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# City of Bethel, Alaska

## City Council Minutes

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February 25, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

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### CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on February 25, 2003, 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:

Andrei Jacobs	Hugh Short, Jr.
David Trantham	Jerry Drake
Joy Shantz	Carl Berger – by phone
Stanley "Tundy" Rodgers	

Excused absence(s): none

Unexcused absence(s): none

Also in attendance were the following:

Bob Herron, City Manager  
Janette Persinger, City Clerk

### SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. Proclamation – National Day of Prayer
- B. Certificate of Appreciation to Wyatt Rogers

### PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

#### A. Joe Conover: Water System

- Spoke of his concerns regarding the up-keep of the water system
- Tendered his resignation to the City of Bethel

#### B. Steve Sellers: Snowmachine Traffic

- Asked that a nuisance by-law be considered for banning snowmachine traffic between 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

#### C. Dario Notti: Ordinance #02-33

- Voiced his support of the Yuut Elitnaurviat project

#### D. Janelle Vanasse: Ordinance #02-33

- Read a letter from Bill Ferguson, Superintendent Lower Kuskokwim School District, Ron Hoffman, Executive Director AVCP – Rural Housing Authority, Gene Peltola, President/CEO Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation, Bob Medinger, Director Kuskokwim Campus – UAF, Myron Naneng, Executive President Association of Village Council Presidents supporting the Yuut Elitnaurviat project and recognizing the conveyance of land from the Bethel Native Corporation

### E. Thor Williams: Youth Bus Fund

- Explained the youth bus fund and its intention to purchase a bus for the Teen Center

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To approve the amended minutes of the 2-10-03 regular meeting
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Shantz	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To approve the agenda as amended
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Shantz	

*To remove all items under the consent agenda*

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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#### MAYOR'S REPORT

Items included in the Mayor's report:

- Letter from Alaska Municipal League re: Award for Senator Stevens
- Press release from Lt. Gov Leman re: Help America Vote Act
- Press release from Alaska Municipal League re: Senator Stevens Helps Stabilize Local Alaska Taxes
- Press release from Senator Hoffman's office
- Report of travel status by Mayor Short
  - A. Report on the meetings with the Alaska Municipal League
  - B. Report on priorities that were spoken of with state legislatures

Discussion ensued regarding roads to be considered by Governor Murkowski. Governor Murkowski strongly supports the reduction of duplication and resource extract roads. One road that was identified was the road from Crooked Creek to Donlin Creek. Another road identified was a road from Bethel to Napakiak.

#### MANAGEMENT TEAM'S REPORT

City Manager Herron's report included the following:

- Grant status and activity report from the Deputy City Manager
- Yuut Elitnaurviat status letter to Governor Murkowski
- Personnel matters
- Travel status
- Municipal Revenue Sharing questionnaire from the Alaska Municipal League

#### REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

##### Senior Advisory Board

Council Member Berger reported that the Senior Advisory Board had not met and asked for volunteers to serve on the Board.

### **Parks and Recreation Committee**

Council Member Jacobs reported that the Parks and Recreation Committee met on February 18, 2003 and highlighted the agenda from that meeting.

### **Planning Commission**

Council Member Shantz stated that the Planning Commission met on February 14, 2003 and highlighted the minutes of that meeting.

### **Port Commission**

Council Member Rodgers reported that the Port Commission met on February 24, 2003 and highlighted the minutes of the meeting.

### **Public Works Committee**

Council Member Trantham announced that the Public Works Committee met on Tuesday, February 18, 2003 and highlighted the agenda from that meeting.

### **Public Safety and Transportation Commission**

Council Member Drake stated that because of personal business he was unable to attend the February 18, 2003 Public Safety and Transportation Commission. Howard Morris, Chief of Police highlighted the action items of the meeting.

### **Finance Committee**

Mayor Short stated that the Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 6, 2003.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Item A – Public Hearing – Second Substitute Ordinance #02-33: An ordinance authorizing the disposal of a 10.3 acre parcel within the surface estate of the southwest quarter of section 8, range 71 west, township 8 north, seward meridian, to Yuut Elitnaurviat-People’s Learning Center, Inc.**

*Mayor Short opened public hearing.*

- A. Janelle Vanasse voiced her support of the ordinance, expressed the need for a learning center and expanded on the regional support of the people in the Delta
- B. John Dickens voiced his support of the ordinance and expressed his concerns regarding the likelihood of the project if the ordinance is not passed
- C. Bob Medinger voiced his support of the ordinance and expanded on the funding dollars that have been brought to the table by the Kuskokwim Campus - UAF
- D. Vicki Malone voiced her support of the ordinance and stated her viewpoint of the Bethel Native Corporation land conveyance
- E. Cliff Andrews voiced his support of the ordinance and urged council members to adopt the ordinance
- F. Eric Whitney voiced his support of the ordinance and stated that he feels that the most important resource of the Delta is the people
- G. Laurie O’Brien voiced her support of the ordinance and stated that the project will give the local persons of the region the confidence that they need to succeed
- H. John Chase voiced his support of the ordinance and stated that while obtaining his college degree he viewed many local people fail in the larger communities

*Mayor Short closed public hearing.*

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To adopt second substitute ordinance #02-33
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Rodgers	

Discussion moved to the council.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by 6 – 1 roll call vote (Trantham).
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**Item B – Public Hearing – Ordinance #03-02: Repealing sections 17.24.228 through 17.24.280 of the Bethel Municipal code pertaining to mandatory installation of piped water and sewer in new subdivisions**

*Mayor Short opened public hearing.*

- A. City Manager Herron stated that the ordinance had the support of the Public Works Committee and Planning Commission and further urged the passage of the ordinance

*Mayor Short closed the public hearing.*

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Rodgers	To adopt ordinance #03-02
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Drake	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
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**NEW BUSINESS**

**Item A – Report to Council on bid opening for Bethel Water and Sewer Improvements – Phase B**

Mike Rabie and Lee Olson with CRW Engineering gave an outline of the City Subdivision Water and Sewer Improvement project.

Discussion and questions from council ensued.

**Item B – Brownfields Grant update: Environmental Clean-up Grant for J.B. Crow Fisheries property**

Deputy City Manager Soberay announced that the City has been invited to submit a final proposal to EPA for Brownfields clean-up funding and explained the process. Ms. Soberay explained that a draft proposal would be available for public review and comment and that a public meeting would be scheduled with the Port Commission. She stated the meeting time and place would be posted for the public. Ms. Soberay also explained the site to be clean-up up and that the intent is to expand river borne commerce. Ms. Soberay stressed the importance of having site control for the project to be able to move forward.

**Item C – Discussion item – City of Bethel audit report and plan**

Robert Strahan, Finance Director presented an overview of the impacts that will be made because of GASB 34 and the plans of the Finance Department to respond to the audit report by Altman, Rodgers, and Co.

**Item D – Introduction – Ordinance #02-19 (A): FY03 Mid-year budget modifications**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To introduce and set for public hearing ordinance #02-19 (A)
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Jacobs	

Discussion moved to the council.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
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**Item E – Introduction – Ordinance #03-03: Placing the question of whether to approve a city owned liquor store on the October 7, 2003 ballot**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To introduce and set for public hearing ordinance #03-03
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Shantz	

Discussion moved to the council.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
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**Item F – Re-introduction – Substitute Ordinance #02-30: Repealing Bethel Municipal Code section 5.20.080(D)(9) requirement that only regulated vehicles operate with headlights at all times and adding a new Bethel Municipal Code chapter entitled Public Transportation Requiring Regulated Vehicles and Certain Other Vehicles That Provide Public Transportation to Operate with Headlights At All Times**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Rodgers	To introduce and set for public hearing ordinance #02-30
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Drake	

Discussion moved to the council.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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**Item G – Resolution #03-04: Supporting Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation grant application to Denali Commission for the Bethel Ambulatory Care Clinic**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To adopt resolution #03-04
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Rodgers	

Discussion moved to the council.

M/M Trantham to make three amendments. The first, strike ~~the~~ and add a in the first whereas. Second, strike ~~the~~ and add an in the second whereas. Third, change serviced to served in the third whereas. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jacobs. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.
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**Item H – Resolution #03-05: Supporting the Camai Dance Festival 2003 and providing a donation in the amount of taxes collected on admissions and concessions sold during the festival**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To adopt resolution #03-05
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Rodgers	

Discussion moved to the council.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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**Item I – Resolution #03-06: Recognizing tribal entity rights for the disposition of cultural items and/or ancient human burials, associated items, and archaeological remains**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To adopt resolution #03-06
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Rodgers	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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**Item J – Resolution #03-07: Requesting FY 04 Safe Communities funding from the Department of Community and Economic Development**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Drake	To adopt resolution #03-07
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Rodgers	

Discussion moved to the council.

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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**COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Council Member Berger** was not present for comment.

**Council Member Shantz** expressed her pleasure in the passage of ordinance #02-33.

**Mayor Short** stated that he felt February 25, 2003 to be a historic day and believes that Bethel took a big step forward in bringing education to its citizens.

**Council Member Jacobs** recognized his trip report for his recent Alaska Municipal League/lobbying trip to Juneau.

**Council Member Drake** had no comment.

**Council Member Trantham** thanked the members of public who have contacted him regarding the issues at hand and commented on the constitutional rights of citizens.

**Council Member Rodgers** cautioned members of the public during the break-up season.

**ADJOURNMENT**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Jacobs	To adjourn the meeting
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Drake	

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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With no further business before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:29 pm.

**APPROVED THIS 11<sup>th</sup> day of March 2003.**

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Hugh Short, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

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Janette Persinger, City Clerk