

**CITY COUNCIL**

*Tad Miller  
Dario Notti  
Mike O'Brien  
Agnes Phillips  
Ruth Richardson, Mayor  
Stanley Rodgers  
Thor Williams*



**CITY MANAGER**

*Ken Weaver*

**CITY CLERK**

*L.J. Tanner*

**City of Bethel  
Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
October 8, 1996**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was convened at 6:32 p.m. by Mayor Richardson in the Log Cabin, Bethel, Alaska.

**II. VOICE**

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

**III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD**

Dave Trantham, Bethel, congratulated the incoming Council members. He reminded them of the Council Resolution concerning inebriates in the Kilbuck area, and urged that further actions be taken. Council Member Miller asked Mr. Trantham for suggestions on how to solve the problem. Mr. Trantham stated that everyone in Bethel needs to work together on the problem.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Richardson asked that the reference to Rodgers vs. City of Bethel be removed from the minutes of September 24, since the item was not discussed or addressed.

**motion** M/M by Phillips, 2nd by Miller to approve the minutes of the September 24, 1996, regular meeting as amended.

**vote** Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Council Member Miller requested the following additions under New Business: Bond Information for Community Recreation Center, City Municipal Classification Status, and Road Use Fee and Speed Limit for Heavy Equipment.

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

**vote** Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**VI. MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Richardson asked Connie Trumble from the Tundra Women's Coalition to give a brief presentation on Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and then read a proclamation declaring October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

**VII. MANAGER'S REPORT**

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

- Senior Center Piano - Donation: Thanks to the new piano donated by the Cooke family, the Senior Center no longer needs its' old piano, which has been refinished. The Council directed Mr. Weaver to find out if any non-profit groups in Bethel are interested.
- Jesuit Volunteers Work Exchange for Weight Room Use: City Manager Weaver recommended that the Jesuit Volunteers be allowed to exchange work on the Youth Center for free use of the weight room. Council approval was given.
- Drainage problem at 9224 Tundra Ridge: Mayor Richardson stated that based on the letters in the packet, the course of action for both the homeowner and Public Works was clear. No further discussion.
- Compliance Letter from DEC: Dialog has continued on the oil contamination problem. Mr. Weaver stated that the problem is being taken care of.

#### VIII. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES and COMMISSIONS

*Public Works Committee:* Council Member Miller reported that the Committee will meet on October 15, 7:30 p.m., at the City Shop.

*Public Safety Commission:* Mayor Richardson noted that the Commission will address the Vehicle for Hire Ordinance at their next meeting, and requested that they instead attend a Transportation Commission meeting to find out more about the ordinance.

Mayor Richardson requested City Manager Weaver to prepare a brief written report on the potential purchase of Bethel Utilities Corporation.

#### IX. OLD BUSINESS

There was no official Old Business to be addressed. City Manager Weaver presented outgoing Council Members with Certificates of Appreciation. Council Members Wallace and Harding said good-bye and wished the new Council members well.

#### X. NEW BUSINESS

##### **Item A: Swearing in New Council Members**

Newly elected Council Members Mike O'Brien, Dario Notti, and Thor Williams (by telephone) joined the meeting at this time. City Clerk Tanner administered the oath of office to the newly elected council members and to re-elected council member Agnes Phillips.

##### Election of Mayor and Acting Mayor

Mayor Richardson opened the floor to nominations for a new mayor. Council Member Rodgers nominated Ms. Richardson for a second term. Council Member O'Brien nominated Council Member Miller. Mr. O'Brien requested that nominees give a brief presentation on why they are best qualified to be Mayor, and the presentations were given. Secret ballots were distributed and the council members voted. Mayor Richardson was elected for a second term, 5 votes to 2.

Mayor Richardson opened the floor to nominations for an Acting Mayor. Council Member Phillips nominated Council Member Rodgers. Council Member Rodgers nominated Council Member Miller. Secret ballots were distributed and the council members voted. Council member Miller was elected as Acting Mayor, 5 votes to 2.

Assignment to Committees and Commissions

With Council consent, Mayor Richardson made the following appointments:

Planning Commission	Dario Notti
Port Commission	Tundy Rodgers
Transportation Commission	Thor Williams
Finance Committee	Agnes Phillips
Public Safety Commission	Wally Richardson
Public Works Committee	Mike O'Brien
Senior Advisory Board	Wally Richardson
Youth Services Committee	Tad Miller

Selection of Terms of Office

Council Members Phillips, Williams, and O'Brien chose to serve two-year terms. Council Member Notti accepted the remaining one-year term.

Nomination of candidate for AML District 9 Director

Council member Notti expressed interest in the director position. Council Member Miller nominated Council member O'Brien. Secret ballots were distributed and the council members voted. Council member O'Brien was elected the nominee for AML District 9 Director.

It was agreed that Council members Notti, O'Brien, Phillips, and Williams would attend the AML Newly Elected Officials Seminar, and if possible, the Local Government Conference in November. City Clerk Tanner was requested to make the arrangements.

**Item B: Update on Bank Stabilization Project by Carl Borash**

Carl Borash, Project Manager for the Bank Stabilization Project, gave a presentation on the past season's progress. Further erosion and the addition of new property to the project have increased the total cost to \$24,000,000. The City's share of the increase is \$488,000, approximately \$350,000 of that amount will need to be a cash contribution. Mr. Borash answered questions from council members.

**Item C: Resolution #96-36, Accepting a Capital Matching Grant for the Braund Building Renovation**

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

**vote** Voice vote. Motion carried, unanimous.

**Item D:** Bond Information for Community Recreation Center, **Item E:** City Municipal Classification Status, and **Item F:** Road Use Fee and Speed Limit for Heavy Equipment were deferred to the October 22, 1996 Council meeting at Mr. Miller's request.

**XI. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Miller** - Would like the City to begin using recycled paper. Supports the attention that is being focused on the problem of domestic violence. Pointed out that it is Mental Illness Awareness Week. Requested new copies of the Bethel Municipal Code for council members.

**Notti** - Noted that domestic violence is not perpetrated solely on women. Abuses, physical as well as non-physical, affect men as well as women. Is opposed to all forms of domestic violence.

**O'Brien** - Thanked the voters for electing him to the Council, and reminded people to vote in the general election, November 5th.

**Phillips** - Thanked the voters for electing her to the Council. Congratulated the Fire Department for the recently lowered ISO rating. Commended all families who are working together for sobriety.

**Richardson** - Thanked the Council members for electing her Mayor. Reminded everyone that we're all in this together and must work as a team.

**Rodgers** - Welcomed the new council members, and congratulated Mayor Richardson and Acting Mayor Miller. Thanked Chief Eilers for recent successes.

**Williams** - Thanked the voters for electing him to Council, and stated he is ready to listen and work.

**XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no business scheduled for Executive Session.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

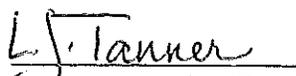
**motion** M/M by O'Brien, 2nd by Rodgers to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

**vote** Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 22ND DAY OF OCTOBER, 1996.

  
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Ruth M. Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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L.J. Tanner, City Clerk