

CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the City Council was called to order at 9.10 am by Mayor Guinn.

ROLL CALL

Present: Binkley, Buttane, Guinn, Sullivan, Veit
Absent: Hoffman (illness), Twitchell (illness)

NEW BUSINESS

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND THE BETHEL POLICE DEPARTMENT

Victor Krumm of the Anchorage District Attorney's office and Roger Lubovitch, Bethel City Attorney, were present for the meeting.

motion

M/H by Sullivan, 2nd by Binkley to go into executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters. Voice vote, motion carried. Executive session: 9.15 - 11.05 am.

11.05 - 11.15 am recess by Council.

The special meeting reconvened at 11.15 in open session. Council agreed to recess until 2 pm.

Council reconvened in open session at 2 pm.

Jim Shanks from the office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs addressed Council concerning the use of executive session by Council for discussion of the matter before Council. Mr. Shanks called for more public involvement in the process and requested that Council voice their support for Chief Varnell.

Don Constantine, Director of the Bethel Receiving Home, spoke in support of Chief Varnell and expressed his concern over the lack of notice for the meeting.

City Manager Hoffman informed Council that the meeting was originally scheduled for January 17 at 7.30 pm; however, due to the non-arrival of the City Attorney, the representative from the DA's office in Anchorage, and the Chief of Police due to the cancellation of the afternoon jet, the January 17 meeting was rescheduled for January 18 at 9 am. The rescheduled meeting was noticed to the newspaper and the radio station and a notice was placed on the door of Council chambers. *WJM*

motion

M/H by Buttane, 2nd by Sullivan to go into executive session concerning personnel and legal matters. Voice vote, motion carried. Council informed the public present that Council would reconvene in open session at 6 pm for additional public input.

Executive session from 2.08 - 6.20 pm.

NEW BUSINESS CONT

Council reconvened in regular session at 6.23 pm to receive public comment.

The following people spoke in support of Chief Varnell:

Hanette Lathrop	Deema Brunner
Wayne Dexbury	George Wright
Jim Shanks	Kevin Clayton
Russ Slaten	Tim Vanasse
Paul Brunner	April Varnell
Don Constantine	George Peratrovich
Hel Underwood	Rick Harrington
Aaron Rivers	John Hastie

M/E by Buttane, 2nd by Sullivan to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues. Voice vote, motion carried. Executive session from 6.35 - 6.56.

Council upon return to open session at 6.56 requested that anyone addressing Council speak to the subject before Council; anyone who desires to present additional information to Council concerning the matter was requested to do so in writing.

The following matters were discussed at various times during the open session:

- a. concern that the matter end as quickly as possible;
- b. the need for more public information about the investigation;
- c. concern over the continued use of executive sessions by Council in consideration of the investigation;
- d. concern that not only the actions of the City Police Department but also those of the local District Attorney's office be reviewed for appropriateness with respect to the matter under review;
- e. concern that all parties be contacted who may have information relevant to the review (former Bethel District Attorneys and Public Defenders)

City Manager Hoffman reviewed for Council the background of the investigation reminding the public that this meeting is part of the Council requested investigation by the State DA's office; that the meeting is informational for Council; and that any final decision on the matter awaits a formal response and recommendation from the Attorney General's office. Council requested that the Administration seek to expedite the response from the Attorney General's office.

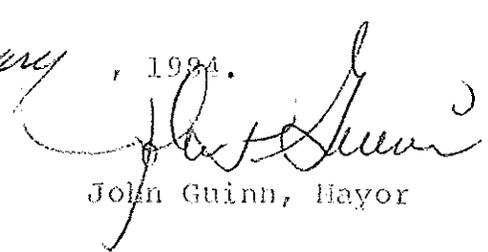
NEW BUSINESS CONT

M/M by Buttane, 2nd by Sullivan to limit the remainder of the Public Hearing to those who haven't addressed Council. Voice vote, motion carried.

M/M by Buttane, 2nd by Sullivan to go into executive session on personnel and legal matters. Voice vote, motion carried. Executive session from 8.06 - 9.08.

M/M by Sullivan to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9.10 pm.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS *23rd* DAY OF *January*, 1984.


John Guinn, Mayor

ATTEST


Wayne J. Hillers, City Clerk

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