
City of Bethel, Alaska

City Council Minutes

June 22, 1999

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on June 22, 1999, at 6:30 p.m. in the Log Cabin, Bethel, Alaska. Mayor Agnes Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL

There were present:

Mayor Agnes Phillips	Mike O'Brien
Joerene Hout	Karol Pobrislo
Dario Notti	Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers

comprising a quorum of the Council.

Absent:

Antone Anvil (excused)

Also in attendance were:

Bob Herron, City Manager
Gaye Vaughan, City Clerk

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Wally Richardson, spoke about the odor from the sewage trucks. She asked that something be done to lessen the odor. She also spoke about the new pathway to be built along Chief Eddie Hoffman Highway and would like to see it named after Antone Anvil. She has spoken with Senator Hoffman who said he would support the name and would take it to the Governor for approval. She stated that Mr. Anvil had done a lot of work to secure funding for the pathway.

Carl Berger, spoke in favor of the senior citizen sales tax exemption. He thought the Council should just let it stand now that it has been adopted again and find savings elsewhere in the budget. He also spoke about the Transportation Commission and the need to fill the vacant seats in order to have a quorum at its meetings. He noted that the Council's representative on the Commission has not been showing up.

Council Member Hout stated that she would stay in town to attend the Commission meeting on its regularly scheduled time, only to have it cancelled at the last minute. Then do it again the following week. By the third time, she was tired of doing this and has gone ahead with her plans to leave town.

Norman Roczicka, Byron Dull, Jonathan O'Brien, Max Kohl, and Jovarr Dull, representing the 4H Skateboarders Club, stated they would like to see a skateboard park built at Pinky's Park. They are trying to obtain funding to build the ramps. The 4H has a curriculum for skateboarders to teach them safety. They added that skateboarding helps kids take out aggression and teaches them discipline. They requested the City designate a spot at Pinky's Park for a skateboard park.

MOVED BY:	O'Brien	To authorize use of a portion of Pinky's Park for 4H Skateboarders with the location to be determined by the City Manager.
SECONDED BY:	Hout	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Peter Jacobs, spoke about a bill he received for sales tax on rental units that he has not been able to rent as he cannot afford to put in flush toilets.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To approve the minutes of June 8, 1999.
SECONDED BY:	Hout	

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

The Mayor read the items listed on the consent agenda:

Resolution #99-13: Accepting a State Grant in the Amount of \$4760 for Coastal Management Planning and Implementation (City Manager Herron)

Ordinance #99-13: Establishing The Braund Building Enterprise; Authorizing, Confirming And Ratifying Leases Of Braund Building Space; Approving The Essential Terms And Conditions Of A Loan From National Bank Of Alaska To The City In An Amount Not To Exceed \$1,700,000 For The Purpose Of Paying A Part Of The Costs Of Remodeling The Braund Building; Authorizing The Assignment Of Braund Building Rents And The Execution Of A Deed Of Trust Or Other Interest In The Braund Building To Secure The Loan; And Authorizing The Manager To Execute Such Assignments, Notes, Leases, Bonds And Other Documents As May Be Necessary To Complete The Loan (City Manager Herron) (Public Hearing 7/13/99)

MOVED BY:	O'Brien	To approve the consent agenda and agenda.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion to approve the consent agenda and agenda carried by unanimous consent.
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MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Phillips announced the following:

She announced that Alaska Airlines would be making a presentation of the Chamber of Commerce on July 1.

The Mayor noted that UAF was requesting input on a Rural Development Master's Degree Program.

She had received information requesting response on the fisheries disaster program.

Comments had also been requested on spring hunting by US Fish & Wildlife.

She made note of the Governor's talking points.

The Mayor also noted a letter from the Governor regarding the \$1,000,000 budget gap and the special election to be held on September 14.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Herron relayed the following information:

He noted the Department Head reports included in the packets.

He informed the Council that the City's union representatives would be returning to the negotiating table on July 14.

The City Manager noted that the Haroldsen Subdivision was still being researched. He will ask the city attorney to visit the subdivision when she is in town for the labor negotiations.

Mr. Herron stated that representatives of Crowley were in Bethel this week and are discussing the land beneath their office building and the crane. He will bring to a later council meeting the proposal concerning the land.

He announced an e-mail from Dusty Finley proposing a community-wide forum on Y2K. There was no objection from the Council.

He pointed out attachment B to his report, and asked Council to award the bid for fenders/bullrail installation to Udelhoven Oilfield System Services, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$265,000.

MOVED BY:	Hout	To award fender/bullrail installation bid to Udelhoven Oilfield Services in an amount NTE \$265,000.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

VOTE MOTION	ON	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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The City Manager announced that Mary Pavil of Orutsaramuit Native Council has requested a joint committee be formed with the Council to meet, plan and work together for the mutual benefit of all the residents of Bethel.

Council Member Pobrislo asked the City Manager why local companies are not getting bids for city projects. He responded that a local company got a piece of the new water treatment plant last fall. There was a time when the bush was not doing construction, but there are companies located in the bush now.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Mayor Phillips noted there are vacancies on the Parks and Recreation, Transportation, Port and Public Works Commissions/Committees.

Transportation Commission

Council Member Hout stated she had been prepared to attend the last three meetings, but they were postponed.

Planning Commission

Council Member Notti stated the last meeting had been cancelled due to lack of quorum.

Parks & Recreation Committee

Council Member Pobrislo noted that the next meeting would be June 23 at the Youth Center.

Finance Committee

Mayor Phillips stated the Committee met on June 10 and the minutes were in the packet. She noted that comments had been made on the senior citizens' sales tax exemption and a motion was made and carried by the Committee that the Council study the overall ramifications of the exemption.

Port Committee

Council Member Rodgers stated there had been no agenda and the Port Director was out of town. He stated the next meeting would be held July 19.

Public Works Committee

Council member O'Brien stated the committee had not met.

Public Safety Commission

Council Member O'Brien stated that the next meeting would be July 12.

Senior Citizens' Advisory Board

Council Member Anvil was not present to give a report.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance #99-11: Amending BMC Chapter 9.20, Offenses By Or Against Minors (City Council)

Mayor Phillips called for public testimony. There being none, the public hearing was closed.

City Manager Herron stated that the Municipality of Anchorage was recently sued by the ACLU over their curfew ordinance. He said the Council may not want to adopt this as the ACLU has indicated that they would not sue.

Council Member O'Brien said he was opposed to this ordinance. He did not feel the Council should be amending an ordinance which has been around since the mid 1980's based on a letter from the ACLU.

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To adopt Ordinance #99-11.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To table Ordinance #99-11
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

VOTE ON MOTION | Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ordinance #99-12: Repealing And Re-Enacting Ordinance #98-25 Authorizing The Disposal Of Lot 15, US Survey 4117 To The State Of Alaska, Department Of Natural Resources For A New Alaska National Guard Readiness Center And Memorial Park (City Manager Herron)

Mayor Phillips called for public testimony. There being none, the public hearing was closed. City Manager Herron said Ordinance #98-25 had been sent to the Solicitor General who felt it needed technical changes.

MOVED BY:	Notti	To adopt Ordinance #99-12.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

ANVIL Absent	HOUT Yes	NOTTI Yes	O'BRIEN Yes
PHILLIPS Yes	RODGERS Yes	SANCHEZ-POBRISLO Yes	6 YES 0 NO

VOTE ON MOTION | Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Item – Sales Tax Audit Services

Council Manager Herron said the City would like to have random sales tax audits done on local businesses. Some of the businesses chosen could be in arrears or those who do not file timely. This service would be put out for bid and a local bid would be accepted.

There was no objection from the City Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion Item – Water/Sewer Rate Study

City Manager Herron thought all data had been delivered to Altman Rodgers. Since the date on the letter, they have been provided with all the necessary data.

Resolution #99-14: Naming the Pathway the "Chief Antone Anvil Pathway"

Mayor Phillips read the resolution provided by former Mayor Wally Richardson.

MOVED BY:	Notti	To adopt Resolution #99-14.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member O'Brien stated the Council should take a hard look at the budget passed in light of the recent tax exemption.

Council Member Rodgers sent his condolences to the family of Mark Shantz.

Mayor Phillips also sent her condolences to the Shantz family.

Council Member Notti also sent his condolence. He noted that he was glad to see the new chlorine spreader.

Council Member Pobrislo thanked Mayor Phillips for her time and effort as Mayor. She felt the Council needed to get aggressive in doing its job and generating revenue.

Council Member Hout also sent her condolences to the Shantz family.

Mayor Phillips recessed the meeting prior to the Executive Session at 7:40 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOVED BY:	O'Brien	To recess into Executive Session to discuss a matter of financial impact to the City.
SECONDED BY:	Pobrislo	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

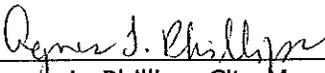
MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To adjourn the meeting
SECONDED BY:	Notti	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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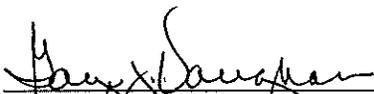
With no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 13th DAY OF JULY, 1999.

ATTEST:



Agnes L. Phillips, City Mayor



Gaye J. Vaughan, City Clerk