

City of Bethel
Regular Transportation Commission Meeting
July 2, 1997

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Chairperson O'Brien.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Doreen O'Brien, Phillip White, Richard Rob, Thor Williams, David O'Malley and Allen Glore. Unexcused: Robert Himshoot.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Thor Williams/Rick Rob move to approve the minutes of June 5, 1997 as amended with the changes of Item #C under Old Business, change 3 years and 3 nays. Motion failed. June 5, 1997 minutes approved, Motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Phil White/Thor Williams move to approve the agenda with an addition under Item B, New Business Committee Commissions working with Council. Motion carried.

V. TRANSPORTATION INSPECTORS' REPORT

Chief Gary Eilers is busy with personal stuff and is not at the meeting to present anything, just the letter from Verdi to the Chief, taxi cab report. The commission would like an update on where the cabs insurance expired the inspections and amount paid.

VI. COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Phillip White: No comment.

Thor Williams: Fees have been introduced and will be on the next city council meeting, the fee increase was declined, the involuntary and voluntary placed in mental institution or substance abuse has been introduced and the limitation of hours was not introduced. Also would like to work with the industry, the Commission is just responsible and given the authority to regulate part of the law for the City.

David O'Malley: Discussed about disagreeing with Mr. Williams comments, also would like to adjourn for the Summer.

Rick Rob: Discussion on the Commission that this past year has been very positive, and his commission expires the end of this month and the Commission is going in a good direction since he started three years. A comment that the Commission does not just work for the City Government that the Commission should work with the public and should be supportive with the industry.

Doreen O'Brien: Would like to see Mr. Robb sign up with the Commission, discussion on meeting every few months is not true because if someone is denied or the permit is revoked because they only have so many days to file their appeal. Also discussion on the industry if the industry dislikes the Commission, then her phone

Doreen O'Brien cont.

would be ringing and she would have more owner operators and drivers in her office. Would like to thank the Commission for the time that they take and the people who show up for the meetings. Discussion on regulations, everyone has regulations and the Commission could follow that with a positive manner.

VII. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

James Libby: Discussion on the news letter about the cab industry, two regulations that still needs to be voted on at the Council meeting, the rates are little premature on the YKC, the lower fare from there to the airport is not in line with the rest of the rate structure and the .50 waiting time is out of line with the charter rate. Discussion on the other cabs over charging. The Commission would like to see that the cabs once again post the rates in all of the cabs.

Hugh Short: Cab#97 the insurance is under Bob Testa and should be up to date.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Adaptation of Anchorage Ordinance to reissue permits.

Discussion on adding Dispatch permits, and would have to change chapter 3.60 and 5.40. Right now the way the ordinance reads they can not sell or lease his permit or trade it. Rick does not like to auction idea. He would like to see a lottery or a drawing. Could have a lottery of qualified bidders, qualified bidders would be someone that is qualified under 5.40. Under B add #5. Public Safety for the town. Under C add by One or more additional limited number of taxi or dispatch permit needs to be added. Under D add dispatch permit and take out auction and put in lottery and everything under that needs to be deleted. 1. Every applicant could submit one application. 2. Lottery will be held within 90 days. 3. Qualified winners will be issued a permit and responsible for paying monthly permit fees within 10 days. 4. Qualified permittee as per section 5.30.040C.

Rick Robb/Phillip White move to accept the amended changes as stated above and to be given to the Council. Motion carried with one nay-D.O'Malley. Voice vote passed.

B. Road Use Fees and Regulations

Thor Williams discussed the joint meeting on the 19th of June. Stickers will be used like the harbor uses. The Commission would like to see the changes on the following: line item#4 \$100.00, 5,001 to 12,000 lbs amount changed to \$200.00, 12,001 to 18,001 amount \$300.00, 18,001 & over \$400.00, Item #5 amount \$200.00, Item#6, 7, 8 & 9 all -0- amount, sent to the council for a recommendation, a clarification on where the fees, the city gets a fee from the Div. of Motor Vehicles for registration of vehicles thru the City of Bethel, the amount of taxes collected by the State the House Bill 272 AS28.10.431, the amounts could be raised tax thru the license fee, when you go out to buy your license tags a part of that comes back to the city. This House Bill you have to apply for before January 1998 and would not come into effect until January 1999. The City's Road Use Fee will be issued a Tax Sticker showing that they have paid for there

Road Use Fee cont.

fees for the year. The Commission recommends to the City Council as an ordinance. For the record Allen Gore is present.

Thor Williams/Phillip White move to have the following as a Commission recommendation to the City Council the following changes to be put in an ordinance form: line item#4 \$100.00, 5,001 to 12,000 lbs amount changed to \$200.00, 12,001 to 18,001 amount \$300.00, 18,001 & over \$400.00, Item #5 amount \$200.00, Item#6, 7, 8 & 9 all -0- amount. Motion carried, one nay - David O'Malley. Voice vote passed.

C. Monthly Fees

This item was discussed under Transportation Inspectors' Report.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Reviewing Forms is Use for Permits (O'Brien)

There were no forms brought to the meeting this line item dropped.

B. Committee Commissions with Council.

Thor Williams discussed that anything that needs to go in front of the council is controversial and the Commission is to support what is brought to commission. Would like to see more of the Commission at the council meetings to support anything that is brought to them. The Commission would like to Thank Rick Robb for all of the work that he has done for the Transportation Commission.

X. ADJOURNMENT

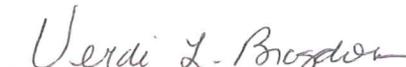
Thor Williams/David O'Malley move to adjourn at 9:25p.m. Next meeting is for August 7, 1997 at 7:00p.m. at the City Council Chambers. Motion carried. Voice vote passed.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 4th DAY OF September, 1997.



Chairperson, Doreen O'Brien

ATTEST:



Verdi L. Brogdon, Recording Secretary



CITY OF BETHEL

Public Works Department

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MEMORANDUM

To: Public Works Committee Members
From: Wayne Smith, Administrative Assistant
Date: June 23, 1997
Subject: Joint Committee Meeting

A joint meeting of the Public Works and Finance Committees, and the Transportation Commission was held Thursday, June 19 at the Log Cabin. The topic of discussion was a possible Road Use Fee. This was a roundtable discussion, rather than a formal meeting.

It was generally agreed by those present that heavy equipment does considerable damage to the roads in Bethel, and that the City is in serious need of additional sources of revenue. None of those present were adamantly opposed to levying a road use fee on commercial vehicles, but many were concerned with the means by which such a fee would be imposed and administered.

One concern raised dealt with determining what fee might be imposed on a truck used for pizza delivery versus a fee imposed on a piece of heavy equipment used by an out-of-town construction firm. Another concern raised involved the costs of enforcement and administration versus potential revenue to be realized from a road use fee. It was also pointed out that the entity with the most equipment, putting the most miles on the roads, the City, would be exempt. The response to this was that it is also the City which is responsible for maintaining most roads.

The concept which seemed to have the most support was modeled on the stickers sold by the Port Authority at the small boat harbor. Using a fee schedule from DOT based on GVW, both individual and fleet sales would be possible. The Police Department's Code Enforcement Officer would be responsible for insuring compliance. Many of those present felt that quick action is advised to take advantage of potential revenues available this season.

Representatives from the Public Works Department pointed out the fact that the Road Maintenance budget had been cut to the bone. It was recommended that any revenue realized should be targeted to road maintenance and improvement, and not routed into the general fund. There was considerable discussion centering on the feasibility of setting up an enterprise fund for road improvements.

The task of making a recommendation to the City Council regarding Road Use Fees has been given to the Transportation Commission. The next scheduled commission meeting is set for 7:00pm July 2 in the City conference room. Members of the Public Works Committee are encouraged to attend.

If you have additional questions regarding either meeting, feel free to call me at 543-3110.

cc: Clair Grifka, Acting Public Works Director