
City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

Date: March 5, 2010

Regular Meeting 5:30 pm

Bethel, Alaska

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety and Transportation Commission was held on March 5, 2010 at 5:30 pm. in the City Hall Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

Chairperson Mark Springer called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the Commission, the following members were present for roll call:

Mark Spring

Brian Lefferts Absent

Charley Chung

Pat Jennings

Jennifer Schiedler

Council Member Richard Robb

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Police Chief Larry Elarton

Recorder Sharri Salyers

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD-

A: Frank Mazzaro- Voiced concerns about the new private Bus that is now operating in the City of Bethel.

B: Fili owner of the Kusko Cab Company and representative to speak to the Commission for the Major Cab Companies of Bethel that also were in attendance.

He advised the commission that the cab companies turned in twelve cab permits on March 2, 2010 to the Transportation Inspector to be killed. He stated that the Companies did this in hopes that it would stop the conflicts between the cab drivers due to too many cabs and not enough passengers.

He also advised that the cab companies also would like to have the commission impose a flat rate for fares and not a minimum or maximum fare rate. He said that this would make it so the companies would not be able to have fare rate wars as they had in the month of February.

He also had concerns to the new private Bus that is operating in the City of Bethel.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF

MOVED BY:	Robb	
SECONDED BY:	Jennings	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 2, 2010

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2010

MOVED BY:	Jennings	
SECONDED BY:	Robb	
<i>Discussion</i>		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 12, 2010
MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING FEBRUARY 12, 2010**

MOVED BY:	Robb	
SECONDED BY:	Jennings	
<i>Discussion:</i>		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion Carried by unanimous voice vote.	

VI. CHIEF'S COMMENTS – Chief of Police Elarton-

A: Personnel- Jacob Russell Dispatcher has tendered his resignation.

Amy Licht has started training to take Jacobs place

Sam Collyn Symmes started this month and is the FTO program

Sam Swofford has been released from FTO program and is out on his own

Anne Goemer retired on February 26, 2010 with 20 years of Law Enforcement the last two years here with the City of Bethel.

Chris Travers will start next week and will be taking Anne Goemers position.

Chad Duxbury CSO tendered his resignation

B: Equipment- RMS system is up and running there are still some bugs that are getting worked out

Computers for Patrol Vehicles are still pending installation

Digital recorder is working well

CML (E-911) upgrade is still pending

C: Training- APSC Academy is tentatively scheduled to start the end of this month.

D: Calls- A man with a gun in Tundra Ridge that shot at Police was arrested. No one was injured.

The Animal Control issues, there has been some relief with the more aggressive stance with more summonses being issued.

A report of a rabid fox in Tundra Ridge was subdued by Lt. Achee and its' head was shipped to Fairbanks for testing. We received the test results that stated that the Fox did have rabies.

E: CSP- A total of sixty-six inebriates were picked up in February, this is significantly less than the one hundred and seventy-five that was picked up in October of 2009. Other numbers show that the inebriates are declining since the October date. November one hundred and three, December one hundred and twelve, January Seventy-eight.

F: Radio- Channel one is down at this time, in the process of getting it fixed.

G: Private Bus- There has been some complaints reference the private Bus it was brought to our attention that there is a statute that states that no vehicle other than a school bus can be driven on any roadway that is the color of Chrome Yellow. After some investigation we were able to prove that the bus in question is not the Chrome Yellow but a Harvest Wheat Yellow, Also there is more statutes that state that the vehicle cannot have a strobe light or the red lights to the front. All of this has been discussed with Mr. Oulton and he has disabled the strobe light on top of the vehicle and the red flashing lights to the front of the vehicle.

VII. TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT

A: One New Chauffeur permits issued

- B:** Seven Renewal Chauffeur permits issued
- C:** Five Renewal Vehicle permits issued
- D:** Three Vehicle Dispatch transfers
- E:** Twelve Vehicle permits were handed in by four of the major cab companies in the City of Bethel. Four from Alaska Cab, Three from Taxi Cab, Three from Kusko Cab and Two from Quyana Cab
- F:** There were seventy permits issued in 2008 as of today there are fifty-eight vehicle permits
- G:** One vehicle permit was sold in February from Quyana Cab to a cab driver for ten thousand dollars.

VIII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS- *councilman Richard Robb*

A: Fire Station- There was a walkthrough of the building with the bidders that are wanting to contract out for construction on the renovations of the building.

B: Public Safety Building- paper work has been sent to the state to request funding to assist in building a Publics Safety Building.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS- NO UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

A: Amendments to the Bethel Municipal Code 5.20.010 Definitions (A) Bus-

After discussion it was decided that there will not be any amendments to this section at this time.

B: Amendments to the Bethel Municipal Code 5.30.030 Bus permit requirement.

MOTION TO AMEND BETHEL MUNICIPAL CODE 5.30.030 ADD SECTION (C) WITH THE FOLLOWING WORDING- A bus must operate on a defined route. The route must be submitted to the transportation inspector. Any changes in the route must be submitted to the transportation inspector

MOVED BY:	Robb	
SECONDED BY:	Schiedler	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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C: Review of Taxi Cab Rates Maximum and Minimum- Requested to be held over to Unfinished Business for the next meeting for review and possible Amendment to the Ordinance.

D: Making a Permit Bank- Due to the request from the Cab Companies to have the twelve permits that were relinquished on March 2, 2010 be killed. There was no action taken on Making a permit bank.

XI. COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMENTS

Jennifer Schiedler- No Comment

Pat Jennings- No Comment

Richard Robb- I like that we are getting the simple ordinances changed and looking forward to working more on getting the ordinances cleaned up.

Mark Springer- I know that it may have been hard on the Cab Companies coming together And relinquishing the permits, I feel that it will benefit the industry and the community.

Charley Chung- As a member of the Cab Industry I apologize to the community. There was a disturbance with the rate wars and now a big confusion, people still wanting the rates that they had last month. The competition was ugly and I apologize again.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOVED BY:	Schiedler	
SECONDED BY:	Jennings	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Next meeting on Monday –


_____, Chairperson

ATTEST:


_____, Recorder