's Office and State Police.

Mr. Hoffman's second item of business involved the need for corrective action concerning the illegal sale of alcohol. Finally, Mr. Hoffman informed Council of the dissipation of the Wild Goose, notifying them of bootlegged liquor passed over the counter, and intoxicated minors on the premises in violation of the curfew.

Mayor Peltola alleged that there might be a change in management at the Wild Goose, that he had communicated with the proprietor and found that the lease on the facility had not been finalized. Mayor Peltola then directed the City Manager to notify the appropriate agency to undergo effective measures to enforce curfew.

Rosie Porter addressed Council to garner support for a Community School Concept, which she portrayed as a drastically needed program, pursuant to failure to obtain funding for the Community/Recreation Center. The Community School Concept would entail extended use of existing public facilities (after regular hours) for youthful members of the community, to encompass recreation and education classes of a variegated nature for Bethel residents to share and propagate learning and talent.

Manager Bartlett reported on his recent communications with Chris Cobb of the Alaska Criminal Justice Planning Agency, who is submitting a grant under the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Act. The grant would finance a coordinator based in Bethel, to cull existing programs and facilities and extrapolate them into a self-defined program. The coordinator would expand on the Community School Concept and other facets relating to juvenile delinquency prevention, though the program itself will be designed to benefit the entire community, regardless of group affiliation. Manager Bartlett announced that the City will send letters to Mr. Cobb and Ms. Porter itemizing existing facilities and programs for their assistance in revamping

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an all-inclusive program. The grant monies would be channeled through the State.

Kevin Murphy suggested that the City's monthly utility bills reflect actual gallons utilized, etc., so that an individual consumer can compare the efficacy of frequency and quantity of utility services with the Division of Utility Services to better determine the most advantageous schedule and cost saving measure to pursue. The Division would receive input directly from the consumer-subscriber to evolve the most equitable system.

Mayor Peltola concurred with the suggestion, noting it could improve the system and perhaps make residents aware of the need for larger tanks, etc.

Manager Bartlett stated that Council had heretofore considered two additional amendments to Ordinance #85 and that Kevin Murphy's suggestion could be formalized and incorporated as a third amendment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item A. Mayor's Appointment of Committee Members to Standing Committees of City Council

Councilman Elliott reported the Public Works Committee as still tentative.

Manager Bartlett stated that the committee members would have to be ratified by the next meeting and urged cemented appointments. Manager Bartlett called for the formulation of a special committee for Public Transportation for the purpose of considering the establishment of a public bus service and to begin the grant application process relative to securing public transportation funding.

Mayor Peltola indicated that he would organize the Public Transportation Committee.

Item B. Introduction of the City of Bethel's Goals and Objectives for FY 1977

Manager Bartlett called for a Council work session on January 20, 1977, 7:30 p.m., at the Council Chambers, to discuss the remaining Departmental goals and objectives for FY 1977, and a goals and objectives format for the Council itself.

NEW BUSINESS

Item A. Introduction of Ordinance #88 (A Bond Ordinance Re: Courthouse Building)

Manager Bartlett introduced Ordinance #88 (An Ordinance Providing for the Submission to the Qualified Voters of Bethel, Alaska, of the Question of Issuance of \$795,000.00 of General Obligation Bonds of

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the City of Bethel to Pay the Costs of Planning, Designing, Construction and Equipping the Bethel Court Building Located within the City of Bethel, at the Election to be Held for that Purpose in Bethel on February 22, 1977) with a first reading. Manager Bartlett disseminated a letter requested from the City Attorney for procedures in the issuance of general obligation bonds. Manager Bartlett recapitulated the steps as follows: 1) adoption of ordinance; 2) public notice at least once a week for three consecutive weeks, which sets forth the following a) the current total general bonded indebtedness of the City, including authorized but unsold bonds, if any, b) cost of the debt service on the current bonded indebtedness, c) total assessed valuation within the Municipality (unnecessary, as Bethel does not have property tax; and 3) special election. Manager Bartlett recommended that the public hearing be scheduled for January 24, 1977, that the correct notice be publicly posted pursuant to the Attorney's counsel, and that Council establish February 22, 1977 as the date for the special election. Manager Bartlett enumerated the financial benefits to the City of the sale of general obligation bonds. The interest on the bonds would fall between 5.8 and 6.2% which would reduce by half the interest on the current National Bank of Alaska loan. The interim construction loan has a five point surcharge cost and an interest rate of 10.5% per annum, and the long term loan has an additional 1% surcharge cost. Upon the sale of general obligation bonds, the City would recover its entire initial investment. The bonds could be paid within ten to fifteen years, with a 7.5% interest ceiling. In communicating with Mr. David Rose of the Alaska Bond Bank, the following procedural format was submitted to the City: 1) file application with the Bond Bank; 2) adopt ordinance; 3) hold special election after 20 days; and 4) if ratified, remit all information to the Bond Bank. Manager Bartlett added that \$795,000.00 represents an over-estimation on the price of the courthouse, and that there will be needed seven to eight weeks to bid and sell all the bonds on the building. Manager Bartlett recommended Ordinance #88 be accepted by Council for publication and the establishment of a public hearing.

M/M by Councilman Elliott to accept Ordinance #88 (An Ordinance Providing for the Submission to the Qualified Voters of Bethel, Alaska, of the Question of Issuance of \$795,000.00 of General Obligation Bonds of the City of Bethel to Pay the Costs of Planning, Designing, Construction and Equipping the Bethel Court Building Located within the City of Bethel, at the Election to be Held for that Purpose in Bethel on February 22, 1977) for posting in at least three public places within the City, publication in a newspaper of general circulation, and the establishment of a public hearing on January 24, 1977, at the Council Chambers.
Roll call vote: Yes, Elliott, Guinn, Stichick, Peltola. Motion passed.

Item B. Resolution #182 (Bethel Heights Water and Sewer Systems)

Manager Bartlett introduced Resolution #182 (A Resolution of the City of Bethel, Alaska, Requesting the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration Arrange to Have an Appropriate Federal Agency Provide for the Necessary Design and Restoration of the Bethel Heights Water and Sewer Systems) and recommended that it be adopted by Council. Manager Bartlett reported on his conference with the FDAA, relaying their recommendation that Bethel collaborate with a federal agency to be designated by the FDAA for the design and construction of the Bethel Heights Water and Sewer Systems. Manager Bartlett stated that the systems will be built according to code, utilizing as many component parts of "Plan A" of URS Company as are acceptable. He added that a stipulation was incorporated into the resolution whereby the FDAA present the design plans to Council prior to the commencement of construction. The Corp of Army Engineers has assigned URS Company to design the systems.

M/M by Councilman Guinn to adopt Resolution #182 (A Resolution of the City of Bethel, Alaska, Requesting the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration Arrange to Have an Appropriate Federal Agency Provide for the Necessary Design and Restoration of the Bethel Heights Water and Sewer Systems).

Roll call vote: Yes, Elliott, Guinn, Stichick, Peltola. Motion passed.

Item C. KYUK's Expanded Television Programming Proposal

Manager Bartlett informed Council of a State grant funding six hours of daily delayed live television programming for one year. KYUK asks for Council's support, which will involve no financial commitment in the venture. It is necessary for KYUK to secure usage rights for cables. Bethel Utilities Corporation owns the poles and leases space to the General Telephone Company, who would in turn sublet to the City at \$6.00 per pole per year for approximately seventeen poles.

Rosie Porter informed Council and those in attendance that \$1.5 million had been granted the preceeding year to selected bush and urban communities in Alaska for the demonstration project of licensed commercial television. She stated that they would only be capable of broadcasting to the City proper and the closer villages. The project is termed a "mini tv station" and will be broadcasted simultaneously with the existing Public Broadcasting Service station.

Mayor Peltola indicated that he had, prior to the Council Meeting, extended his tentative approval to KYUK for the demonstration project.

Rosie Porter advised that the City of Bethel should be licensed to avert any legal entanglements.

Manager Bartlett stated it was estimated that the broadcasting would

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commence circa February 15, 1977 subsequent to finalization of legalities and recommended that Council endorse the "mini tv station" demonstration project on behalf of KYUK.

M/M by Councilman Stichick to approve the demonstration proposal for extended television programming through KYUK and empower the City Manager to follow the necessary legal course.
Roll call vote: Yes, Elliott, Guinn, Stichick, Peltola. Motion passed.

Item D. Introduction of Ordinance #89 (City of Bethel Compensation Plan)

Manager Bartlett introduced Ordinance #89 (An Ordinance Providing for the Establishment of a Compensation Plan for City Employees of the City of Bethel, Alaska, and its Codification within the Bethel Code of Ordinances as Section 2.52) with a first reading, stating that Ordinance #86 (Personnel Rules and Regulations) called for a compensation plan to be promulgated by ordinance. He recommended Ordinance #89 be accepted for publication and the establishment of a public hearing.

M/M by Councilman Guinn to accept Ordinance #89 (An Ordinance Providing for the Establishment of a Compensation Plan for City Employees of the City of Bethel, Alaska, and its Codification within the Bethel Code of Ordinances as Section 2.52) for publication in a newspaper of general circulation, posting in at least three public places and establishment of a public hearing on January 24, 1977.
Roll call vote: Yes, Elliott, Guinn, Stichick, Peltola. Motion passed.

Item E. Introduction of Ordinance #90 (City of Bethel Classification Plan)

Manager Bartlett introduced Ordinance #90 (An Ordinance Providing for the Establishment of a Classification Plan for City Employees of the City of Bethel, Alaska, and its Codification within the Bethel Code of Ordinances as Section 2.50) with a first reading, stating that Ordinance #86 (Personnel Rules and Regulations) called for a classification plan to be promulgated by ordinance. He recommended Ordinance #90 be accepted for publication and the establishment of a public hearing.

M/M by Councilman Guinn to accept Ordinance #90 (An Ordinance Providing for the Establishment of a Classification Plan for City Employees of the City of Bethel, Alaska, and its Codification within the Bethel Code of Ordinances as Section 2.50) for publication in a newspaper of general circulation, posting in at least three public places and establishment of a public hearing on January 24, 1977.
Roll call vote: Yes, Elliott, Guinn, Stichick, Peltola. Motion passed.

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Manager Bartlett retrospectively noted to Council the inclusion of extra positions within the Class Codes and Titles sections affording the future incorporation of expanded and/or new positions.

Item F. City of Bethel Medium Draft Port Facility

Manager Bartlett explained to Council overtures initiated relative to a contract executed by the City and State on April 19, 1974 in agreement for the construction and operation of municipal dock facilities at Bethel, Alaska, providing for joint responsibility in that the State shall construct and undertake major repairs of the port facility while the City manages and assumes minor repairs of the port facility. The Planning Commission has reviewed the contract and requests the following authorities: 1) that the Planning Commission be designated as the working arm of Council with regard to the development of the port facility; 2) to recommend wharfage fees and other charges as needed; 3) to define the distinction between minor and major repairs in terms of maintenance; 4) to interview prospective contractors and recommend that the contractor manage the dock under contract to the City; 5) to stipulate that the City not be directly involved but the port be contracted out; and 6) to advertise for prospective contractors during the balance of the month. Manager Bartlett stated that the City Attorney was currently reviewing the agreement, and that communications had been established with the State of Alaska, Division of Harbors and Docks regarding the definition of minor and major repairs. The City Attorney has related that the City is, in fact, the responsible party in the contract. Manager Bartlett advocated an open and well-advertised campaign to secure a contractor. All work will occur between now and the first Planning Commission meeting in February in order to finalize a decision.

M/M by Councilman Guinn to authorize the Planning Commission as the working arm of Council relative to the medium draft port facility; to recommend wharfage fees and other charges as needed; to define the distinction between minor and major repairs in terms of maintenance; to interview prospective contractors and recommend that the contractor manage the dock under contract by the City; to stipulate that the City not be directly involved but the port be contracted out; to advertise for prospective bidders during the balance of the month; and to present their findings and recommendations to Council at the first regular meeting in February, 1977. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

M/M by Councilman Elliott to adjourn. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Attest:

Alga C. King
City Clerk

Gene Jett
Mayor