

Introduced by: Council member Berger
Date: October 9, 2001
Action: **Postponed**
Vote:

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

RESOLUTION #01-36

A RESOLUTION URGING BETHEL UTILITIES, INC. TO STREAMLINE ITS OPERATIONS SO THAT IT MAY OPERATE MORE EFFICIENTLY AND PROVIDE COST SAVINGS TO ITS CUSTOMERS AND TO THIS END RECOMMENDING RESEARCH BE CONDUCTED BY THE REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

WHEREAS, the availability, reliability and cost of electric power is vital to local economic development in the communities of western Alaska, and;

WHEREAS, Bethel Utilities, Inc. (BUI) provides electric services to residents of Bethel, through a certificate of authority provided by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA), and;

WHEREAS, Bethel Utilities Inc. is also allowed to market power to the village of Napakiak, via an overland electric power line that was constructed by the State of Alaska between the two communities many years ago, and;

WHEREAS, Recently there have been concerns raised by residents of Bethel and Napakiak about the costs of electric services that are charged by BUI to its customers, and;

WHEREAS, BUI has not taken advantage of opportunities to provide effective cost savings in the areas of providing bulk fuel storage for powering its generators, and its preparation to serve the growing community of Bethel, and;

WHEREAS, The City Council advocates on behalf of community residents that electric costs be reasonable and affordable and urges that BUI seek to streamline its operations so that it may operate more efficiently in our community, and;

WHEREAS, The City Council recommends that BUI give serious consideration to setting up its own fuel storage facility to obtain lower costs in fuel for the operation of its generators—for the purpose of passing along the cost savings to its customers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Bethel, City Council recommends that RCA investigate and hold hearings on the conduct of Bethel Utilities, Inc., and the City Council would appreciate if Bethel Utilities, Inc., would provide the City of Bethel relevant information in an effort to be better informed.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 9th DAY OF OCTOBER 2001, by a unanimous voice vote.

Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers, Mayor

ATTEST:

Colleen Soberay, City Clerk