

City of Bethel
City Council

Regular Meeting of May 10, 1994

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was convened at 7:30 PM by Mayor Chris in the Log Cabin, Bethel, Alaska.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Chris, Jones, Metcalfe (late), Miller,
Trantham, Tubbs, Wintersteen

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Gerald Korthuis reminded the Council that boating season would be starting soon, and stated that he had not had any incidents of theft or vandalism of his equipment during the time the Port had Attendants patrolling the previous summer. Mr. Korthuis asked Council to reconsider deleting the Port Attendant positions from the proposed FY95 budget. Council member Jones asked if Mr. Korthuis would be willing to pay a higher user fee to fund the positions. Mr. Korthuis responded he would and it would be well worth the extra expense. Council member Wintersteen asked if Mr. Korthuis was aware that vandalism occurred after the Attendants' employment ended. Mr. Korthuis replied he was and those facts pointed out how well the Attendants carried out their duties.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

motion M/M by Jones, 2nd by Tubbs to approve the minutes of the April 26, 1994, regular meeting.

Council Member Miller pointed out that in the second sentence of the second paragraph under Reports of Standing Committees, the word "attacked" should be changed to "utilized" so the sentence would read "...that the Public Works Director was being utilized..."

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Jones to amend the minutes of the April 26, 1994, regular meeting as stated. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

vote Voice vote on the main motion. Motion carried unanimously.

motion M/M by Jones, 2nd by Wintersteen to approve the minutes of the May 3, 1994, special meeting as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA/REGULAR AGENDA

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Jones to place a presentation by members of the Senior Center on the Agenda before the Mayor's Report. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

motion M/M by Jones, 2nd by Miller to approve by consent, Item A under New Business. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

motion M/M by Jones, 2nd by Miller to approve the agenda as amended. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

V. PRESENTATION BY MEMBERS OF SENIOR CENTER

Nora Guinn addressed the Council as a member of the Senior Center Advisory Board. Mrs. Guinn stated the City Manager had been aware of the problems at the Senior Center since January, and had done nothing to correct the problems. Mrs. Guinn also stated that seniors in the community do not go to the Senior Center because there is nothing for them to do other than television or jigsaw puzzles.

Ruth Kaufman spoke on behalf of Sarge Connick, who was unable to attend due to poor health. Ms. Kaufman stated she had worked with Alzheimer's groups and visited Senior Centers around the country. Ms. Kaufman said the people at the Senior Center want the Program Manager replaced. Ms. Kaufman also related that, at the April 11 Advisory Board meeting, three people tried to speak and were not allowed to speak by the Program Manager.

Freda Japhet spoke to the Council, stating the Center needed more activities like they had in the past.

Council member Jones asked if the Board had voted on this issue. Mrs. Guinn stated they had not.

(At this point, Howard Elliott spoke to the Council asking to be heard regarding his status with the City of Bethel. Mayor Chris directed he be placed on the agenda for the next regular Council meeting.)

Mayor Chris suggested the Advisory Board meet to discuss and vote on this matter and asked the City Manager to provide a report at the next Council meeting.

Council member Jones suggested establishing the Advisory Board as an official Council committee with a Council representative. Mrs. Guinn stated the seniors would like Council member Trantham to be appointed as their representative.

motion M/M by Jones, 2nd by Miller that the Senior Center Advisory Board become an official committee with a Council representative.

Council member Trantham pointed out committees are established by resolution. Council member Metcalfe suggested Mr. Jones draft a resolution for the next meeting.

Council member Jones withdrew his motion, and Mr. Miller withdrew his second.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Jones to nominate Council member Trantham as the Council representative for the Senior Center Committee when it is established. Voice vote. Motion carried 6-0 (Trantham abstained).

Council member Trantham stated the Chairman runs the meetings of committees, not the Council representative.

motion M/M by Trantham, 2nd by Jones to ask the City Clerk to attend the next meeting of the Senior Center Advisory Board and provide the minutes to the Council. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

V. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Chris announced the appointment of Connie Tucker to fill the City Clerk position, and appointed Tom Hildreth to the Public Safety Committee.

motion M/M by Metcalfe, 2nd by Wintersteen to ratify the appointment of Tom Hildreth to the Public Safety Committee. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Hunter reviewed his written report with Council and requested direction on the following items:

1. YKHC Bond Request

Council member Wintersteen suggested the Council not take any action on this matter.

Council member Miller stated it would be difficult not to take action and said he wanted to make sure the City was working with all the corporations in the region. Mr. Miller also reminded the Council they had not heard from YKHC regarding this matter.

Council member Jones responded that National Bank of Alaska, not YKHC, brought the matter to the City in the first place, and that YKHC had never asked the City for any assistance. Mr. Jones said he did not think the Council was under any obligation to assist a commercial banking organization.

The Council took no action.

2. Grant Writing Services RFP

Council member Jones relayed the Finance Committee's recommendation that funding be allocated for administrative functions of grant writing which would provide for grants that do not allow grant writing expenses to be included in the grant.

Council member Wintersteen suggested the Council determine an amount for the budget to set aside for grant writing services. Mr. Jones stated that the City would pay only if it approved the application and received the grant, and that if there was no money to pay for grant writing services, the City would not approve the application for the grant.

City Manager Hunter suggested the Council set aside a certain amount in the budget for grant writing services and when the amount is exhausted, discontinue the service.

motion M/M by Jones, 2nd by Miller to direct the City Manager to readvertise the Request for Proposals for Grant Writing Services on a contingency basis with no payment up front and with the conditions that, prior to commencing any grant application, the grant writer must have the approval of the City and the grant must be awarded before payment is made to the grant writer. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Clean Up, Green Up

City Manager Hunter advised the Council that a request was made for the Receptionist to serve as the collection point for donations and that a letter was circulating on City letterhead regarding the Clean Up, Green Up campaign, giving the impression that it was a City-sponsored project. Mr. Hunter also advised the Council that neither he nor the Public Works Director was contacted regarding this project.

Council discussed its support for the project and its concerns over the methods used to promote the project.

motion M/M by Wintersteen, 2nd by Miller to direct the City Manager to meet with the project coordinator to define the fiscal accountability and reporting methods used for the donations received.

motion M/M by Jones, 2nd by Tubbs to amend the motion to include that if the City Manager is not satisfied with the information provided, provisions are taken to notify the community that the City is not a sponsor of the project. Voice vote. Motion carried, 4-yes, 3-no (Chris, Metcalfe, Miller).

vote Voice vote on the main motion. Motion carried, 4-yes, 3-no (Chris, Metcalfe, Miller).

Council member Metcalfe asked the City Manager to investigate ways the City could take part in the project and direct the project coordinator how the City will be involved.

4. Request for Concession Stand Use by BRHS Volleyball

motion M/M by Metcalfe, 2nd by Miller to follow the City Manager's recommendation and allow the BRHS Volleyball group to use the concession stand at Pinky's Park. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Informational Items/Discussion/Questions on City Manager's Report:

City Manager Hunter referred Council to the expense report for the Fourth of July celebration and pointed out the expenses were totalled both with and without operating expenses. Mr. Hunter also stated the Youth Center was preparing an outline of their participation and coordination with the activity, which he would provide to Council. Council member Jones asked the City Manager to look at ways the Youth Center could receive compensation from the celebration.

VIII. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Scheduled dates for upcoming Committee/Commission meetings were announced.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business on the Agenda.

X. NEW BUSINESS

ITEM A: Introduction of Ordinance #94-12: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 13.08 of the Bethel Municipal Code to Require Subscription to Municipal Sewer Services

Approved under Consent Agenda

ITEM B: Resolution #94-20: A Resolution Supporting Negotiations with J.B. and Lucy Crow for Lot 4, Block 8, USS 3790

Council member Metcalfe introduced this resolution, stating it was based on the findings of the Planning Commission's special report.

motion M/M by Metcalfe, 2nd by Jones to approve Resolution #94-20. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Chris relayed the wishes of the Crows that they did not want to interact with the City Manager.

motion M/M by Metcalfe, 2nd by Miller that the City Attorney represent the City in negotiations with the Crows.

Council member Wintersteen stated it would set a bad precedent not to involve the City Manager in the negotiations. Council member Jones agreed and added it was inappropriate to dictate who would represent the respective parties.

vote Poll vote. Motion failed, 2-yes, 5-no (Chris, Jones, Trantham, Tubbs, Wintersteen)

Mayor Chris added that the City Manager would interact with the City Attorney regarding negotiations.

ITEM C: Executive Session--Legal Matters: Nunapitchuk, Ltd. v. City of Bethel and APEA Negotiations

motion M/M by Jones, 2nd by Metcalfe to go into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing Nunapitchuk, Ltd. v. City of Bethel and APEA Negotiations. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

motion M/M by Jones, 2nd by Tubbs to come out of Executive Session. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

XI. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no comments.

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
PAGE 7
May 10, 1994

XII. ADJOURNMENT

motion M/M by Jones, 2nd by Trantham to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 24th DAY OF May, 1994.



Donna J. Chris, Mayor

ATTEST:



Connie Tucker, City Clerk