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# City of Bethel, Alaska

## City Council Minutes

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August 18, 2004

Special Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

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### CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on August 18, 2004, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

Mayor Short called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the Council, the following were present:

Hugh Dymont	Dave Trantham
Hugh Short, Jr.	Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers
Michael O'Brien	R. Thor Williams (6:35 PM)
Andrei Jacobs (6:38 PM)	

Also in attendance were the following:

Robert Herron, City Manager  
Selena Malone, City Clerk

### PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Mayor Short read a letter written by Raymond Pete, dated August 18, 2004.

Vice-Mayor Williams arrived at 6:35 PM.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	O'Brien	To approve the agenda for the August 18, 2004 Special Meeting.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Dymont	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote 6-0
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Council Member Jacobs arrived at 6:38 PM.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Item A – Resolution #04-31: A Resolution supporting the Bethel Tourism Promotion Project, which includes an application for a Vista Volunteer to perform duties that promote tourism in and around Bethel, Alaska**

John Sargent stated that he introduced a resolution for Council to consider regarding the application of a Vista Volunteer to promote tourism in Bethel.

Diane Carpenter stated that she has worked for many years on the idea of getting tourism started in Bethel. Ms. Carpenter indicated that there were several committees who have worked on the idea of getting tourism started in Bethel and how local people could be involved. Ms. Carpenter stated that the money generated from tourism would help the community. Ms. Carpenter provided a job description she had written and a list of some of the things needed to get the tourism project started.

Council Member Jacobs asked why the City of Bethel should take initiative on the project.

Ms. Carpenter stated that going through the local government was the recommendation of the State Division of Tourism and that it has to be a non-profit organization that sponsors the project.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Dyment	To adopt Resolution #04-31.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Rodgers	

Council Member asked where the City contribution funding would come from.

Mayor Short explained that the money is in-kind.

Council Member asked, through the Chairman, for the opinion of Administration.

City Manager Herron recommended that the Council direct Administration to prepare the application for the Vista Volunteer. Mr. Herron stated that he thought that this would be good for the community and the region.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion passed by unanimous consent 7-0.
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**Item B – Ordinance #04-22: An Ordinance amending the adopted annual FY 2004-05 Budget and authorizing City Administration to enter into a lease purchase agreement for a replacement road grader**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Rodgers	To introduce Ordinance #04-22 with a public hearing on August 31, 2004.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	O'Brien	

Vice-Mayor Williams stated that in reference to section two of this ordinance, the City is not following the Bethel Municipal Code in going out for a Request For Proposal (RFP). Mr. Williams stated that he is not in support of this ordinance at this time and that an RFP should go out.

Council Member Dymont asked Administration why this did not go out for bid.

City Manager Herron stated that the Council Members five years ago discussed that the City is a "CAT" user, that it is a good product, and that it was the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to stay with the CAT brand.

Council Member Trantham asked what the Public Works Committee representative had to say.

Council Member O'Brien stated that the Public Works Committee sent over a recommendation to Council to proceed with the lease.

Council Member Trantham asked why the City was staying with CAT since it is the most expensive equipment on the market.

Council Member O'Brien stated that when it comes to road graders, CAT makes the best product on the market and that any time there is a change in brands the prices go up due to changes in maintenance procedures, maintenance schedules, parts stock, and training in the equipment.

Council Member Trantham stated section two bothers him a lot and that Chapter 4.20 should be repealed. Mr. Trantham stated that he cannot lower his standards to support this ordinance.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion passed by 4-3 vote. (No – Trantham, Williams, Jacobs)
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**Item C – Ordinance #04-23: An Ordinance to place on the October 5, 2004 municipal election ballot the question of whether to approve a City owned liquor store that is operated by the City through a contractor, as well as an advisory vote question of whether to establish an alcohol beverage delivery site**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Dymont	To introduce Ordinance #04-23 with a public hearing on August 31, 2004.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	O'Brien	

Council Member asked Mayor Short to read the memorandum from City Manager Herron.

Mayor Short read aloud the memorandum from City Manager Herron.

Council Member Trantham asked what the recommendation was from legal.

City Manager Herron stated that the information sheet is okay to go with the ballot measure and that each question can pass or fail on its own.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion passed 5-2 vote. (No – Williams, Jacobs)
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**Item D – Ordinance #04-24: An Ordinance repealing and reenacting the effective date of Ordinance #04-10 and amending the water and sewer rate provisions in Bethel Municipal Code Sections 13.04.240 and 13.08.190**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	O'Brien	To introduce Ordinance #04-24, with amendments, and a public hearing set for August 31, 2004.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Trantham	

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Rodgers	To suspend the rules to allow the Finance Committee Vice-Chairman to speak.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	O'Brien	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote 7-0
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Dan Leinberger suggested that the Council develop a long-term water/sewer plan and that the Finance Committee suggested an increase of 60% across the board. Mr. Leinberger stated that at an increase of 15%, the City loses money and that politics cannot dictate fiscal responsibility. Mr. Leinberger recommended that the Council analyze the water/sewer document yearly and that the Council take baby steps to make changes to the flawed document.

Council Member Dymant asked what the percentage of break-even point was.

Dan Leinberger indicated 28%.

Council Member O'Brien, with the approval of Council Member Trantham, amended his motion to remove "may" and add "shall" to the document.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote 7-0
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**Council Member Comments**

**Council Member O'Brien** – asked for unanimous consent from Council to direct Administration to draft a letter of thanks to AHFC and for the letter to be forwarded to Dan Fowski, Sherrylee Dovolos, and Linda Samuelson for sponsoring the annual clean-up green-up.

**Council Member Dymant** – made the following motion.

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Dymant	To direct Administration to draft an informational resolution to be included with the October 5, 2004 ballot measure with information from the previous informational resolution passed.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	O'Brien	

City Manager Herron stated the memo that he wrote is just a proposed list and that he would put it in resolution form if agreed upon by Council.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by 6-1 voice vote (No – Jacobs)
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**Council Member Rodgers** – stated to hug an elder.

**Council Member Trantham** – indicated that on September 19, 2004, he and Council Member Williams would be going to Kenai to attend the AML meeting. Mr. Trantham also noted that the next

meeting for the Senior Advisory Board would be on September 14, 2004. Council Member Trantham shared that there are three seats open on the Bethel City Council and that the deadline to declare candidacy is on Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 PM.

**Council Member Williams** – stated that the next Council meeting was scheduled for August 31, 2004, not on August 24, 2004 due to elections being held on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Jacob	To adjourn the meeting.
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Williams	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote (5-0)
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With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned, a time was not noted.

**APPROVED THIS 28th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2004.**

ATTEST:

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Hugh Short, Jr., Mayor

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Selena Malone, City Clerk