

City of Bethel
City Council

Regular Meeting of October 25, 1994

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Prior to Roll Call, Peter Twitchell was sworn in as a Council member.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Chris, Harding, McComas, Miller, Tubbs, Twitchell, Wintersteen

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Doreen O'Brien spoke on behalf of her husband, Mike O'Brien, relaying the Public Works Committee's recommendation that the Council and City Manager commend the Public Works department on the maintenance of the roads and projects well done, with special notice to Jerry Springer for his work on repairing the road machinery.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Tubbs to issue citations of commendation to the Public Works crew, especially Jerry Springer. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

motion M/M by Tubbs, 2nd by Chris to approve the minutes of the October 11, 1994, regular meeting as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA/REGULAR AGENDA

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

motion M/M by Harding, 2nd by Tubbs to amend the agenda by removing New Business Item B and adding Executive Session Items C: Update on APEA Negotiations and D: Unit Clarification Hearing. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

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

V. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Wintersteen thanked the Council for the opportunity to serve as Mayor, adding that he had been privileged to serve on Council with Mayors Feaster and Chris.

Mayor Wintersteen asked that the Council set completion dates for projects listed on the project report form.

Mayor Wintersteen reviewed the committee/commission appointments made at the special meeting held earlier in the evening. They are as follows:

Port Commission--Donna Chris-Council Representative
Finance Committee--Don Tubbs-Council Representative
Public Works Committee--Tad Miller-Council Representative, Jerry Haines
Planning Commission--Buford McComas-Council Representative, Jake Metcalfe
Public Safety Committee--Kent Harding-Council Representative
Transportation Commission--Peter Twitchell-Council Representative, Dave Trantham
Youth Services Committee--Kent Harding-Council Representative
Senior Services Committee--Allan Wintersteen-Council Representative

VII. MANAGER'S REPORT

Prior to reviewing his written report, City Manager Hunter welcomed the new Council members and recognized the following employees who earned a quarterly "Job Well Done" award: Dave Post-organizing the Planning Department; Ann Clark and Peter Chris-restructuring of the Senior Center; and Bruce Perry, Kevin Murphy, John Ramos, and Gary Samuelson-fire prevention education. City Manager Hunter also introduced Celeste Kanli and Christine Hunt, new City employees, to the City Council.

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

1. Off-site Water and Sewer Program

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Tubbs to direct the City Manager to work with AVCP Housing Authority in all aspects of developing the project. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Request for Surplus Sale

motion M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Harding to approve holding a surplus sale in December on a Saturday or Sunday. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Police Vehicle Bid

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Tubbs to accept the bid from Tony's Chevrolet for \$34,401 with delivery by air freight. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Grantwriting Services Bid

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Tubbs to accept the bid from Cynthia Adams for Grantwriting Services. Poll vote. Motion failed unanimously.

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

Council member Miller asked if the staff in the affected departments had been made aware of the OSHA violations so that the violations could be corrected. City Manager Hunter responded that the lists were given to the department heads with the direction to bring the departments into compliance and that the Council has to formally adopt a safety policy for the City. In response to a question from Council member Chris, Public Works Director Parsi stated that most of those items with no financial impact had been taken care of.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Chris to direct the City Manager to address those items requiring labor only and provide the Council with completion dates; to formulate budget requirements with department heads for those items with financial impact and provide those requirements with completion dates to Council; and to draft a safety policy for Council approval within six weeks. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

In response to a request from Mayor Wintersteen, Public Works Director Parsi provided a summary of his meeting with the project engineer for the sewer lagoon project. City Manager Hunter stated the project engineer would provide a full written report for the Council.

VIII. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Scheduled dates for upcoming Committee/Commission meetings were announced.

Council member Miller introduced Mike O'Brien, Public Works Committee chair, and referred Council to the minutes contained in the packet.

Council member Tubbs reported that the Finance Committee had discussed privatizing City projects, reviewed sales tax audit reports and discussed water and sewer rates. Mr. Tubbs also stated that the December meeting of the Finance Committee had been canceled.

Mayor Wintersteen reported that the Port Commission had discussed disposing of part of the excess seawall piping to interested parties and asked for more information on pricing.

Planning Manager Dave Post answered questions regarding the Planning Commission's recommendation that Council request Mr. Lewis to remove his trailer from City property necessary for continuing the seawall project.

motion M/M by Chris, 2nd by Tubbs to direct the City Manager to request on behalf of the City Council that Mr. Lewis remove his trailer from City property. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

ITEM A: Presentation by Corps of Engineers on Asphalt

Gail Braten, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, addressed Council summarizing the Corps' role in the clean up of the barrels of asphalt across the river, and distributed an information sheet which is attached as part of these official minutes.

Bernie Gagnon, Environmental Technology Engineering Section, spoke of the plans developed for the removal of the asphalt and his role in determining the best use for the asphalt. Mr. Gagnon anticipated bid documents would be prepared by Spring, 1995, for the option selected. In response to a question from Council member Miller, Mr. Gagnon stated that the asphalt could be stored until a decision is made for its use, and added that he would provide Council with a report on the type of asphalt and options for its use. Mr. Gagnon also specified that the entity awarded the asphalt had to have money available to properly utilize the asphalt. Mr. Gagnon suggested the Council contact local suppliers to determine the costs associated with using the asphalt for Bethel roads, and added that the Corps would look at the costs and risks for each option and base its decision on awarding the asphalt on the best option for the government.

Ken Larson, Nugget Construction, advised Council that the asphalt had been contaminated with rust and debris and that the City may not want the asphalt as it may have an added cost to make the asphalt usable.

Public Works Director Parsi related his research regarding the asphalt and his conclusions that, in order to utilize the asphalt in perfect condition, the City would have to purchase enough gravel to stabilize the foundation of the roads, which could cost up to \$50 million.

Council member Twitchell asked that the City Administration pursue funding for gravel through the legislature.

Council broke at 9:30 p.m. for a short recess. At 9:45 p.m., Mayor Wintersteen called the meeting back to order.

ITEM B: Review of Project Report Form

Council, by consensus, agreed to postpone this item until a work session in order to allow newly elected members the opportunity to review the list and provide additions to the list.

Council set the time for a work session on the review of the Police Policy and Procedure manual for 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 30, 1994, at the City Conference room.

X. NEW BUSINESS

ITEM A: Introduction Ordinance #94-22: An Ordinance Amending Title 18, Chapter 18.16.060 Entitled Action on Application and Chapter 18.72.010 Entitled Appeal of Decision of the Planning Department, and Adding Chapter 18.16.110 Entitled Display of Site Plan Permit Required

Approved under Consent Agenda

ITEM B: Introduction Ordinance #94-23: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2.04, Entitled City Council, by Adopting Section 2.04.230 Entitled Tour and Review of City Departments

This item was removed from the agenda.

XI. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council member McComas thanked the people who voted for him and offered suggestions for improving access to the City Council for the public, such as installing a voice mail system which could announce upcoming agenda items and meeting times. Mr. McComas also asked Council to look at purchasing a basic 911 system which would trace calls and display a name and address of the caller.

Council member Tubbs congratulated the new members of Council and the new Mayor, and thanked former Mayor Chris for the job she had done.

Council member Miller congratulated all who ran for Council, especially those who did not get elected, adding that it takes courage to put forth view for the public to choose from. Mr. Miller also encouraged the City Manager and the School Board to get warning lights at Kilbuck School. Mr. Miller also encouraged the Public Works drivers to be cautious when traveling on Ptarmigan road.

Council member Chris suggested the Mayor send a letter to the school board requesting warning lights near Kilbuck school. Mrs. Chris thanked the community and the Council for support and thanked her co-workers for handling calls for her during the past year. Mrs. Chris welcomed the new Council members.

Council member Twitchell thanked the citizens for voting, and stated it was good to see the turn out for the election. Mr. Twitchell also thanked his wife for her support. Mr. Twitchell stated he wanted to see the Council work in harmony for the benefit of Bethel and he wanted a can-do spirit among City employees.

Council member Harding thanked the City Clerk for her help and support to the new members and asked the Council to pursue touring the departments with the City Manager to establish rapport with the City employees.

Mayor Wintersteen thanked the Council for the vote of confidence and stated that he saw a lot of optimism in the new Council. Mayor Wintersteen asked the members to keep Bethel in mind when voting on issues, and supported the idea of Council members touring the departments.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

motion M/M by Chris, 2nd by Miller to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing legal strategy-George Seal v. City of Bethel, update on insurance coverage, update on APEA negotiations, and unit clarification hearing. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

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

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Tubbs to pay for James Feaster's legal defense in the case of George Seal v. City of Bethel, et al, through the City's attorney. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

motion M/M by Chris, 2nd by Miller that the City of Bethel provide coverage for legal defense for any suits which arise out of Council activities. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

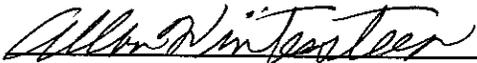
The City Manager was asked to introduce an ordinance for the above motion.

motion M/M by McComas, 2nd by Miller to direct the City Manager to investigate insurance coverage for the City Council, provide the best options to the attorney for his review and report the results to the Council. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

motion M/M by Chris, 2nd by Tubbs to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 p.m. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 9TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1994.


Allan Wintersteen, Mayor

ATTEST:


Connie Tucker, City Clerk