

Introduced by: City Manager Baird
Date: May 9, 2006
Action: Passed
Vote: Unanimous

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

Resolution #06-14

A RESOLUTION BY THE BETHEL CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE EXPANSION OF THE YUKON-KUSKOKWIM CORRECTIONAL CENTER AND EXPRESSING INTEREST IN PURSUING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS REGARDING THE POSSIBLE EXPANSION AND THE CITY OF BETHEL'S INVOLVEMENT THRU ISSUANCE OF LEASE REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS

WHEREAS, the Yukon-Kuskokwim Correctional Center located in Bethel is currently a 92-bed facility and has been operating at emergency capacity for a number of years,

WHEREAS, as a result of the limited capacity of the existing Yukon-Kuskokwim Correctional Center inmates from Bethel and the region are relocated to other correctional facilities in Alaska or even Arizona, making it near impossible for family members to visit,

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature, during their 2003-2004 session, approved SB65 "...authorizing the Department of Corrections to enter into agreements with municipalities for new or expanded public correctional facilities in the Fairbanks North Star Borough, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Bethel, and the Municipality of Anchorage...",

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska Department of Corrections contacted the City with a request to consider supporting and participating in the expansion of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Correctional Center thru a lease-purchase agreement,

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska would be absolutely and unconditionally responsible to fully fund the lease payments except in the unlikely event of non-appropriation, which has never occurred, eliminating the need to the City of Bethel to expend any of its own funds to repay the debt,

WHEREAS, the expansion of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Correctional Center from 92 to 212 beds would require ten to twelve additional employees, which could be hired from the local populous and would be a benefit to the local economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Bethel City Council supports the expansion of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Correctional Center and authorizes the City Administration to enter into

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discussions with the State of Alaska Department of Corrections regarding the possible expansion and the City of Bethel's involvement thru issuance of lease revenue refunding bonds.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 9th DAY OF MAY 2006, BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE IN FAVOR.


R. Thor Williams, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sandra Modigh, City Clerk