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# City of Bethel, Alaska

## Public Safety & Transportation Commission

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Date: July 7, 2009

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

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### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Public Safety and Transportation Commission was held on July 7, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the City hall Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

Chairperson Mark Springer called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

A quorum of the Commission was not established, the following members were present for roll call:

Mark Springer

Brian Lefferts

Charlie Chung

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Police Chief Larry Elarton

Recorder Sharri Salyers

### **III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD**

John Sargent- Wanted to give an update on the City transit system.

**A:** Betty Twitchell started fulltime as the Transit Manager today July 7, 2009.

**B:** The Governor's office Transit Task Force Committee has been in town looking into our transit system in regards to people with special needs and disabilities. They will be having an open forum July 8, 2009 at the City hall Council Chambers at 11:15 am.

**C:** There will be some changing in bus routes, the Airport and Tundra Ridge will be added soon. The concerns that we have with the new routes is a longer loop time. At the present time the loop takes one hour, adding these new routes we are unsure how much longer it will take to make the loop. There are two buses running at all times. We have added Saturday's; the buses have been running the past two Saturdays. These changes will allow the City to service more people. The City Council made the request for these changes and the City Manager has implemented these changes.

**D:** We have one and a half years (1½ yrs.) left in grant monies to keep the buses running. We have requested for a new grant in the amount of \$109,000.00. The City has purchased three buses from the current grant, two of the buses have a fourteen passenger capacity and one has an eight passenger capacity. The two run on diesel and the one runs on unleaded gas.

**E:** There was a short question and answer discussion between Brian Lefferts, Mark Springer and Jon Sargent. At the end of the discussion Mark Springer requested that we put the Transit system program on the next meeting's agenda.

#### IV. CHIEF'S COMMENTS

**Police Chief- A: H1N1 Flu-** Two confirmed cases and seven pending as today. No one has been hospitalized and we have not started incident command at this time.

**B: Calls-** we received 1,725 calls last month most of the calls were not criminal, they were Alcohol involved. We had several Fire calls, two house and a few sheds. Three officers responded to a burglary in progress call at Swanson's and the suspect was arrested.

**C: CSP Program** – is up and running.

**D: Personnel-** Officer Mike Alexander left and we moved the new CSO Hood to patrol, Moved one CSP to the CSO position and one fireman to the CSP position. We have a Dispatch position open.

**E: Trainings** – Lieutenant Achee, Sgt's. Drake and Salyers and Administrative Assistant Sharri Salyers went to Anchorage for training on the CSP program. Sgt. Salyers went to New Mexico with ONC for training. Chief, Lt. Achee Sgt. Drake and CSP Alex Botomanenko attended a Red Cross CPR and First Aid Instructors course the last week of June. In July, both Sgt. Drake and Sgt. Salyers will be attending a MANDT Instructors training in Idaho. MANDT training is a system for managing aggressive behavior.

**F: Equipment-** We have purchased two patrol bikes. We have four officers that will be assigned to bike patrol.

#### V. TRANSPORTATION INSPECTORS REPORT

**A:** Kusko cab co has leased a permit to Mr. James Pak for his limousine.

**B:** 12 vehicle inspections

**C:** 5 vehicle transfers

**D:** 2 Tickets were given out on July fourth to cabs, one for failing to stop at a stop sign and one for speeding.

**E:** On July 6, 2009 we had a call at AC of two cab drivers fighting. After the investigation, one driver was charged for Simple Assault, both drivers had their chauffer permits pulled for 72 hours: one for the assault the other for not having a child safety seat that worked properly.

**G:** With all inspections; we will be having the drivers install all child safety seats in a proper fashion. If they are unable to install the child safety seat in an appropriate amount of time we will be pulling their chauffeurs permit until they are able to perform the proper instillation.

**H:** On July 6, 2009 a cab driver picked up a sick individual from Hageland Aviation, the driver drove this individual to the hospital's front drop off area and contacted security to assist this individual into the hospital. Security denied assistance since the individual was not able to walk on his own. The cab driver then drove to the Police Department and requested that an ambulance respond to assist the sick individual. Officer's assisted until EMT's responded. The individual was having a heart attack and was later airlifted to Anchorage.

**VI. COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS**

**A: Brian Lefferts-** Everyone is doing a great job at the Police Department. I really like the PSTC agenda packet e-mails.

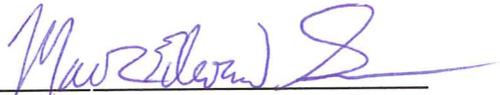
**B: Charley Chung-** No Comment

**C: Mark Springer-** The Bethel amateur radio club has a second repeater, a UHF 440 that has been installed on the roof of KYUK. This fall we are hoping that they will be replacing the old TV antenna with another tower about the same size. So we will have both repeaters working, one for the river and one for around town. I was happy to see that you guys were out for the Fourth of July celebrations.

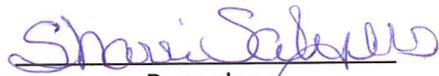
**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

**A: Mark Springer**

Next meeting on Tuesday August 4, 2009

  
Chairperson

ATTEST:

  
Recorder