
City of Bethel, Alaska

City Council Minutes

February 24, 2004

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on February 24, 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:

R. Thor Williams	Dario Notti
Dave Trantham	Hugh Dymont
Hugh Short, Jr.	Andrei Jacobs
Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers	

Excused absence(s):

Unexcused absence(s):

Also in attendance were the following:

Bob Herron, City Manager
Amanda Roudebush, City Clerk

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Kevin Murphy - Certificate of Recognition

- Mr. Murphy addressed Council
- He enjoys his volunteer work at the Senior Center

Louise Charles - Senior Center Director

- She spoke about what they have been working on and how the Seniors enjoy his dedication to the Senior Center and the Senior's

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Dymont	To approve the minutes from the 1-27-04 meeting
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

Amendment: Short excused, Council Member Dymont explained what was in the minutes from a previous meeting that He would get a Resolutions for Council on UA funding

VOTE ON MOTION	Passes unanimous
-----------------------	------------------

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Jacobs	To approve the minutes from the 2-10-04 meeting
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

Amendments PG 8"Franzini, Ayagalria new elected, Dario here 6:40, comments space, PG5 unanimous consent to write Res..

VOTE ON MOTION	Pass unanimous	
APPROVAL OF CONSENT AND REGULAR AGENDA		
MOVED BY:	Jacobs	To approve the consent agenda and regular agenda as amended
SECONDED BY:	Trantham	
<i>Remove Item A, C, D; Executive Session moved to 3-9-04</i>		
VOTE ON MOTION	Pass unanimous	

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Short's report included the following:

- Notice of a Constituents meeting at the Bethel Legislative Office
- Building the Future from Governor Murkowski
 1. Announced AVCP/Chalista Economic Development Forum with the Governor
- Spoke about he and the Vice Mayor's news article
 1. Spoke about how the financial future looks for Bethel
 2. Requested the community input on new revenue options
 3. Vice-Mayor Williams Spoke about when the General Fund runs out and gave some examples of what could be cut from the budget, yes we need new revenue

MOVED BY:	Williams	To direct Finance committee to special meeting by April 13, 2004 to review and find revenues for the City and that 8 members be appointed to help with the task.
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

VOTE ON MOTION	Pass unanimous
-----------------------	----------------

- Asking for pins for an award to Congressman Don Young
 1. Trantham wants to send pin – City Manager Herron sent pins already
- Letter form Nunapitchuk supporting a local alcohol delivery site

MANAGER'S REPORT

Janet Athanas - Director Parks and Recreation Department

- Report on the future utilization of the Bowling Alley
- 52 People showed up to the meeting
- ONC decided to cover the floor of the bldg, no more Bowling Alley
- Wants the older teens to give some ideas

Discussion ensued.

City Manager Herron's report included the following:

- Introduced Karl Lehr who is visiting as an applicant for the Back-up Attorney position
- Regional Economic Summit tentative schedule
- Bethel Family Clinic Annual Meeting
- Court Expansion Project update: Discussion led by Council Member Rodgers to send ideas to planning and public works for design
- Potential Transfer of Senior Services to a third Party update
- Invitation to speak at the Chamber of Commerce annual meeting on 2-19-04
- Review of BNC'S 12-15-03 letter regarding commercial property
- Personnel matter's
 1. Current full-time Vacancies
 2. One new hire
- City Manager Travel Status
 1. March 2-5 Personal Leave
 2. March 12-19 Vacation
 3. Late March – Possible trip to Juneau

Comments

Council Member Trantham – No Quorum for Finance Committee in about a month. Mayor Short responded that action would be taken at the next Council meeting.

Council Member Williams - Concerned about the length of time that it is taking to get the Audit form last year, it makes it hard to make budget modifications while in the dark. More concerns about how the General Fund was spent last year. City Manager Herron gave response that he and Finance Director have spoke with the auditor.

Council member Williams wants the Business Plan for the Quonset Hut. He went and looked at the building, and he believes it would cost more to move the building than to buy a new one. City manager Herron responded by drawing up the Business Plan. He then spoke about the cost that the City will incur. Discussion ensued about using a contractor to save money. The City Manager recommends bypassing the donation if the building can not be moved by March 5.

MOVED BY:	Dyment	To direct the City Manager, if the Public Works director agrees to proceed with this
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

Discussions of safety concerns ensued. Talks were ongoing about the cost of having the building on our land as compared to building a new building. Requests were made to have a Business Plan put into writing by the City Manager. There was also discussion of what is wanted in the Business Plan. There has already been direction to the City Manager on this issue.

VOTE ON MOTION	Passes (4-3) (Williams, Rodgers, Trantham)
-----------------------	--

10 Minute Break at 7:50

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Senior Advisory Board – Council Member Trantham reported that there was no quorum. Mr. Trantham asked if it is possible for Board Members to call in and can vote on roll call only. Next meeting March 9-please attend the meeting as there will be action items on the agenda. He gave a background on the Joint Task Force to transfer the Senior Center to a third Party. Informality is important to seniors, says Mr. Trantham.

Parks and Recreation Committee – Council Member Jacobs reported the Committee met on 2-9-04. He referred to Pg 64 in packets a Resolution from the Committee, accepting the completion of the board walk. Mr. Jacobs also spoke about getting new weight equipment, having more data about the teen center (i.e.....how many kids there, sq footage of spaces).

Planning Commission – Council Member Rodgers reported that the Commission did not meet. The meeting was cancelled to the 2nd Thurs of March, 3-11-04.

Port Commission – Met the 17, not much happening, update to Crow Property purchase, Clean up grants for the Crow Property, Stevedore issues be contracted out but overseen by the City to make sure things are placed properly, Moving the Port Office to open up dock space,

Public Works Committee –Last week met, City attorney said they can become a commission, they discussed that they want to become a commission, discussed Notti's attendance-will be on the next meeting, more things should go to public works disgruntled about the council not listening to their committees.

Public Safety and Transportation Commission –not met since, recognized the commission because always have quorum, good discussion, and good agenda items. Spoke of up coming agenda items.

City Manager to ask if they could discuss senior rate for taxis

Finance Committee – Monday the March 1, did not have a meeting. There is a plan to discuss the News paper article from a couple of weeks ago.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item A – Public Hearing of Ordinance # 03-22: Amending sections 2.04.050 and 2.12.010 of the Bethel Municipal Code regarding the deadline for submission of materials for the council packets

MOVED BY:	Williams	To approve Ordinance # 03-22: Amending sections 2.04.050 and 2.12.010 of the Bethel Municipal Code regarding the deadline for submission of materials for the council packets
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

Discussion: Trantham-spoke about attorney’s opinion not to add things to the agenda due to proper notification, Rodgers-against it because time limits, Dymment-why deadline added to the Ordinance change? Williams to give enough time to CC to process the info for the packets, Deadlines are the best way to gather info.

MOVED BY:	Dymment	To amend the Ordinance to say should instead of shall
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

VOTE ON MOTION	Passes Unanimous
-----------------------	------------------

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion passes 4-3 (Trantham, Rodgers, Short)
-----------------------	--

Item B – Public Hearing on Ordinance #04-02: An Ordinance adding Bethel Municipal Code Chapter 8.15, Entitled Vehicle Helmets, that requires minors under eighteen years old to wear a properly fitted and fastened certified protective helmets while riding bicycles and other similar vehicles on public access areas, and imposes a fine for violation of these requirements

Public Hearing

John Dickens-Vice Chairman Public Safety & Transportation

- Thanks for recognition of Kevin Murphy
- Support Ordinance 04-02 Helmet ordinance
- Duty to protect the Children

Trantham comments to John cutoff age of 18, why not another age. John said that the consideration is because of the children not being able to make an informed decision. This is appropriate use of law

MARY KREVANS-RN YKHC

- Displayed personal protective equipment
- Spoke about how the Bike Rodeo has grown
- Be proactive and pass this ordinance

Janet Athanas

- Spoke about the bike rodeo and history
- Need to enforce the ordinance once passed

Pam Bumstead

- Support the ordinance
- Thinks that adults should be included in the ordinance

Tom Fazini

- Support Ordinance # 04-02
- Unsure why this needs to be a law, but there is the need

MOVED BY:	Rodger	To approve Ordinance #04-02: An Ordinance adding Bethel Municipal Code Chapter 8.15, Entitled Vehicle Helmets, that requires minors under eighteen years old to wear a properly fitted and fastened certified protective helmets while riding bicycles and other similar vehicles on public access areas, and imposes a fine for violation of these requirements
SECONDED BY:	Dyment	

Discussion about the design of the Ordinance to prevent brain damage. Will eventually save the life of a child, Rodgers initially against ordinance -seen kids driving ATV's with babies on them and flip. Adding a Fiscal Note attached to each ordinance; Trantham cost of enforcement, wants to add a note? How to enforce the law discussion led by Williams

MOVED BY:	Dyment	To amend to read a non emancipated shall be jointly liable with the parent
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

VOTE ON MOTION	Passes Unanimous
-----------------------	------------------

VOTE ON MOTION	Pass unanimous
-----------------------	----------------

Chief Morris Bethel PD-Alaska doesn't have a helmet law-just to start with minors-after consult with attorney may re think to add adults later. The only cost will be the actual writing of the citation, maybe \$5.00,

A discussion ensued about adding a Fiscal Note to ALL Ordinances.

10 min break

NEW BUSINESS

Item A – *Introduction of Ordinance #03-08 (C): An Ordinance of the Bethel City Council amending the adopted Annual FY 2003-04 Budget

MOVED BY:		To Introduce Ordinance #03-08 (C) and #03-08(D): Ordinances of the Bethel City Council amending the adopted Annual FY 2003-04 Budget and to set a Public Hearing on March 9, 2004
SECONDED BY:		

VOTE ON MOTION	Passes on consent agenda
-----------------------	--------------------------

Item B - Introduction of Ordinance #03-08 (D): An Ordinance of the Bethel City Council amending the adopted Annual FY 2003-04 Budget. (Williams)

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To Introduce Ordinance #03-08 (C) and #03-08(D): Ordinances of the Bethel City Council amending the adopted Annual FY 2003-04 Budget and to set a Public Hearing on March 9, 2004
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

VOTE ON MOTION	Passes Unanimous
-----------------------	------------------

Item C – Resolution #04-04: A Resolution supporting the fiscal year 2005 population determination

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To approve Resolution #04-04: A Resolution supporting the fiscal year 2005 population determination
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

Discussion about the accuracy of the number that was reported. Population affecting VSW Monies-not now due to 2nd class city, Positives or Negatives of the population increase,

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion fails 2-5 (Trantham, Williams, Rodgers, Jacobs, Notti)
-----------------------	--

Item D –Resolution #04-05: A Resolution of the Bethel City Council respectfully requesting the Honorable Don Young, United States Congressman, Chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to assist the Port of Bethel in expanding its port facilities in preparation for the development of one of the largest gold deposits in the world

MOVED BY:	Jacobs	To approve Resolution #04-05: A Resolution of the Bethel City Council respectfully requesting the Honorable Don Young, United States Congressman, Chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to assist the Port of Bethel in expanding its port facilities in preparation for the development of one of the largest gold deposits in the world
SECONDED BY:	Notti	

Trantham spoke about a road, and gas pipeline system from Railroad City to Donlin Creek. References to the presentation gave to Council that has exacts numbers. Port dock is already too small, support this so when the gold mine preparations happen, we are ready now, and then...

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion passes unanimous
-----------------------	-------------------------

Item E – Discussion/Action – Piped Water and Sewer Issues (Council Member Rodgers)

1. Billing Reimbursement

Rodgers has been receiving complaints of such a high electric bill. Checks issued, but no date, CM stated that there would be reimbursement, not happening. Wiring not the citizens fault, why not reimburse for the whole time been hooked up?

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To back-date the refunds to October for electric bill reimbursements
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

VOTE ON MOTION	Passes Unanimous
-----------------------	------------------

2. Change Orders
Schedule a work session to

Mike Gracie-CRW

Mr. Gracie responded to Council member Rodgers Change Orders questions. Village Safe Water did the initial survey to the homes, now CRW is having to fix certain things

MOVED BY:	Williams	To suspend the rules to go past 10:00
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

VOTE ON MOTION	Passes Unanimous
-----------------------	------------------

What is the amount of the cost of phase A change orders – response is 10%. How does this affect the other portions as they come on line – response with the orders will go down due to a streamlining affect that occurs automatically as time presses on. Discussions of Fore Accounting to hold responsible is Lee Olson who works for CRW. Discussion of how employing non Bethel citizens.

Item F – Commission, Committee, and Boards - Review of Basic Procedure (Council Member Rodgers)

BMC referenced to roll call will be taken no matter what. Memo will be established to dept heads saying that.

Item G - New Cemetery update (Trantham)

- Discussion how much Admin needs to get the ball rolling on this item.
- Proper Planning monies for surveys
- Drainage ditch on Owl Street, why not done?

Council Member Comments

Council Member Dymont had no comments

Council Member Jacobs spoke about how COB governs itself. He is concerned that we are allowing ourselves to be governed by being on the radio.

Council member Notti tomorrow is Lent.

Vice-Mayor Williams states that people in community don't understand, OMA wants us to bring up issues for discussion. He does not agree with Jacobs about being on the radio governing the way a member comments. He also wants to get the work of the community out to the public in anyway available.

MOVED BY:	Williams	To not let Council Member Notti due any further travel for the City of Bethel until balance is paid for in full.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

***Discussion:** Council Member Dymont states that bickering normal, but disturbing that people are blind sided. Give assurance from Notti that will payback and let it die. We do vote on motion; please not to travel until money paid back. Council Member Notti said that he plans to take care of the problem very soon. Council Member Jacobs commented that this position on City Council is a 24hr day volunteer position. Getting expense reports should be quick and in a timely manner. Council member Trantham had lots of concern about this issue.*

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion passes 5-2 (Notti, Short)
-----------------------	----------------------------------

MOVED BY:	Dymont	To amend the motion to say paid within 5 days. Payment due by 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, March 2, 2004
SECONDED BY:	Jacobs	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion passes 5-2 (Notti, Short)
-----------------------	----------------------------------

Council Member Rodgers thanked Mr. Grabie for answering his questions. Hug an elder.

Mayor Short announced Happy Birthday to Council Member "Tundy" Rodgers

MOVED BY:	Jacobs	To adjourn the meeting at 10:48
SECONDED BY:	Williams	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion passes unanimously
-----------------------	---------------------------

APPROVED THIS 9th day of March 2004.

ATTEST:

Hugh Short, Jr., Mayor

Amanda Roudebsuh, City Clerk