



CITY of BETHEL

P. O. Box 537 • Bethel, Alaska 99559

543-2297 — Area Code 907

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 8, 1976

CITY OFFICE

7:35 P.M.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Peltola.
Present: Guinn, Elliott, Hickling, Stichick, Alexie.
Absent: Hinsvark.

INVOCATION - None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Manager Bartlett recommended to the Council that the Minutes be amended as follows: Ordinance #78 (An Ordinance Establishing a City of Bethel Budget for Fiscal Year 1977 and An Effective Date) be accepted for publication and the establishment of a public hearing on November 8, 1976.

M/M by Councilman Guinn that the Minutes of the October 25, 1976 Regular Council Meeting be accepted as amended.
Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Manager Bartlett recommended that there be added under New Business an Item E. to be entitled Canvass and Ratification of Election Results of Proposition #1.

M/M by Councilman Stichick that Item E. (Canvass and Ratification of Election Results of Proposition #1) be included on the Agenda under New Business.
Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

M/M be Councilman Stichick that the Agenda be accepted as modified.
Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

COMMUNICATIONS

Manager Bartlett disseminated a letter received by Mr. William Mayer of the Region X FDAA, regarding the water and sewer system in Bethel Heights and the enforcement of the code involving the need to utilize eight inch pipe, and two project applications for an Alcohol Treatment Center and a Community/Recreation Center submitted under the Local Public Works Capital Development and Investment Act of 1976, explaining that the EDA Office has sixty days from the date of receipt, October 26, 1976, to accept or reject the applications. Manager Bartlett emphasized that if the City's LPW Projects are accepted, the funding will be 100%. He also

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COMMUNICATIONS Con't.

noted that the Projects will utilize approximately 37% personnel from the unemployed labor pool in the Bethel Labor Census Area.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Bartlett reported on the Municipal League Conference he attended in Fairbanks on November 3 and 4 of 1976, concentrating on the issue of organized vs. unorganized boroughs and the involvement of regional government. If organized, the boroughs would collect taxes and provide services now administered by statewide agencies. The organization would give local governments more control over such matters as regional education, health care and safety programs, and is supported by urban areas as a means to halt urban tax dollars draining into rural areas. Many communities favor such a change but will be met with resistance from local taxpayers and elected officials. It is forecasted that incentives would be provided for the areas to organize themselves, otherwise the legislature would have to mandate that the regions organize. Most areas do not have sufficient tax bases and also native lands in many of the villages are tax exempt if undeveloped until 1991. Studies report that the bulk of the tax money could come from ad valorem tax, or from the Pipeline, in applicable areas.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Peltola announced an executive session for Council endorsement on Superior Court Judge candidacy for the 4th Judicial District to transpire after the Regular Meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Stichick reported on his favorable impression of the Recreation Department, especially noting the new Recreation Supervisor.

Manager Bartlett announced the current reorganization of the utility delivery system involving a comprehensive City numbering system, rescheduling of services and the acquisition of additional heavy equipment.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Mr. Harold Sparks commended the City on their efforts to secure a grant under ERDA for the effective delivery of waste heat utility services. Sparks then made reference to the borough issue citing that this Region has little pull in the determination of funding disbursement, and that most of the money is siphoned out of Bethel.

Manager Bartlett rejoined that to have greater determination in this area, greater dues in the form of property taxes would be prerequisite.

Continuing, Sparks informed Council and those in attendance that a live sewer line was struck by a snow machine. As the lines are not monitored,

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PEOPLE TO BE HEARD Con't.

it is impossible to discover and rectify a break until the pressure loss is registered at the pump station, at which time damage would have already been incurred.

Mayor Peltola concurred on the establishment of a monitoring system to safeguard against future accidents of this nature, and added that the pipes should be protected by trellises wherever they cross known snow machine paths.

OLD BUSINESS

A. BETHEL HEIGHTS WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM (RESOLUTION #180)

Manager Bartlett presented Resolution #180 (A Resolution Designating the City of Bethel's Local Agent Pursuant to Federal Financial Assistance Under the Disaster Relief Act and/or the President's Disaster Relief Fund), elaborating that it is necessary for the City to designate a local agent for projects involving one million dollars or more.

M/M by Councilman Elliott to accept Resolution #180, A Resolution Designating the City of Bethel's Local Agent Pursuant to Federal Financial Assistance Under the Disaster Relief Act and/or the President's Disaster Relief Fund.

Roll call vote, Yes: Hickling, Stichick, Guinn, Peltola, Alexie, Elliott. Motion passed.

Manager Bartlett relayed to Council the engagement of URS to study water and sewer systems in Bethel Heights pursuant to the 1975 disaster. It is necessary to contest the findings of the Army Corp of Engineers with data justification as there is such an extreme breach between their projection on replacement cost and that of the City. The Army Corp of Engineers has indicated that 2.9 million dollars is sufficient while the City maintains that the cost will be 6 million dollars. The Federal Disaster Administration's findings seem to parallel the cost estimate of the Army Corp of Engineers' study. The FDAA is bound to pay the actual cost if it is decided by the City to reinstate the previous system with stringent disaster proofing and eight inch pipe. The Army Corp of Engineers has based their costs on manufacturers' suggested production rates, which are inherently foreign to construction in this area. Manager Bartlett advocated the rejection of any offer which does not meet the City's specifications.

NEW BUSINESS

A. RATIFICATION OF PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES (OCTOBER 1, 1976 AND OCTOBER 18, 1976)

Manager Bartlett advised Council of the need to ratify the Minutes of the October 1 and 18, 1976 Planning Commission Meetings.

ITEM A. Con't.

Mayor Peltola voiced disapproval of the Planning Commission's ratification of the lot to be sold to John Manion, stating there could be a conflict of interest with a City employee, perhaps relatable to the acquisition of knowledge prior to publication of its sale.

M/M by Councilman Stichick that the Minutes of the October 1, 1976 Planning Commission Meeting be ratified with the exception of Item D. under New Business.

Manager Bartlett stated that the City has the first option as stated on the deed to repurchase the lot, but must undergo the publication for thirty days and public hearing terms and conditions of Ordinance #74.

Roll call vote, Yes: Stichick, Hickling, Elliott, Peltola, Alexie, Guinn. Motion passed.

M/M by Councilman Elliott that the Planning Commission give priority consideration to John Manion for the resale of the lot. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

M/M by Councilman Stichick to ratify the Special Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of October 18, 1976 as presented. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

B. ORDINANCE #82 (CITY OF BETHEL'S UTILITY RATES)

Manager Bartlett disseminated a statement of the inordinate revenue loss for the operation of the City's utility services in FY 1976. Ordinance #82 and #83 are rate structure ordinances designed to upgrade the system, which Manager Bartlett introduced with a first reading. He recommended that both be accepted for publication and public hearing.

M/M by Councilman Guinn that Ordinance #82, An Ordinance Providing for the Establishment of Rates to be Charged for Water Service by the City of Bethel, for the Operation and Use of the Water System, and Providing for Penalties for Non-Payment for Water Service and for Violations of this Ordinance, and Ordinance #83, An Ordinance Providing for the Establishment of Rates to be Charged for Sewer Service by the City of Bethel, for Sewer Service and for Violations of this Ordinance be accepted for publication and for public hearing to be set for November 22, 1976. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

C. CITY OF BETHEL AND BETHEL UTILITIES CORPORATION JOINT AGREEMENT REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GRID-CONNECTED INTEGRATED COMMUNITY ENERGY SYSTEM

Manager Bartlett informed Council that, due to the high degree of inefficiency in the present power system arrangement, Northwest Industries and Bethel Utilities Corporation have drawn an agreement with the City of Bethel as interlocutor, for the exchange of consulting services and empirical demonstration. Northwest Industries, Inc. is submitting a grant

ITEM C. Con't.

application for a quarter of a million dollars relative to implementing this contract. They will institute a recyclable system of solid waste incineration and the delivery of non-combustible materials for sanitary land fill, as well as the collection, storage, and distribution of waste heat through a utilidor system. This project will be promulgated as a joint venture because the Bethel Utilities Corporation wants to join with the City relative to instigating the project, and money is not available from other sources to initiate such a grant application.

M/M by Councilman Elliott to endorse the agreement between Bethel Utilities Corporation and Northwest Industries, Inc. and the City of Bethel. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

D. ORDINANCE #78 PUBLIC HEARING (FY 1977 MUNICIPAL BUDGET)

Manager Bartlett finalized adoption procedures with a third reading of Ordinance #78 after the public hearing.

M/M by Councilman Guinn to adopt Ordinance #78. Roll call vote, Yes: Stichick, Peltola, Guinn, Alexie, Elliott, Hickling. Motion passed.

E. RATIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS OF PROPOSITION #1

Manager Bartlett recommended that Council reject a total of 33 questioned ballots in Precincts #1 and #2, and also recommended that 19 questioned ballots and one absentee ballot be accepted.

M/M by Councilman Guinn to reject 33 questioned ballots in Precincts #1 and #2 and to accept 19 questioned ballots and one absentee ballot. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

M/M by Councilman Guinn to extend the Regular Council Meeting past 10:00 P.M. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

M/M by Councilman Elliott to accept the canvassing of election results for Proposition #1. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

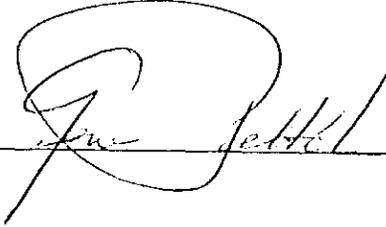
The Council recognized Ms. Dorothy Cass from the Alaska State Commission of Human Rights. She reported that her two day visit to Bethel will encompass investigation of discrimination as it relates to the employment situation. She stated she would gather information from various officials in the City relative to setting up a Commission within Bethel or a more accessible situation in Anchorage sensitive to the needs of Bethel.

M/M by Councilman Stichick to adjourn. Voice vote was taken and was unanimous. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 P.M.

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MAYOR



Handwritten signature of Jim Jetté, Mayor, written over a horizontal line.

CITY CLERK



Handwritten signature of Alton C. Kirigak, City Clerk, written over a horizontal line.