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# City of Bethel, Alaska

## Public Safety & Transportation Commission

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Date: July 6, 2010

Regular Meeting 7:00 pm

Bethel, Alaska

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### I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety and Transportation Commission was held on July 6, 2010 at 7:00 pm. in the City Hall Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska. Chairperson Mark Springer called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

### II. ROLL CALL

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

Mark Spring

Brian Lefferts

Charley Chung- Absent

Pat Jennings- Absent

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-

### IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

#### MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF July 6, 2010

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Lefferts	
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Schiedler	

*Discussion: Move New Business section (A) Discussion of bootlegging to after approval of the agenda*

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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#### MOTION TO AMMEND THE AGENDA BY MOVING NEW BUSINESS SECTION A

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Lefferts	
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Schiedler	

*Discussion:*

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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### V. NEW BUSINESS-

**A:** Discussion of Bootlegging- Introduced by Council member Robb

#### MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ALLOW DAVID TRANTHAM SPEAK ON DISCUSSION

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Lefferts	
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Schiedler	

*Discussion:*

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Mr. Trantham introduced himself to the commission and gave a history and testimony of himself and now working with the Opt Out Group for Local Option. The group has a five step goal

1. Vote out Local Option
2. Fight alcohol sales.
3. Fight to keep out Local Option
4. Meeting with Commissions and other Groups in the community to try and beat the bootlegging sales in our community.
5. Going to the Legislator for its next session.

The reason he was wanting to meet with the commission reference the bootlegging in the area, was in hopes that he could get some feed back or information on what the Opt Out Group could do to assist the community with the illegal sales of alcohol.

Discussion went into a possible hotline or crime stoppers phone line or tip line that the people in the community could call and leave information anonymously on who is bootlegging in the area. Discussion on how law enforcement investigates bootlegging cases.

Suggestions from Chairman Springer for the Opt Out Group for Local Option, have the group lobby to the City Council next budget year for another Investigator for the Police Department that can work mainly on the alcohol issues that the community has. Also have the group go the representative Herron and Senator Hoffman and request that they pass a law that makes bootlegging a Felony in a wet community and not a misdemeanor.

Suggestions from Councilman Robb a hotline or tip line that is monitored by the Police Department A public education campaign throughout the community that targets the demand of alcohol. Most of the demand for bootlegged alcohol comes from people living in villages outside of Bethel.

If we can reduce the demand of alcohol by educating these special populations reminding them that drinking is a bad idea, that major problems can arise from drinking bootleg alcohol, encourage them to respect the laws of their home communities, and not transport alcohol back to dry villages. Encourage people who complain about alcohol in Bethel not to buy alcohol in Bethel. Encourage people to enforce the laws in their home communities. This may mean turning in relatives and friends to the police and troopers.

Also have a harm reduction campaign. A proposed flier would state

Take care of your business before you start drinking. If you have appointments, shopping, visits or other business in Bethel, take care these items first.

Make sure you have a way home before you start drinking. Buy a round trip ticket.

Have a safe place to drink. Rent a hotel room, or stay with a trusted friend. Make sure drinking is allowed in this location. It is dangerous to be walking around Bethel while drunk. Stay in your safe place.

Do not have children, elders, or people who depend upon you with you while you are drinking. Send them home first, or have them stay with a relative or friend.

Do not travel while drinking. It is very dangerous to drive a car, or operate or ride in a boat or snow machine while drinking.

Do not carry a lot of money while drinking. Put it in the bank. People can lose their money while drinking.

Do not carry weapons, or be around guns or knives while drinking, it is illegal and dangerous to carry or handle a gun while drinking.

Sex. Many people make poor decisions about sex when drinking. Make your decisions before you start drinking, and stick by them. Carry condoms for your protection and use them if you have sex while drinking.

Try not to drink too much. Set your limits before you start drinking and stick by it. Many people can have a few drinks and have some fun without getting to drunk.

Drink beer is safer for some people then drinking hard liquor.  
 Do not transport alcohol out of Bethel. It is illegal to bring it back to your home village and dangerous for your village.  
 Do not buy liquor for a bootlegger. It is illegal and dangerous.  
 Law Enforcement enforcing the state statue of 04.11.015 Purchase from nonlicensee prohibited.

Discussion from the Chief of Police on if there were municipal laws in place that we could utilize as in drunk in public, open container laws something to that affect that the Police Department could enforce.

Vice Chairman Lefferts stated that he liked the idea of a tip line. He would like to see on the August Agenda that the tip line and a Public Relations Campaign open for the public and information on a municipal ordinance for alcohol.

Chairman Springer would like to hear that a tip line has been installed at the police department and the police department investigator is monitoring the calls a month from now. Also to the Opt Out Group if you could start working with the legislator about passing a law that makes bootlegging alcohol a felony or providing alcohol to a minor a felony. It would be more helpful for the District Attorney's Office and the Police Department in being able to work those cases.

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF May 7, 2010  
 MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF May 7, 2010**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Lefferts	
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Schiedler	
<i>Discussion</i>		
<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	

**VII. CHIEFS' COMMENTS – Chief of Police Elarton-**

**A: Personnel-** Officer Stacey left the department to work at Dt. Richardson in Fairbanks, AK  
 Officer Herrod gave us his notice of leave and will be leaving in July to go back to school.  
 KaJena Baty was hired as our CSP officer and has transferred over to dispatch.  
 Amy Licht her baby is due any day and there has been some talk of another dispatcher maybe leaving.

We have three openings in Patrol at this time.

We gave a conditional offer today for a one of the police officer openings to a guy out of Utah.

Nick Dias will be going to the academy in August at Sitka.

Kadri Limani has some final testing that will be done in July and if everything goes well he will also be attending the Sitka academy in August.

**B: Equipment-** Trac system working well.  
 TAC.Com device is still on hold.

**C: Training-** APSC refresh Academy is scheduled to continue the first of August.  
 The Use of Force Judgment Simulator sent a trainer out the end of June to train four officers on the system.

**D: Calls-** 1442 call for services, 118 case reports, 102 reports cleared, 42 arrests.

**E: Dispatch-** Plant CML is still not upgraded that we paid in January and we received a letter from them saying that they are discontinuing the 911 systems that we just spent sixty thousand dollars to get it current. We will be looking for grant funding for a new system.

**F: CSP-** 196 total.

**G: Building-** Three million dollars was granted for a new building. A grant was submitted this past week and we requested some assistance in the move. Most expensive expense is going to be moving dispatch and the plan is to move the antenna to the new building.

**VIII. TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT**

- A: 3 New Chauffeurs**
- B: 2 Renewal Chauffeurs**
- C: 14 Vehicle Inspections**
- D: 6 Vehicle Transfers**
- E: 2 Vehicle Permits were sold**

**F:** 4<sup>th</sup> of July at pinky's park celebration went very well we had set up a drop off area for the cabs at the baseball diamond and a pick up area at the corner of Mission dr. and Akiachak. I was told that everything ran smooth without a lot of issues of the cabs stopping in the middle of the road dropping off and picking up customers.

**IX. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS- *councilman Richard Robb***

- A: Proposed Ordinances-** on June 6<sup>th</sup> 10-21 failed
- B: Police Department Building-** The three million dollars that was requested was granted from the state.
- C: Fire Department Station-** One million dollars was granted from the state.
- D: FY2011 City Budget-** Has been passed. The Fire Department was granted a Fire Fighter and the Police Department was granted a Patrol Officer.

**X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –**

**A:** review of proposed ordinance on Taxi Cab Rates maximum and minimum

**MOTION TO APPROVE PROPOSED ORDINANCE 5.20.050**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Robb	
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Lefferts	

*Discussion: The cab industry wanting to have a fixed rate with no minimum rates.*

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion failed due to one vote for and three vote against
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**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

**B:** Review Ordinance #10-21 that failed by City Council vote –

**MOTION TO SUPPORT ORDINANCE #10-21**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Robb	
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Schiedler	

*Discussion- Support ordinance would like it to be reintroduced to council for another vote*

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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**C:** Review of Annual Dispatch fee's and proposed ordinance.

**MOTION TO ADOPT PROPOSED ORDINANCE OF ANNUAL DISPATCH FEE'S**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Lefferts	
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Schiedler	

*Discussion-*

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion Failed due to three vote for and one vote against
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**MOTION TO AMEND K TO READ \$125.00 FROM \$250.00**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Lefferts	
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Robb	

*Discussion- The other fee's are \$125.00 and this fee should be the same. The \$250.00 fees are for a two year renewal.*

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion Failed due to two vote for and two vote against
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**D:** Discussion on total Dispatch services, Cab's and Chauffeurs in the City of Bethel.  
Transportation Inspector Sharri Salyers advised the commission with the total permits that are in use at this time in the City of Bethel.  
Five Dispatch services  
Ninety-three Chauffeur's  
Three City Buses  
One Private Bus  
One Limousine  
Fifty-eight Cabs

**XII. COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMENTS**

**Jennifer Schiedler** – On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. I had people approach me and wanted me to ask the Police Department about the silly string that was being sprayed all over the park it people were getting sprayed in the face and all over the cars. Chief Elarton advised her to contact the Parks and Recreation center and have them post items that that cannot be sold at the booths.

**Richard Robb**- No Comment

**Brian Lefferts**- No Comment

**Mark Springer**- Seemed like the 4<sup>th</sup> of July went very well other then the silly string. The Police Department did a good job on crowd control. We had a very good meeting tonight.

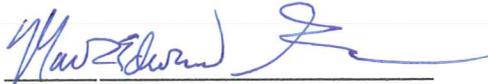
**XIII. ADJOURNMENT  
MOTION TO ADJOURN**

<b>MOVED BY:</b>	Schiedler	
<b>SECONDED BY:</b>	Lefferts	

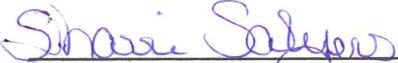
*Discussion*

<b>VOTE ON MOTION</b>	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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Next meeting on Tuesday August 3, 2010 –

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Chairperson

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Recorder