
City of Bethel, Alaska

City Council Minutes

February 22, 2000

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on February 22, 2000, at 6:30 p.m. in the Lions Club, Bethel, Alaska. Mayor Mike O'Brien called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

There were present:

Mike O'Brien, Mayor	Dario Notti
Jerry Drake	Karol Pobrislo
Joerene Hout	

comprising a quorum of the Council.

Absent:

Agnes Phillips (Excused)
Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers (Excused)

Also in attendance were:

Bob Herron, City Manager
Gaye Vaughan, City Clerk

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Shari Neth, Public Safety Commissioner, thanked Council Members Drake and Notti and Mayor O'Brien for attending the public forum on alcohol issues facing Bethel. She also thanked Council Member Phillips for calling Ms. Neth with her support. Her thanks were also given to the presenters at the forum.

Hal Jones, Finance Committee Member, stated the Committee was asked to review the alcohol delivery ordinance but were given no figures to work with. The Committee's recommendation was to defeat the ordinance unless the purpose of it is to improve the lifestyle of bootleggers. He voiced his objection to comments made by a council member on a recent radio talk show.

Virginia Turner, said the proposed ordinance brought forth more questions than answers. She was given to understand that the ordinance was to be re-written for clarification. She believed that the ordinance was written for the purpose of raising revenue for the city. She noted that the mayor of Barrow said they had to dip into the city funds for their alcohol delivery site. She added that the ordinance might work if the purpose is to curtail the bootlegging and keep track of the alcohol in Bethel.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 8, 2000.
SECONDED BY:	Pobrislo	

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

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the agenda and consent agenda as amended.
SECONDED BY:	Pobrislo	

Ordinance #00-06 was removed from the consent agenda at the request of a council member.

City Manager Herron requested that ratification of the APEA contract.

Council Member Notti requested a discussion on taxi permits.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor O'Brien announced the following information included in the agenda packets:

- Governor's Talking Points for February 7, 11, 14, and 21, 2000
- News releases from Alaska Housing Finance Corp.
- Registration form for Regional Conference on Housing for Homeless People, San Francisco, March 6-7
- AML Fax Alert – Legislative Conference New Date – March 22-23

He also noticed receipt of the following publications:

- *Rural Success*, Premier Issue, A Newsletter of the National Rural Health Association
- *Wet, Dry, or Damp: Alaskan Communities Make a Choice*, Local Option Law "How-To" Manual, published by the Alaska Council on PREVENTION of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Inc.
- *Resource Review*, February 2000, publication of the Resource Development Council, Inc.
- Packet concerning Alaska 2000: Seattle EDA Conference, Anchorage, April 30-May 2
- He had also received a fax from Alaska Business News requesting a list of Bethel's capital improvement projects. They will compile and publish a list from around the state.

MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Herron relayed the following information:

- Department Head reports were included in the agenda packets.

- DOT is drafting a letter of agreement for the City to take over the maintenance of roads after they are paved.
- A letter was received from Tim Miller asking for support for low power radio.
- The Parks & Recreation Dept. is requesting permission to apply for a Power Up grant.

MOVED BY:	Pobrislo	To authorize Parks & Recreation to apply for a Power Up grant.
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

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

Public Works Committee

Council Member Drake stated that the committee had met on February 15. They had discussed the recycling center and are working with Brian Glasheen on a suitable site. They also discussed the snow plan presented by City Manager Herron. The committee is also working on the solid waste master plan.

Public Safety Commission

Mayor O'Brien stated the Commission will meet on March 6.

Planning Commission

Council Member Notti noted that the Commission has not met since the last Council meeting.

Parks and Recreation Committee

Council Member Pobrislo stated the committee has not met since they do not have enough members to make a quorum.

Senior Citizens' Advisory Board

Council Member Hout noted that the attendance record given to council members shows she was absent from a meeting, when she had been present. She pointed out the minutes in the packets.

Transportation Commission

Council Member Hout stated that all members were in attendance at the last meeting. Taxis were discussed at great length. Snowmobiles on the roads were also discussed.

Mayor O'Brien asked that the applications which have been received by the City Clerk be on the next agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance #00-03: Amending The Adopted Annual FY 1999-2000 Budget (City Manager Herron)

Mayor O'Brien open the floor to public hearing. No one stepped forward to speak and the public hearing was closed.

MOVED BY:	Drake	To enact Ordinance #00-02.
SECONDED BY:	Pobrislo	

City Manager Herron noted that all the expenditures in this ordinance were previously approved by the Council. Although this ordinance has money moved within departments, it has no "new" money or projects.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.
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Resolution #00-01: Providing For the Re-establishment of Council Committees and Establishing Certain Committee Procedures (Council Member Pobrislo)

Mayor O'Brien reminded the Council that a motion to adopt was on the floor.

MOVED BY:	Drake	To postpone Resolution #00-01 until the next meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Pobrislo	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.
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Ordinance #99-14: Establishing A Local Delivery Site System For Alcoholic Beverages Brought Into The City Of Bethel (City Council)

Mayor O'Brien noted that this ordinance was not properly scheduled for public hearing and that a motion was needed to set the hearing date.

MOVED BY:	Drake	To set Ordinance #99-14 for public hearing on March 14, 2000.
SECONDED BY:	Hout	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance #00-06: Relating To A Six-Month Demonstration Project Of Wireless Technology For City Offices (City Manager Herron)

MOVED BY:	Drake	To set Ordinance #00-06 for public hearing on March 14, 2000.
SECONDED BY:	Pobrislo	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Discussion Item – Flag Poles at New City Hall (Mayor O'Brien)

Mayor O'Brien noted that there is no flag pole at the new city hall. He felt it is imperative that flags be flown on the city hall and wants poles installed for the United States, Alaska and POW/MIA flags. He also wants to see the flags retired each evening.

City Manager Herron stated the poles would cost approximately \$500-600 each and the flags could fly 24 hours a day if they are lit.

Mayor O'Brien said there are flags in the community which fly 24 hours a day and they are tattered and not in keeping with good flag protocol.

Council Member Drake concurred with the Mayor and said he didn't think the flags should fly 24 hours a day.

Council Member Notti questioned the price of a person to raise and lower the flags each day versus the cost of installing lights for the flags.

City Manager Herron assured the Council that no tattered flag would fly over city hall.

Discussion Item – Taxi Permits (Council Member Notti)

Council Member Notti stated he understood that the Police Dept. is not issuing any new permits at the current time. He would like to have an ordinance on the next agenda setting a 120-day moratorium.

MOVED BY:	Notti	To have a moratorium on taxi permits on the March 14 agenda.
SECONDED BY:	Pobrislo	

City Manager Herron stated he would like to discuss this with Council in Executive Session.

MOTION WITHDRAWN	
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COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member Hout recognized the hard work done by the members of the city's commissions and committees. She especially wanted to thank Shari Neth for her work on the alcohol ordinance. Ms. Hout noted that the roads had been extremely icy the past week and needed to be sanded. She sent best wishes to Jimmix Samuelson who is in the hospital.

Council Member Pobrislo sent good wishes to Steve Poor who is having surgery next week. She liked having short Council meetings.

Council Member Notti sent best wishes to Joe Lomack who is also in the hospital. He noted that he had attended a coastal resource meeting where Mekoryuk gave a very good presentation. He felt that Bethel should support them in their endeavors.

Mayor O'Brien had no comments.

Council Member Drake asked if more information could be provided in the Finance Dept.'s report, such as number of business licenses issued, number of audits done, etc. He invited Council Member Notti to the next Public Works Committee meeting so they could discuss his plan for a culvert near his property. He announced a recycling meeting to be held the following day at AVCP. He additionally sent good wishes to Jimmix Samuelson.

MOVED BY:	Pobrislo	To recess into Executive Session to discuss taxi permits and the APEA contract.
SECONDED BY:	Hout	

VOTE ON MOTION | Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

The Council took a brief recess prior to going into Executive Session.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

APEA Contract (City Manager Herron)

MOVED BY:	Hout	To ratify the APEA contract.
SECONDED BY:	Notti	

VOTE ON MOTION | Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Drake	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Hout	

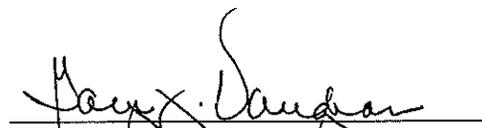
VOTE ON MOTION | Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

With no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 14th DAY OF MARCH, 2000.

ATTEST:


Mike O'Brien, Mayor


Gaye J. Vaughan, City Clerk