

# City of Bethel

"Deep Sea Port and Transportation Center of the Kuskokwim"



• P. O. BOX 7, BETHEL, ALASKA 99559

14 September 1970

## REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

24 August 1970

The meeting was called to order by Acting Mayor Eddie Hoffman. Roll was called.  
PRESENT: Eddie Hoffman, Jack Baxter, Robert Nick, Ben Dale, Bruce Crow, Dave Swanson., who arrived late., and took over the chairmanship of the meeting.  
ABSENT: Kevin Murphy.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

COMPLAINTS AND PEOPLE TO BE HEARD: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Work on the Sea-wall is already underway with Don Shantz supervising the crew and work. We now have a definite commitment of \$30,000. from three separate agencies; Rural Development Agency, Division of Water & Harbors, and Norther Commercial Company.

The Roads in Bethel Heights continue to be a cause of concern. Bob Schenker has been in communication with me, indicating they have been in contact with the State Highway Department, who assured him they would cooperate in any way possible, but they have no funding available. The Highway Department did send their Western District Engineer, Mr. Spruce, to Bethel, who evaluated the situation and gave them a cost estimate of \$393,000. to make adequate roads out of a granular material. ASHA has also requested assistance from HUD and have been turned down. They have contacted Mr. Qubley, Commissioner of Commerce, who is currently polling the State agencies to determine what financial aid is available. Mr. Eugene Leavens, an engineer for ASHA will be in Bethel on Thursday, to evaluate the situation and will also try to determine the status of the contractor at the time of completion of the water and sewage facilities, and what expectations will be different at that time, than the contractor now assumes. Upon Mr. Leavens return to Anchorage, he will report to all the ASHA officials, and ASHA then plans to appeal to the NW Regional Council for financial aid.

In regard to Braund, Inc., the lease of the Community Building and the City-owned equipment being used by Braund. Both Mr. Biss and Mr. Marsh are preparing all the documents they have, for shipment to us, and will advise us on the action to be taken.

The LEAA jail grant has been approved.

Tomorrow, voting for the primaries will take place in the Armory for both precincts.



RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jack Faulkner reported the Youth Club had a balance of \$646.01. Furniture for the new Youth Center has been ordered upon approval of the Recreational Committee, with an allowable 60 days demurrage without cost to the City. The furniture ordered is necessary for the lounge and includes: 2 naughadye sofas and chairs, end tables, coffee tables at a cost of \$2,634. plus freight. Upon completion of the snack bar, this amount will probably be increased to \$5,000., of which the Youth Center snack bar fund is prepared to meet \$1,000. The pool tables have been ordered and are on Northland's last barge. They more than met our specifications in that these tables will have 3/4" slate, costing \$500. each, plus freight. We have \$750. toward these.

There was a meeting of the Recreation Committee on August 18th, with Father Gurr and Gene Stone being present. Plans were discussed for the winter program, Fall Festival and the Cowan Hut. All committees are organized for the Fall Festival. Due to the expenses incurred, the Recreation Committee feels the organizations of the City be charged ten percent of their gross to help defray expenses.

Bids for the feeding of the 35 piece Army Band are all in. Bethel Heights playground is now 90% completed, and it's our recommendation that prior to acceptance, an inspection be made by Ben Dale and myself. Transportation is still critical. In order to get the equipment out there, a 4-wheel drive will be necessary.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS: None.

STANDING COMMITTEES: Eddie Hoffman reported on the condition of the Bethel Heights roads.

Robert Nick reported that previous income requirements for the Bethel Heights project has been lifted, thus enabling higher-income families to become eligible for housing in that area. The Dept. of Education as well as other State and Federal agencies are already utilizing a number of these houses. The project is open to the general public at a cost of approximately \$135.00 per month, plus utilities.

OLD BUSINESS:

ASHA SURVEY REQUEST: Mrs. Malone read an agreement between the City of Bethel and ASHA, in which the City of Bethel agreed to share 1/3 of the cost of a field survey and final preparation of a platte in accordance with survey instructions of the Dept. of Natural Resources, dated 9-20-68 and 11-20-69. This apparently is an agreement between the City of Bethel, ASHA, and the Dept. of Education, with each agency paying 1/3 of the cost of the field survey, which is in the area up near Bethel Heights.

Mayor Swanson read a letter from Bernard L. Marsh to Clifford Hartman, Commissioner of Education, stating the terms of this agreement.

M/M Baxter, Nick that this Contribution Agreement between the City of Bethel, ASHA and the Dept. of Education, be accepted.

POLL VOTE: Crow, yes; Baxter, yes; Dale, yes; Hoffman, yes; Nick, yes; Swanson, yes. Unanimous.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR APPLICATION:** Mr. David Webb has been interviewed for the position of Administrator to replace Mrs. Jan Malone, who will be leaving Bethel approximately November 1st.

M/M Baxter, Nick that Mr. Webb be hired as City Administrator, effective November 1st.

M/M Crow, Nick the previous motion be amended to state that Mr. Webb and Mrs. Maloné's work time be over-lapped for a period of 2 weeks. Amendment approved unanimously. Motion carried unanimously.

**CITY LAND SURVEY PROPOSALS:** 111 Acres adjacent to the Braund factory, which follows what used to be the City Airport. There have been numerous requests to the City as well as various individuals regarding these lots for sale. Feelers have been put out to two firms in an effort to determine the cost of such a survey. Top figure for one firm was \$39,000. to survey the 111 acres and break it up into lots. The other firm's figure was \$10 to 13,000. dollars.

M/M by Crow, Baxter this item be referred to Land Use Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

**BETHEL HEIGHTS POLICE & FIRE PROTECTION:** Councilman Hoffman read a petition signed by 76 Bethel Homeowners requesting adequate police service to the area.

M/M Crow, Swanson that the City Administrator respond to the Bethel Heights Homeowners indicating the City Council is attempting to solve the police and communication problem by: 1) hiring a fourth policeman and; 2) purchasing a 4-wheel drive vehicle and we'll attempt to assist them in establishing some form of communication with the police and fire departments.

POLL VOTE: Nick, yes; Hoffman, yes; Swanson, yes; Baxter, No; Dale, No; Crow, yes. Motion carried.

Councilman Hoffman then read a list of equipment necessary for the safety of homes in the Bethel Heights area.

M/M by Swanson, Crow that this item be referred to the Public Safety Committee for review and recommendation. POLL VOTE: Crow, yes; Baxter, yes; Dale, yes; Nick, yes; Swanson, yes; Hoffman, yes. Unanimous.

**NICHOLSON-DALE LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION:** After explanation, Mayor Swanson requested the Liquor License Application of Art Nicholson be entered on the Agenda either preceding or immediately following the Nicholson-Dale application, or that the Art Nicholson application be the last item on the agenda.

M/M Swanson, Crow for item to be placed on the agenda.

POLL VOTE: Crow, no; Baxter, no; Dale, no; Swanson, yes; Hoffman, no; Nick, no. Motion didn't carry.

M/M Baxter, Dale that the Nicholson-Dale application be accepted. Motion defeated 3-3.

M/M Crow, Hoffman that the Nicholson-Dale Liquor License Application be tabled for further research. POLL VOTE: Crow, yes; Baxter, yes; Dale, no; Swanson, yes; Hoffman, no; Nick, yes. Motion carried.

**WORKABLE PROGRAM:** Mrs. Malone explained the Workable Program as a program for community improvement sponsored by the Dept. of Housing & Urban Development.

M/M Crow, Hoffman the Council adopt the Workable Program as developed by the City Administrator. Vote Unanimous.

BETHEL HEIGHTS WATER & SEWAGE: PHS has requested the City hire someone to work in conjunction with PHS on the Bethel Heights water and sewage plant for 1 year under the payroll of PHS. PHS' reasoning is for the City to eventually take over the Bethel Heights water and sewage. PHS wants a man hired that is familiar with the project at the time the City of Bethel will supposedly take over this project. M/M Crow, Nick that the City advertise for a water sewage superintendent to work with PHS for a period of 1 year. Vote unanimous.

ABANDONED VEHICLE ORDINANCE: Mrs. Malone read a letter and an Ordinance from the City Attorney, Burton Biss. M/M by Crow, Dale that the essence of the Ordinance be published in the Kuskokwim-Kronicle and copies be posted in public places, and the Ordinance be re-considered at another meeting. Unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

SALARY FOR CHIEF POLICE: Mr. Dillon is currently being paid \$950. per month and it is requested the salary be raised to \$1100. per month, making the total yearly salary, \$13,200. M/M Swanson, Dale that Mr. Dillon's salary be raised to \$1100. per month effective September 1st. POLL VOTE: Nick, yes; Hoffman, yes; Swanson, yes; Dale, yes; Baxter, yes; Crow, yes. Unanimous.

POLICE VEHICLE: A vehicle was budgeted for the Recreational Director when that position was filled. At the suggestion of the City Administrator, it was decided to buy an adequate police vehicle and turn the current van over to the Recreation Dept. This was agreeable with both people concerned. The van now being used by the police department is not adequate for the hauling of prisoners, nor is it adequate for the present road conditions. Comments were made regarding the cost of maintenance, plus the inability of the present vehicle to effectively do the intended job; against the cost of a new police van. Mrs. Malone has investigated the cost of a 4-wheel drive vehicle, customized to our specifications, the cost would be \$7,043. delivered in Bethel. M/M Crow, Dale that this item be referred to the Police Committee for recommendations with a time limit of 3 days, at which time the findings of the Police Committee will be turned over to the Administrator, who will then poll the Council by phone, for authorization to release the vehicle for bid with the stipulation that the vehicle will be delivered in Bethel no later than 30 days after acceptance of the bid. Motion carried unanimously.

POLICE HIRE: There presently are 3 full-time police officers and it is requested that the City advertise for a 4th full-time patrolman to begin work Sept. 1st., at a salary of \$650. month.

M/M by Baxter, Dale that the position be advertized for. POLL VOTE: Crow, yea; Baxter, yes; Dale, yes; Swanson, yes; Hoffman, yes; Nick, yes. Unanimous.

STATE REVENUE SHARING: Mrs. Malone has completed the State Revenue Sharing Plan, which was due Sept. 1st. The State Legislature has passed 3 additional Revenue Sharing ITEMS THIS year. These include, Parks & Recreation, Road Maintenance and Health Facilities. The City Administrator has applied for the City of Bethel the following Revenue Sharing Plans: police protection, fire protection, land use planning, parks and recreation, road maintenance, and for 2 health facilities including the Receiving Home and the Prematernal Home, for a total of \$93,720. M/M by Baxter, Nick that the State Revenue Application be accepted. Vote unanimous.

COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES: City Administrator requested Council to make a policy decision regarding improvement of communication lines between the City Administrator or the the Council.

M/M by Nick, Baxter that following a committee meeting, the Chairman submit minutes of the meeting to the City Administrator for filing in City Hall. Vote unanimous.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE CITY LOGS: Jack Faulkner made an offer of \$60. a thousand board feet for unused city logs.

M/M by Baxter, Crow that offer be accepted.

FIRE SIREN-8 A.M. Mr. Fancher requested of Mayor Swanson that the fire siren be blown at 8:00 AM to alert school children that school would soon be in progress. M/M by Baxter, Dale that the siren be set off at 10:00 PM only, other than emergencies. POLL VOTE: Crow, yes; Baxter, yes; Dale, yes; Swanson, no; Hofman, no; Nick, no. Motion didn't carry.

M/M by Nick, Baxter that this request be turned over to the Fire Committee for review and recommendation. Vote unanimous.

M/M by Baxter, Nick for adjournment. Vote unanimous.

I hereby certify that the above minutes are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Jean Faulkner  
JEAN FAULKNER, City Clerk

David P. Swanson, Mayor