



CITY OF BETHEL

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Public Works Committee Minutes

Regular Scheduled Meeting January 18, 2000

CITY SHOP, CONFERENCE ROOM

12:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Paul O'Brien at 12:25 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: P. O'Brien, Murphy, Tarr, Drake

Absent: Faulkner, Vanasse

Others Present: Clair Grifka, Public Works Director

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Drake/Murphy to approve agenda.

Motion approved - unanimous.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Murphy/Drake to approve agenda. Motion approved – unanimous.

V. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

No one to be heard.

VI. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Went to a meeting on Thursday with the Bethel Recycling Center, and a number of the community attended. It was fairly interesting, they're going to first dissolve the corporation now, because none of the directors that are on the recycling board are here. There was a lot of good input from AVCP. They had some good information about their ability, since they are the tribal organization for Bethel, to get some grants and some funding to maybe help out on not only the recycling center but also if that's tied into some kind of management master plan. There was a lot of positive talk there. Brian was

wondering if he is still moving by the dock, seeing that we need his building for sand. It would be cheaper and more efficient for Brian to move down by the docks.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Clair Grifka handed out minutes from the staff meeting, to the Public Works Committee and touched on some highlights.

Building maintenance is having problems with one man on leave, Harry Pavilla, searching for his brother. They are also having some minor heating problems and conducting business as usual.

Road maintenance is trying to tackle the snow in between the snow falls, pushing the snow to the back lot lines. The shop is getting pretty small with the addition of all the equipment we're getting. We are mentioning the shop getting smaller in our management report to let council know this.

Gookie finally got all of his positions filled in Vehicles and Equipment, and hopefully we can start maintaining the trucks a little better, and start projects such as working on the one dumpster truck that still has winter chains on it from 4 years ago.

Greg Sargent, in Utilities Maintenance is helping out other departments such as road maintenance and building maintenance with the dog pound. He had a small water leak there in the city sub that he took care of. We were having problems with the utilities, people were getting water one day early during the holidays, and they weren't too happy with that. Then after the holidays, when the weather set in, we were one day behind, along with working with out a full staff. We put out Public Service Announcements to be aware of the delays. Gary Watson has helped out with some of the departments and keeping our used oil burners going.

We sent out budget packets to the Foreman last week so we can start of those this week.

VIII. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Drake: Just got notified from the governor that he included \$3.9 million for the City of Bethel for capitol improvements. \$290,000 for solid waste and sewage lagoon planning, \$770,000 for phase II, \$115,000 courthouse renovation to upgrade it to city offices, \$1.9 for the path, and funding for the Tundra Ridge improvement.

Dario Notti proposed to council a maintenance easement on the hill on Ptarmigan, so the water can drain. That will be for the future, and we need to get Dario in here to see what his proposal is and what he wants to give the city. The city will end up with 10-12 feet of easement plus a drainage ditch to help improve the road.

The chief sent out a council packet and included was the state statute on towing vehicles. You can tow cars, but have to do it by the law.

The last meeting we talked about the number of committee members, possibly moving it from 5. There is an ordinance in which that you can have at least 5 and no more than 7 members. If we are having a problem filling these spots all it would take is a resolution on our part to the council to say we want to go to 5 members.

Understands that there were some people flooded this last cold spell, and wants to make sure the City is rapidly dealing with the insurance papers and everything else involved. Clair reassures that we do an accident incident report right after the accident.

Researched the probability of Bethel recycling cardboard. He found that it would be totally unrealistic to send it back down south. We just don't have the volume to come up with enough money to send just 8 truck loads out. He figured that we would maybe get \$4000 out of cardboard, and we just couldn't get enough donations to make up for the shipment down south. He did find out that un-compacted cardboard weighs 350lbs. per cubic yard, compacted weighs 750lbs. per cubic yard, and bailed is 1200lbs. per cubic yard. We do have one store here in town that does bail it and two that don't. We might want to look at maybe requiring stores to bail their cardboard, and we can cut space by 50%.

Mr. Tarr: We should work with Brian and BRC in a more positive way. He wanted to go on record as stating we should be more supportive.

Mr. Murphy: Thinks we would be sending out 20 truck loads of cardboard instead of 8, so we could possibly benefit from recycling it, according to City's Master Plan.

We will have too many treatment plant sites. The community just can't afford to pay for all the treatment plants. He thinks we should just limit it to two or three sites.

Mr. P. O'Brien: Can't see having two separate deals, if recycling can't be part of the Waste Management Master Plan then that's pretty ludicrous. Brian also brought up burning cardboard at the recycling meeting. Get the kids to recycle then they will be sending that message to their parents to continue to recycle. The recycling team is going to put together some information on who is willing to do what and what companies can or can't handle this.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

ITEM A: BETHEL RECYCLING CENTER

We touched on it all the way through the meeting. Mr. Drake says that we couldn't possibly afford to burn cardboard or do it with out getting sited for it.

P. O'Brien: We as a city should tell the engineers what we want, don't let them tell us what to do. Don't let them say here's a program do it. We also have to look at the monetary rewards for someone to stay to get the center going and stay, it's slim.

Tarr: At the VRC meeting they also talked about attaching a thrift store to the recycling center. With the right planning we could do this. With people leaving it would give a place for them to donate instead of throwing away.

Grifka: Thinks we should talk to Brian and find a plan that will make everyone happy in the community.

X. NEW BUSINESS

ITEM A: SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT MASTER PLAN

All the New Business was talked about through out the meeting, and no one had anything else to add at this point of the meeting.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Drake/Murphy to adjourn. Motion approved – unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.

gmw/CG