

CITY COUNCIL
Kent Harding
Buford McComas
Tad Miller
Agnes Phillips
Ruth Richardson, Mayor
Stanley Rodgers
Wally Wallace



CITY MANAGER
Ken Weaver

CITY CLERK
L.J. Tanner

City of Bethel
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
August 13, 1996

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was convened at 6:35 p.m. by Mayor Richardson in the Log Cabin, Bethel, Alaska.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Harding, McComas, Miller, Phillips, Richardson, Rodgers, Wallace
Absent: none

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Dave Trantham stated that he felt the City Manager had become arrogant and had changed many of the City's rules and regulations.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member Phillips noted a mistake on Page 6, for Item D, Resolution #96-28. The minutes read that Mayor Richardson read the resolution, when in fact, Council Member Phillips had read the resolution.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Wallace to approve the minutes of the July 23, 1996, regular meeting as corrected.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council Member Phillips requested the addition of New Business Item L, Resolution #96-31.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Phillips to approve the agenda as amended.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Richardson presented a plaque to Bethel Utilities Corporation, in appreciation for their help in burying the dead in Bethel each winter. Lenny Welch accepted the plaque on behalf of BUC.

Next, Mayor Richardson commented on City Manager Ken Weaver's selection for the Police Chief position. She stated that although she understood the controversy, she was standing behind Mr. Weaver's decision.

The Mayor stated that she will be gone for the month of September. She has received an invitation to the Alaska Conference of Mayor's annual meeting, which takes place in September, and suggested that the Council select one of its' members to attend in her absence.

Lastly, Mayor Richardson notified the Council that Larry Elam has resigned from the Finance Committee. She also expressed disagreement with the Finance Committee's recommendation not to pursue a purchase of Bethel Utilities Corporation.

VII. MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Weaver referred Council to his written report, and discussed the following:

- Update on City RFP's:
- Update on Cost Analysis of BUC purchase:
- Police Commendations:
- Update on Clean-up of Old Swimming Hole:
- Citizen Complaints: Mr. Weaver.
- Fuel Spill Report:.

VIII. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES and COMMISSIONS

Transportation: Mayor Richardson reported on the ordinance changes proposed by the Commission. They would like to begin collecting a taxicab permit transfer fee.

Planning: Council Member McComas stated that the next Planning Commission meeting is on August 15.

Public Works Committee: Council Member Miller stated that the next meeting is on August 20.

Finance: Minutes from the July 25 Committee were in the packet. Although they recommend against a purchase of BUC, Mayor Richardson encouraged Mr. Weaver to thoroughly investigate the idea. She also recognized the concerns the Finance Director has with the Committee's recommendation to reduce the Single Sales Unit, and suggested that revenues be reviewed in one year to see if the reduction has a negative effect on revenues. With respect to the Committee's review of RFP's for Protective Custody services, Council Member Miller stated that he would like to see a cap on the fees charged for the service.

Port: Allen DeSousa gave a brief report for the Commission. The recent rains have been helpful at the small boat harbor.

Public Safety: Council Member Phillips reported on the motions from the last meeting. The Commission has questions on the Bethel Alcohol Enforcement Reward (BAER) program. City Manager Weaver was requested to find out more information and report back to the Council.

Youth Services: Council Member Harding said that he would have information on the formation of a Community Services Commission at the next Council meeting.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

Item A: Public Hearing, Ordinance #96-30, Requiring Camlocks on Sewage Holding Tanks.

Mayor Richardson opened the public hearing. Tim Oosterman, of the City Public Works department, demonstrated how a camlock works. He stated that they save a lot of time on some sewage holding tanks, and are much more sanitary. One problem is that they can be difficult to close during very cold weather. If there is a skim of ice in the tank, the vacuum created by the camlock is not always enough to break the ice. The camlocks wouldn't be workable on about 2-4% of the tanks in Bethel. An estimate obtained from a local contractor puts the price (on average) between \$150-\$250.

motion M/M by McComas, 2nd by Miller to amend Ordinance #96-30 by stating that only new sewage tanks must have camlocks, and by removing the penalty section.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

motion M/M by McComas, 2nd by Harding to adopt Ordinance #96-30 as amended.

vote Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Item B: Hoppenworth Termination Issues

Mayor Richardson stated that recent developments have changed the Hoppenworth situation. She asked Mr. Weaver to elaborate. Mr. Weaver declined, saying that the situation had been resolved, but he wasn't free to discuss the details just yet. Council Member Miller added that he felt the situation had been settled as a "win-win" for all involved. No motions or directives were made.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Item A: Introduction of Ordinance #96-32, Bethel Fuel Sales Land Disposal

Mayor Richardson stated that Bethel Native Corporation had some concerns about this Ordinance, related to the ANSCA 14(c)3 lands conveyance. City Manager Weaver briefly explained the history of the land sale.

motion M/M by Rodgers, 2nd by Wallace to delay the introduction of Ordinance #96-32 until the conveyance issues are resolved.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimously.

Item B: Introduction of Ordinance #96-33, Changes to Vehicle for Hire Ordinance.

motion M/M by Rodgers, 2nd by McComas to introduce Ordinance #96-33.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimously.

Item C: Emergency Ordinance #96-34-E, Budget Amendment for OSHA Compliance.

City Manager Weaver explained the need for this emergency ordinance. \$200,000 was appropriated in the FY97 budget for OSHA compliance. The low bid for the repair of the lighting, heating, and ventilation systems at the Public Works Shop, submitted by Klebs Mechanical, is \$590,744. In addition, \$195,000 is needed to replace the underground fuel tanks, and \$17,718 is needed for a new electrical service. An additional appropriation of \$700,000 is needed to comply with the OSHA citations. Discussion followed on the nature of negotiations with OSHA and the amount of fines that will be levied if the problems are not corrected. The emergency ordinance will be in effect for 60 days, during which time Council will need to introduce and adopt an identical ordinance in the usual manner.

motion M/M by Phillips, 2nd by Miller to adopt Ordinance #96-34-E.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimously.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Rodgers to award the bid for OSHA compliance repairs to Klebs Mechanical.

vote Roll call vote. Motion carried, unanimously.

Item D: Introduction of Ordinance #96-34, Budget Amendment for OSHA Compliance

Ordinance #96-34 will take the place of Emergency Ordinance #96-34-E after adoption.

motion M/M by Rodgers, 2nd by Miller to introduce Ordinance #96-34.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

Item E: Introduction of Ordinance #96-35, Amendment to Sales Tax Ordinance

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Harding to introduce Ordinance #96-35.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

Item F: Introduction of Ordinance #96-36, Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 1996

Finance Director Bonnie Duke explained the nature of the budget amendments being made.

motion M/M by Wallace, 2nd by Miller to introduce Ordinance #96-36.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

Item G: Introduction of Ordinance #96-37, Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 1997

Finance Director Bonnie Duke explained the nature of the budget amendments being made.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Rodgers to introduce Ordinance #96-37.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

Item H: Introduction of Ordinance #96-38, Amending the Classification Plan
Finance Director Bonnie Duke explained the nature of the amendments being made.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Harding to introduce Ordinance #96-38.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

Item I: Resolution #96-29, Accepting a Grant for the Braund Building Renovation.
The City Clerk read the Resolution. City Manager Weaver explained that construction is scheduled to begin in spring of 1997.

motion M/M by Harding, 2nd by Wallace to adopt Resolution #96-29.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

Item J: Resolution #96-30, Support for a Healthy Families Program in Bethel.
Mayor Richardson read the Resolution.

motion M/M by Rodgers, 2nd by Phillips to adopt Resolution #96-30.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

Item K: Job Application Deadline Consistency
Council Member Miller, who requested the agenda item, stated that he has received new information, and believes that the City Manager's selection of a Police Chief was legal. No motions or directives were made.

Item L: Resolution #96-31, Expressing Thanks to Burton and Associates.
Council Member Phillips read the Resolution.

motion M/M by Rodgers, 2nd by Miller to adopt Resolution #96-31.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

XI. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Harding - Would like the Public Works department to post signs where they are working on the roads.

McComas - Would like to see an alarm system installed at the Teen Center.

Miller - Is happy that his recent frustrations with the City Manager have been resolved.

Phillips - Is glad to see City Administration and Public Works moving forward with the OSHA repairs.

Richardson - no comment.

Rodgers - no comment.

Wallace - no comment.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

motion M/M by McComas, 2nd by Harding to adjourn the regular meeting, and enter executive session for the purpose of conducting the City Manager's one-year performance evaluation, at 8:38 p.m.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

motion M/M by McComas, 2nd by Rodgers to come out of executive session at 9:10 p.m.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

motion M/M by McComas, 2nd by Miller to award the City Manager a \$5,000 Merit Increase in annual salary.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, 6-Yes, 1-No (Wallace).

motion M/M by Phillips, 2nd by McComas to support the City Manager's selection for the Police Chief position.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, 6-Yes, 1-No (Wallace).

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

motion M/M by Rodgers, 2nd by Miller to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

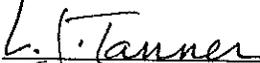
vote Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 27TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1996.



Ruth M. Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:



L.J. Tanner, City Clerk