

CITY OF BETHEL
CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting of August 10, 1993

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was convened at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Feaster in the Log Cabin, Bethel, Alaska.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Feaster, Metcalfe (late), Trantham, Vanasse,
Warner, Wintersteen

Absent : Jones (unexcused)

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Vanasse took exception to his receiving an unexcused absence for the Council meeting of July 27, 1993, as he had provided a written request to be excused from the meeting, and asked that the minutes be amended to reflect that he was excused. Councilman Vanasse further requested that the Mayor provide a written policy detailing the process required to be excused from a meeting. Mayor Feaster indicated that he would submit a policy, however, he would not retract the unexcused absence.

motion M/M by Trantham, 2nd by Warner to approve the minutes of July 27 1993, regular Council meeting as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried. 5-yes; 1-no (Vanasse)

IV. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA/REGULAR AGENDA

motion M/M by Warner, 2nd by Trantham to approve Item A under New Business on the Consent Agenda. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Item approved by consent was: Introduction of Ordinance #93-22 authorizing disposal/lease of city property for the Bethel Receiving Home for public hearing at the August 24, 1993, City Council meeting.

motion M/M by Warner, 2nd by Metcalfe to amend the regular agenda by adding Item C, Executive Session, under New Business for the purpose of discussing legal strategy in the case of Leroy Peters vs. the City of Bethel, and to

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
PAGE 2
AUGUST 10, 1993

provide an update on the APEA vs. City of Bethel case. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

V. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Feaster advised Council that a delegation of legislative staff would be in the Bethel area on August 18, 1993, to look at what effect the no net loss policy on the wetlands would have on the area. Mr. Bill Bivin, representing the Chamber of Commerce, had encouraged council members to participate.

A work session to develop the capital improvements projects plan was scheduled for August 26, 1993, at 7:30 PM at the Log Cabin.

Brian Glasheen of Bethel Recycling Works requested that the City consider attaching an announcement about the recycling center.

motion M/M by Warner, 2nd by Vanasse that the City Manager grant the request, deny the request or modify it in his discretion to include some kind of mailing or message on the utility bill. Voice vote. Motion carried. 5-yes; 1-no (Wintersteen).

VI. MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Hunter referred Council to his written report and requested approval on several contracts that had been negotiated and finalized.

motion M/M by Warner, 2nd by Metcalfe to approve the contract between the City of Bethel and CH2M Hill for the preliminary design of the City Subdivision piped water and system. Motion was withdrawn. It was decided to approve all contracts with one motion.

motion M/M by Warner, 2nd by Trantham to approve the projects contracts as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

a. CH2M Hill in the amount of \$33,060 for preliminary design of City Subdivision piped water and sewer system;

b. T.C. Foss & Associates in the amount of \$5,000 for information master plan improvement;

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

PAGE 4

AUGUST 10, 1993

Councilman Trantham announced that the Transportation Commission meeting scheduled for August 18 was postponed to August 25.

Councilman Trantham reported that the Youth Services Committee met August 9, the items discussed included: 1) open house delayed to early September because of the delay in the installation of the new flooring; 2) concern about the problem of drug and alcohol use among the youth in the community; 3) the sand pit has been closed and parents have been requested to enforce the curfew ordinance; 4) donations for the purchase of an electric range for the Youth Center; 5) KYUK call-in show for young people.

Councilman Wintersteen advised that the special committee to review the Port Development Plan had not received the final draft from Bartz Englishhoe in time to review it.

break Council broke at 8:40 PM for a short recess. At 8:45 PM, Mayor Feaster called the meeting back to order.

VIII. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD-- There were no people to be heard.

IX. OLD BUSINESS:

ITEM A: Relocation Expense Policy

City Manager Hunter submitted the revised proposed relocation expense policy. The revised policy took into consideration recommendations Council had made based on an earlier evaluation of the policy. A lengthy discussion on issues of which employees were entitled to receive the relocation allowance, how much the allowance should be, requirement for City Council approval, and whether or not the cost of relocating non-relatives was to be included in the policy.

motion M/M by Trantham, 2nd by Vanasse to approve the relocation policy by making the following changes: 1) first paragraph--delete "professionally or technically" and replace with "department heads"; 2) second paragraph--delete "and submitted to the City Council for its approval...and approved by the City Council..."; 3) condition #5--delete "relatives or non-relatives (living with the individual) and replace with "for employee and dependents." Poll vote. Motion carried. 4-yes; 2-no (Metcalf, Wintersteen).

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
PAGE 5
AUGUST 10, 1993

ITEM B: Public Hearing--Ordinance #93-18A: Budget Amendment Establishing a Reserve Fund for the City's Insurance Program

It was explained that the purpose of establishing a reserve fund for the City's insurance program was to ensure that funds were available in the event an additional assessment was required due to excessive claims from the AML/JIA insurance pool. Finance Director Elam, provided an explanation of the proposed budget amendment. Councilman Warner requested that the Contingency for Insurance Assessments in the amount of \$50,000 be set up as a separate line item in the budget and any unexpended funds at year end be transferred to a permanent reserve. Mr. Elam indicated that this would be done on an annual basis until, based upon the City's experience, it was determined the reserve was adequate.

motion M/M by Warner, 2nd by Wintersteen to approve Ordinance #93-18-A budget amendment establishing a reserve fund for the City's insurance program. Poll vote. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM C: City Clerk's Office Hours of Operation

Councilman Trantham referred Council to his report regarding the City Clerk's Office Hours of Operation (a copy of which is attached as part of these official minutes). Council held a lengthy discussion regarding the report and regarding setting reduced office hours for the public. The City Manager and the City Clerk stated they were in favor of accepting Mr. Trantham's recommendation as submitted in his report, but not in favor of setting reduced office hours. Further discussion followed.

motion M/M by Warner, 2nd by Vanasse to accept the recommendation submitted by Councilman Trantham in his report and directed the City Manager and the City Clerk work closely together to make certain the City Clerk's office is covered at those times the City Clerk is away from the office. Poll vote. Motion carried unanimously.

motion M/M by Trantham, 2nd by Warner to continue meeting past 10:00 PM. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

X. NEW BUSINESS

**ITEM A: Introduction of Ordinance #93-22: An Ordinance Authorizing Disposal/Lease of City Property for the Bethel Receiving Home Approved by consent.

ITEM B: Discussion Regarding the Municipal Permanent Fund Concept

Discussion was held regarding a recommendation from Councilman Warner and the Finance Committee to establish a "permanent fund" to protect the \$1.2 million received from Transamerica. A number of options were presented, reviewed, and discussed.

motion M/M by Warner, 2nd by Trantham that the City Council establish an endowment fund for the City of Bethel, the initial funding of the endowment to include the \$1.2 million received from Transamerica and the approximately \$68,000 in the museum fund. That the City Attorney prepare an ordinance that will: 1) provide for reinvestment of 30% of the earned income and that the additional 70% be made available for general city government purposes; 2) ensure that the principal is difficult to obtain by requiring that the following conditions must be met: (a) two public hearings are held; (b) unanimous vote of the City Council; and (c) majority vote of the people.

Councilman Wintersteen asked the Finance Director to provide statistical projections comparing income that would be earned from an endowment fund to the cost of the 15-year, \$1 million loan from Farmer's Home Administration for the sewage lagoon.

ITEM C: Executive Session:

motion M/M by Warner, 2nd by Metcalfe to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing legal strategy in the case of Leroy Peters vs. the City of Bethel and for an update on the APEA vs. City of Bethel case. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

motion M/M by Warner, 2nd by Vanasse to come out of Executive Session. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

motion M/M by Warner, 2nd by Wintersteen that the City accept the settlement offer recommended by the attorney as set forth in the August 5, 1993, letter. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

XI. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Councilman Wintersteen expressed his concern about the problems in Bethel with its youth, specifically, the terrible combination of too much alcohol and too many guns.

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
PAGE 7
AUGUST 10, 1993

Councilman Metcalfe complemented the Police Department and the Fire Department on it efficient and quick response to the tundra fire south of the airport.

Councilman Trantham stressed to the parents of the City's youth to "know where your children are". In addition, Councilman Trantham advised city administration that the newly constructed stretch of road on Ptarmigan was in danger of being destroyed because of an intersecting road that was constructed without a culvert. At this time, it appeared that a portion of Ptarmigan was in danger of being washed away. City Manager Hunter said he would respond immediately to the situation.

Councilman Warner requested attendance from interested citizens at the Planning Commission meeting scheduled for August 12 to consider the preliminary plat subdivision proposal submitted by Lena Phillips. Councilman Warner advised management to review that section of Title 13 that deals with the requirement for the installation of proper water and sewer tanks as well as enforcement for the requirement.

Mayor Feaster requested a status report at the next Council meeting on the distribution of departmental charges against vehicle and equipment repairs.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

motion M/M by Warner, 2nd by Wintersteen to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 pm. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 24th DAY OF August, 1993.

James H. Feaster III
James H. Feaster III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jane Elam
Jane Elam, City Clerk