
City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

Date: July 3, 2012

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety and Transportation Commission was held on July 3, 2012 at 7:03 pm in the Council Chambers of City Hall, Bethel, Alaska.

Vice Chairperson Brian Lefferts called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Pat Jennings

Brian Lefferts

Paul Gregory

Council Member Harding

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

George Young- *Fire Chief*

Larry Elarton- *Police Chief*

KaJena Baty- *Recorder*

Excused Absences: Charley Chung & Carol (Annette) Sutton

III. ANNUAL ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

MOVED BY:	Lefferts	Motion to elect Pat Jennings as chair of the commission.
SECONDED BY:	Harding	
MOVED BY:	Jennings	Motion to elect Brian Lefferts as vice chair of the commission.
SECONDED BY:	Harding	
VOTE ON MOTION	All in favor.	

IV. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Sgt. Chris Salyers- stated that cab drivers are having trouble dispatching while driving. Would like to see a move back to stationary dispatch centers.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Lefferts	Motion to approve the agenda of July 3, 2012.
SECONDED BY:	Harding	
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	

VI. MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM ALL PAST MEETINGS

MOVED BY:	Jennings	November 1, December 6, January 10, February 7,
SECONDED BY:	Gregory	March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5.

VOTE ON MOTION	All in favor.
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VII. CHIEFS' COMMENTS – Fire Chief George Young

All vehicles are up and running except Engine 2. The Fire Department has received \$350,000 from the state to replace Engine 2 which will be in on the first barge or two of next year.

Fire Department is applying for grant assistance to replace existing radio equipment because it is very old.

The Fire Department is applying for funding to replace the current water tanker because it is too small. The water tanker we have is only 1500 gallons and needs to be at least 3000 gallons.

John Sargent- Has been very helpful in helping writing grants.

Inspecting schools. Fire detections system for fire department has a part on order. Glycol Heat loops have been installed and a new pump will push more heat around the drains so they do not freeze.

Still recruiting for one vacant position.

Finished with budget last week, everything looks good.

Police Chief Larry Elarton

Jeff Lee went down to Yakutat. Probable CSO candidate coming to town, we currently have a CSP position open.

Thank you Pat Jennings for joining the Public Safety and Transportation Commission.

Incident Command Trailer worked very well for Operation Taco and we are thinking about bringing it to the Fourth of July it has received good reviews from the public.

Building- Salmonberry is coming along; they are re-sheeting the outside with new plywood, the pilings are in and set down quite a ways, the antenna should make the last barge. There are not a lot of changes from the original design. Will bring the plans to the next meeting. We have the RFP for the generator, we are using a well at the new building there is a little bit of arsenic in the water.

Dispatch- The police department is still looking for grant funding for Rescue Star but no one is willing to agree to a maintenance contract because there are no parts available. The move will replace most everything, all of our equipment will be with us over at the new building. The E 9-1-1 fund carries over from last year so we can save it to pay for needed replacements. The turn on date for dispatch is November 15th. Radios are only operating at 30%, when we get our own antenna they will have a greater range.

Charlie Chung is selling his dispatch permit. There are 57 cabs on the road. Two of them belong to Mr. Chung.

VIII. TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT-

KaJena Baty

Vehicle Inspections- All of City Cabs permits have gone through their bi-annual inspection, Alaska Cab inspections are coming up next.

Chauffeur Testing- New written test is now 25 questions.

IX. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT-

Councilman Harding

City Administration is looking into an alarm system since the recent break-in. There was about \$200 taken from the Department of Motor Vehicles Office.

There has been public comment to the council on Animal Control. Would like to see commission support to get the position of Animal Control Officer back.

In favor of cabs having a fixed dispatch center believes it worked a lot better.

X. NEW BUSINESS-

A: Sewage Issue in City Sub- Paul Gregory would like to recommend that a tank is put in where pipes connect until the sand is stable. Chief Elarton will check with Bill in Public Works to see if that was ever fixed. Brian Lefferts is not sure this is a topic for Public Safety but it is a health issue. Pat Jennings believes it falls under the realm of code enforcement. Chief Elarton says this was a responsibility of the Planning Department in the past. Brian Lefferts believes that someone from the Police Department should be doing code enforcement.

B: Restaurant Inspections- Brian Lefferts introduced a potential resolution. Restaurant Inspections are required by state law, he believes the City should require that restaurants post inspection results in areas where customers can see them.

MOVED BY:	Jennings	Motion to support and forward draft of resolution to City Council. (Harding)
SECONDED BY:	Gregory	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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C: Sidewalks- The City of Bethel currently does not provide designated pedestrian areas. Brian Lefferts drafted a resolution that suggests that future road planning will include a designated pedestrian walkway.

D: Sugar Sweetened Beverages- Brian Lefferts proposed a Sugar Sweetened Beverage Sales Tax Ordinance Draft to modify the tax structure to include \$.08/oz for a sugar tax.

MOVED BY:	Harding	Motion to forward draft of resolution to finance committee for review
SECONDED BY:	Jennings	

VOTE ON MOTION	All in favor.
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E: Review of the date and time of the monthly PSTC meeting-

MOVED BY:	Jennings	Motion to schedule next regular meeting for September 4, 2012 at 7:00pm.
SECONDED BY:	Gregory	

VOTE ON MOTION	All in favor.
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F: Restructure of City Ordinance Violations-

MOVED BY:	Harding	Motion to table restructure of City Ordinance Violations
SECONDED BY:	Jennings	

VOTE ON MOTION	All in favor.
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XI. COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMENTS

Paul Gregory- This year there are too many broken and dented cars and trucks driving around, some of them are newer vehicles.

Chief Elarton- Cabs are being photographed so that new dents are documented. Chief Elarton is willing to give tours of the Salmonberry building. Has recommended saving the front half of the current Police Department and giving it to Port Director Pete Williams. 12 or 15 parking spots will be in front of the new Department and parking around the back for employees. Trailer will have its own bay and there will be two bays for the cars with a sally port to get in and out. The Ford Escapes are working well for the officers. Would like to move the PSTC meetings to the new police department.

Pat Jennings- Excited to see the new Police Department building.

Kent Harding- The mayor likes to have someone other than a council member come and give a report to the council.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Lefferts	Motion to adjourn.
SECONDED BY:	Jennings	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Next meeting will be held on Tuesday – September 4, 2012

Approved this 4th day of December, 2012.

ATTEST:



 Kajena Baty, Recorder



 Pat Jennings, Chair