
City of Bethel, Alaska

City Council Minutes

April 27, 1999

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on April 27, 1999, at 6:30 p.m. in the Log Cabin, Bethel, Alaska. Mayor Agnes Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

ROLL CALL

There were present:

Mayor Agnes Phillips	Mike O'Brien
Antone Anvil	Karol Pobrislo (6:55 p.m.)
Joerene Hout (6:45 p.m.)	Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers

comprising a quorum of the Council.

Absent:

Dario Notti, unexcused

Also in attendance were:

Bob Herron, City Manager
Gaye Vaughan, City Clerk

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Jim Valcarce, stated he had a copy of a memo addressed to Gene Peltola of YKHC regarding the proposed increase in water/sewer rates for Kasayulie Subdivision. He objected to the increase in water/sewer since no reasoning has been given for the 33% increase. He said if the rates are to be based on proximity to the water pump, then those living closer should be given a decrease in their rates.

Clerk's Note: Council Member Hout arrived at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Anvil	To approve the minutes of April 13, 1999.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Phillips noted that there were no items on the consent agenda.

City Manager Herron requested that union negotiations and financial matters be discussed in Executive Session.

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To approve the agenda.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion to approve the agenda carried by unanimous consent.
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MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Phillips announced the following:

She thanked Stuart Robinson, Finance Director, for getting the budget documents together prior to the May 4 and 5 work sessions.

The Mayor noted she had attended the Small Business Conference on April 15 and 16. She noted that Lt. Governor Fran Ulmer gave a "state of the state" overview. Council Member O'Brien had also attended.

Mayor Phillips noted receipt of a letter from the Governor regarding the budget gap.

She noted receipt of a letter from the ACLU regarding the curfew ordinance.

She said thank you to those who had attended the budget session on the previous night.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Herron noted that department head reports were included in the council packets.

He noted that a pre-bid conference was held regarding the Braund Building. The bids will be open on May 4.

He requested that an amendment be made to Ordinance #99-07, regarding laser pointers.

Regarding Ordinance #99-05, water and sewer rates, he recommended that the ordinance be tabled until a rate study is completed. He will give the Council a status report at the next meeting. He met with the senior citizens and they endorsed that concept.

Mr. Herron noted that the new Bethel Heights water treatment is complete and there is very little iron in the water now.

He noted that there had been a sewer tank truck failure which made an unsafe condition.

City Manager Herron stated that a bus had been located and ordered for the senior center. They had received a grant for \$43,000. The seniors had raised \$4,600 and the Council will appropriate \$4,000. He was hoping that the barge company would give a discount on the freight.

He commented that the seawall survey had been completed and no breaks were found. He added that another survey would be done after breakup.

Council Member O'Brien asked about non-profit status regarding sales tax. Mr. Herron stated that would be discussed in Executive Session.

Clerk's Note: Council Member Pobrislo arrived at the meeting.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Mayor Phillips noted there are vacancies on the Parks and Recreation, Transportation, Port and Public Works Commissions/Committees.

Transportation Commission

Council Member Hout had no report to give.

Parks & Recreation Committee

Council Member Pobrislo announced the Committee would meet the following day at 6:00 p.m. at the Youth Center.

Planning Commission

Council Member Notti was not present so no Planning Commission report was given.

Finance Committee

Mayor Phillips stated the Finance Committee would meet on May 13.

Senior Citizens' Advisory Board

Council Member Anvil had no report to give. The next meeting will be May 5 at 10:30 a.m. He invited the council members to attend.

Port Committee

Council Member Rodgers stated the Committee met on April 19 and discussed slip assignments. The procedure will change this year which may ease the complaints. The first two weeks those who had slips last year will be able to sign up at \$2.00/ft. After which, it will be first come, first served. Saving a slip for the following year will cost \$10.00/ft.

Public Works Committee

Council member O'Brien stated the Committee met the previous week. He reported that culverts had been discussed. Currently anyone constructing a driveway is required to install a 24" culvert. The committee would like that changed to 18". The Committee also discussed changed the wording regarding seeding of pads and requiring steam pipe in culverts.

Public Safety Commission

Council Member O'Brien stated the Commission had met since the last meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance #99-07: Prohibiting Possession Of Laser Pointers By Minors (City Manager Herron)

Mayor Phillips called for public testimony with no one coming forth to speak.

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To adopt Ordinance #99-07.
SECONDED BY:	Pobrislo	

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To amend Ordinance #99-07 by changing \$500 to \$300 and setting effective date for June 1, 1999.
SECONDED BY:	Hout	

VOTE ON MOTION | Motion to amend carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ordinance #99-05: Amending Piped Rates and Senior Citizen Credit for Water and Sewer and Establishing Rates for Kasayulie Subdivision (City Manager Herron)

City Manager Herron recommended that the ordinance be tabled until such time as the Council has reviewed the forthcoming rate study.

MOVED BY:	Hout	To table Ordinance #99-05.
SECONDED BY:	Anvil	

VOTE ON MOTION | Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ordinance #99-06: Amending BMC 2.52, Boards, Commissions And Committees (Mayor Phillips)

The mayor inquired about the request from the City Attorney to postpone this ordinance.

City Clerk Vaughan replied that no further correspondence from the Attorney had been received regarding this ordinance.

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To postpone Ordinance #99-06 until the next meeting.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

VOTE ON MOTION | Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion Item – Plat approval for Braund Building

City Manager Herron stated the current plat includes the Braund Building, the courthouse, and the police and fire stations. A new plat is needed for just the Braund Building for purposes of the loan.

There was no objection from Council to having the city property replatted.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Council Member O'Brien noted that we are having our third spring this month. He cautioned people about driving on the river and not to wait until someone goes through before others quit using it. He offered condolences to the Bebe family.

Council Member Rodgers echoed Mr. O'Brien's comments about driving on the river.

Council Member Anvil noted it was time to think about clean up green up and encouraged Bethel citizens to clean up for the summer.

Mayor Phillips also sent condolences to the family.

Council Member Pobrislo offered sympathy to Maggie Michaels on the loss of her husband. She also congratulated the high school athletes on their awards.

Council Member Hout also sent condolences to the families of Fritz Bebe and Michaels.

Mayor Phillips thanked the City Manager for one year of good service to the City.

The City Council took a short break prior to going into Executive Session at 7:15 p.m.

MOVED BY:	Rodgers	To recess into Executive Session to discussion APEA contract negotiations, the Lee lawsuit and the budget forecast.
SECONDED BY:	O'Brien	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Mayor Phillips called the meeting back to order at 8:12 p.m.

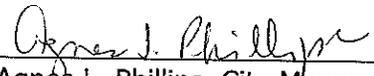
MOVED BY:	O'Brien	To increase salary of Bob Herron to \$75,000 in accordance with contract.
SECONDED BY:	Rodgers	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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ADJOURNMENT

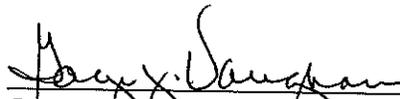
With no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 11TH DAY OF MAY, 1999.



 Agnes L. Phillips, City Mayor

ATTEST:



 Gaye J. Vaughan, City Clerk