

CITY COUNCIL
Kent Harding
Buford McComas
Tad Miller
Agnes Phillips
Ruth Richardson, Mayor
Stanley Rodgers
Wally Wallace



CITY MANAGER
Ken Weaver

CITY CLERK
L.J. Tanner

City of Bethel
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
August 27, 1996

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was convened at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Richardson in the Log Cabin, Bethel, Alaska.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Harding, McComas, Miller, Phillips, Richardson, Rodgers
Absent: Wallace

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Dave Trantham, representing the We Won't Take it No More Committee, discussed the problem with intoxicated persons and bootleggers on Fourth Avenue. Chris Hoversten also spoke about the problem on Fourth Avenue. Council Member Miller mentioned that there was a letter in the Council packets from Karole Kohl regarding the same problem.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by McComas to adopt a Resolution requesting the City Manager to invite the management of the Village Motel to assist in community policing of the area, to mitigate outrageous drunken behavior.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

motion M/M by Phillips, 2nd by Rodgers to approve the minutes of the August 13, 1996, regular meeting as presented.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Manager Weaver requested the deletion of New Business Items A and B, Introduction of Ordinances #96-39 and #96-40.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Rodgers to approve the agenda as amended.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Richardson stated that Martin Lancaster, a high-ranking official with the Army Corps of Engineers, would be in Bethel on Wednesday, August 28.

Also, the Mayor stated that she will be gone for much of September, but will attend the September 10 Council Meeting.

VII. MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Weaver referred Council to his written report, and discussed the following:

- Bank Stabilization Funding: Mayor Richardson requested that the City obtain progress reports from Red Samm construction and pass them on to Council.
- Braund Building Renovation
- Transportation Planning
- DEC Subdivision Plan Reviews
- Old Swimming Hole Clean-up
- Fireworks Permit
- Resignation of Officer N. Evon

VIII. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES and COMMISSIONS

Transportation: Mayor Richardson stated that an ordinance recommended by the Commission was in the packet under New Business.

Planning: Council Member McComas stated that the Planning Commission had met and minutes are forthcoming.

Public Works Committee: Council Member Miller reported that the Committee had a very productive meeting. They are frustrated with the lack of grader operators, and would like to budget for additional operators in next year's budget. They would like the DPW to investigate using Calcium Chloride for dust control, because the recent rains have prevented the use of the EMC2 product. Council Member Miller requested that the City Manager develop a dust control strategy for implementation in the spring of 1997.

Finance: Council Member Wallace was not present, therefore, no report was given.

Port: Council Member Rodgers reported that the Commission discussed I-Beams on the dock, dust problems, and other matters. All were referred to the City Manager.

Public Safety: Council Member Phillips reported that the Commission has some questions about administrative support, and who is to provide such support. They welcome the new Police Chief, Gary Eilers. They discussed an alcohol delivery site, recommended that the City better publicize the reasons for the E-911 surcharge, and decided that a vehicle inspection law would be unenforceable.

Youth Services: Council Member Harding stated that the Committee did not meet due to lack of a quorum.

IX. OLD BUSINESS**Item A: Introduction, Ordinance #96-32, Bethel Fuel Sales Land Disposal.**

Mayor Richardson stated that the interests of BNC in the land to be sold have been satisfied.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by McComas to introduce Ordinance #96-32.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Item B: Public Hearing, Ordinance #96-33, Changes to Vehicle for Hire Ordinance.

Mayor Richardson opened the Public Hearing. Thor Williams, Chairman of the Transportation Commission explained the reasons behind the proposed taxi permit transfer fees and recommended that the Ordinance be passed. There being no further comments, Mayor Richardson closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Miller disagreed with the new fees proposed in the ordinance. Council Member Harding stated that fee collection should be centralized. Taxi drivers should pay their fees at the City's collection counter, not to the Police Department Administrative Assistant. Council Member McComas supported the initial fee of \$70, but not the additional fee of \$55, which would be charged if applicants turned in incomplete applications. Mayor Richardson stated that she would support an amendment to that effect.

motion M/M by Miller to amend Ordinance #96-33 by changing the fee to \$10.00, and removing the additional fee of \$55.00.

no second Motion died, no second.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Harding to amend Ordinance #96-33 by removing the additional fee of \$55.00.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, 5-Yes, 1-No (Rodgers.)

motion M/M by Rodgers, 2nd by McComas to adopt Ordinance #96-33 as amended.

vote Roll Call vote. Motion carried, 5-Yes, 1-No (Miller.)

Item C: Public Hearing, Ordinance #96-34, Budget Amendment for OSHA Compliance.

Mayor Richardson opened the Public Hearing. There being no public comments, Mayor Richardson closed the Public Hearing.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Rodgers to adopt Ordinance #96-34.

vote Roll Call vote. Motion carried, unanimously.

Item D: Public Hearing, Ordinance #96-35, Amendment to the Sales Tax Ordinance.

Mayor Richardson opened the Public Hearing. Bonnie Duke, City Finance Director, discussed the potential impacts (both positive and negative) of the ordinance, and recommended that the Council amend the ordinance, setting the taxable sales cap between \$2,000 and \$5,000. There being no further comments, Mayor Richardson closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Miller agreed that the drop in the taxable sales cap from \$10,000 to \$1,000 is steep, but is necessary in order to stimulate the local economy. Mayor Richardson stated that she understood Ms. Duke's concerns, and suggested amending the ordinance to change the taxable sales cap to \$3,500, rather than \$1,000 as recommended by the Finance Committee.

motion M/M by Rodgers, 2nd by McComas to amend Ordinance #96-35 by changing the taxable sales cap from \$1,000 to \$3,500.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, 5-Yes, 1-No (Miller.)

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by McComas to adopt Ordinance #96-35 as amended.

vote Roll Call vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

Item E: Public Hearing, Ordinance #96-36, Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 1996.

Mayor Richardson opened the Public Hearing. There being no public comments, Mayor Richardson closed the Public Hearing.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Rodgers to adopt Ordinance #96-36.

vote Roll Call vote. Motion carried, unanimously.

Item F: Public Hearing, Ordinance #96-37, Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 1997.

Mayor Richardson opened the Public Hearing. Finance Director Bonnie Duke explained the amendments, and stated that the line item "Increase Transfer to Senior Center-Senior Employment (100-451-622)" for \$34,320 under Budget Modification #97-02 was not longer necessary. There being no further public comments, Mayor Richardson closed the Public Hearing.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Rodgers to amend Ordinance #96-37 by removing "Increase Transfer to Senior Center-Senior Employment (100-451-622)" for \$34,320 under Budget Modification #97-02.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Harding to adopt Ordinance #96-37.

vote Roll Call vote. Motion carried, unanimously.

Item G: Public Hearing, Ordinance #96-38, Amendments to the Classification Plan.

Mayor Richardson opened the Public Hearing. There being no public comments, Mayor Richardson closed the Public Hearing. City Manager Weaver explained that the amendment adds a Nutrition, Transportation & Support Coordinator at Range 8, and removes the Nutrition, Transportation & Support Aide at Range 3.

motion M/M by McComas, 2nd by Phillips to adopt Ordinance #96-38.

vote Roll Call vote. Motion carried, unanimously.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Item A: Introduction of Ordinance #96-39, Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 1997

Removed from the Agenda.

Item B: Introduction of Ordinance #96-40, Amendment to the Classification Plan to add an Assistant City Manager Position.

Removed from the Agenda.

Item C: Introduction of Ordinance #96-41, Disposal/Sale of City Property - Old Library.

motion M/M by McComas, 2nd by Rodgers to introduce Ordinance #96-41.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

Item D: Discussion - Dust Control Concerns

This item was discussed during the Public Works Committee Report in some detail. Council Member Miller, who requested the discussion be placed on the agenda, stated that he was dissatisfied with the dust control.

XI. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Harding - Invited everyone to the Fiddle Dance on Friday night, proceeds to the Nursing Home fund.

McComas - Welcomed Chief Gary Eilers to Bethel, commended Tom Hildreth's letter to the Tundra Drums about enhanced 911, and reminded people that the E-911 system will be put out for competitive bids.

Miller - Reminded people that it is getting dark earlier, and reflective tape is available through the Injury Prevention office at YKHC.

Phillips - Wished Good Luck to moose hunters and students returning to school. Thanked the Fire Department for the excellent job putting out the fire at Howard Elliot's house.

Richardson - no comment.

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Rodgers - Welcomed Chief Eilers, mentioned that the phone at the Small Boat Harbor has been vandalized again.

Wallace - absent, no comment.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

motion M/M by Miller, 2nd by Rodgers to adjourn the regular meeting, and enter executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy in the City of Bethel vs. Western Alaska Maintenance case, at 8:25 p.m.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

motion M/M by Rodgers, 2nd by Buford to come out of executive session at 8:36 p.m.

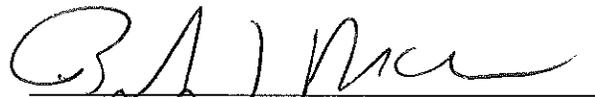
vote Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

motion M/M by McComas, 2nd by Rodgers to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

vote Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 17TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1996.



Buford McComas, Acting Mayor

ATTEST:



L.J. Tanner, City Clerk