
City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

August 7, 2008

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety and Transportation Commission was held on August 7, 2008 at 7:00 pm. in the City Hall Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

Chairperson Mark Spring called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

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

Mark Springer

Brian Lefferts

Charlie Chung

Mark Miller @ 7:15 pm

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Lt. Andre Achee

Sgt. Inv. Chris Salyers

Recorder Sharri Salyers

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Ben D Barnes: Presented a packet with letter, limousine rates in the Anchorage area and Logo of the limousine service Mr. Barnes is planning on using.

Mr. Barnes has concerns and would like to see that the commission; use the regulations that Anchorage has established for limousines. Some of these regulations may not apply in Bethel.

Mr. Barnes hopes the "commission uses their better judgment and not go wild in changing the regulations."

Mr. Barnes biggest concern is Alcohol in the limousines. He is going to have a waiver that the people will have to sign that they will not have alcohol in any of his vehicles.

Mr. Barnes stated that he felt if a time limit of picking up customers were established in the regulations it would not be followed.

Mr. Barnes also stated that he has checked with about eleven limousine companies in the Anchorage area, about immediate pick-ups. Most of the companies said if they had a limousine available they could do the immediate pick-up, but there would be a minimum charge of so much per hour.

Jun Hung: Questions on concerns of limitation to just one limousine in the city of Bethel

Answer: (By Mark Springer) there are no limitations in the ordinances that states there is a limitation on how many limousines there could be in the City of Bethel.

**IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF August 7, 2008**

MOVED BY:	Lefferts	Move to approve
SECONDED BY:	Miller	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF July 15, 2008

MOVED BY:	Lefferts	Move to approve
SECONDED BY:	Chung	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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VI. CHIEF'S COMMENTS

- A. New Hire of the Community Service Officer Shane Miller
He will be flying in next week to start.
- B. We have one new hire as Officer Recruit at the Sitka Academy Jerry Herrod
The Academy started on Sunday August 3, 2008
- C. Jeff Lee our other Officer Recruit starts at the Academy in Fairbanks on
August 18, 2008
- D. Melanie Barniskis has tendered her resignation to be effective the end of August
She is our Public Safety Dispatch Supervisor her and her family will be moving out of Bethel.
- E. We have one vacancy for Patrol Sergeant
- F. We have one vacancy for Police Officers
- G. The past meeting there was a request for more signage of speed signs to be placed in Kasayuli
and Tundra Ridge, day after the meeting Lt. Achee spoke with Chuck at road maintenance about
the signs and we are unsure where that stands at this time.
- H. The new Officers have a very good rapport with the VPO's, VPSO's and the Public especially with
the children they are calling the Officers "my Officers."
- I. A Community Service Officer is an Officer that assists and back ups Police Officers, assists in
taking parties that are in protective custody to the hospital, jail to sleep it off, process services,
Animal Control now and assist in Dispatch. They are the jack of all trades pretty much they fill in
as needed. . This position also is a stepping stone to becoming a Police Officer, we evaluate
them, see how they work with shift work and the stresses, after 6 months to a year we have
them go through the academy and then they are hired Police Officers. We try to hire from within
and this has been working very well.

VII. TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT

- A. Three Limousine permits have been requested, Two by Mr. James Pak and One by Mr. Ben
Barnes.
I have not issued the permits due to Mr. Pak receiving one limousine this week. Mr. Pak has
obtained insurance and registration for one of the vehicles today, Mr. Pak has other items he
needs to finish before a permit can be issue. Mr. Pak's other limousine has not arrived yet. Mr.
Burns does have his limousine in Bethel as of yet either. We have also been waiting to see if
there will be any changes in the regulations that will clarify the procedures of Limousine permits.
- B. We had five vehicle transfers for the month of July a significant reduction from the month of June
- C. We had a few vehicle inspections.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Emergency plan – tabled.

MOVED BY:	Lefferts	Move to approve
SECONDED BY:	Miller	
<i>Discussion Request to have the agenda sent to the Fire Department and the Public Housing Nurse</i>		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	

B. Motioned to move limousine regulations to discuss at the end of the meeting.

MOVED BY:	Lefferts	Move to approve
SECONDED BY:	Miller	
<i>Discussion</i>		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	

C. Radar signs – Prices on the equipment was not made available at time of meeting. need to check with Anchorage, they might have some for a low price. leave as Unfinished Business for next meeting.

D. Adoption of the resolution of the Chief Antone Anvil Pathway.

MOVED BY:	Lefferts	Move to approve
SECONDED BY:	Miller	
<i>Discussion</i>		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.	

- B. Limousine Regulations
- a. Needing a Public Comments Meeting for over all conditions. and see what suggestions they might have in regards to the limousines.
 - b. Would like to hear from the taxi cab service as to how they feel it will effect their economic situation to have two, three or more limousines here in Bethel. What kind of a competitive creation that might create.
 - c. The Anchorage regulations are the regulations we should consider.
 - d. Would like to see a legal memorandum that validifies the limousine regulations in the BMS. How they all tie together and at the same time get some guidance for the transportation inspector on the implications of issuing the permit or temporary permit with some dispatch. We have known for a little over a year now that some one was going to be bring some limousines in.
 - e. Has concerns in issuing the permits now with out any fixed regulations. If permits are issued now with out new regulations in effect the permits are grandfathered in with the regulations that we have now and we will not be able to enforce the new regulations on them.

- f. Need to redefine the definitions of limousine.
- g. Operational they need to submit their policies.
- h. Definition of services.
- i. Definition of costs
- j. No possession of alcohol by minors
- k. Reservations
- l. Insurances
- m. We may establish rates.
- n. Would like a draft of limousine regulations.

D. COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMENTS

A. Brian Lefferts

Looking forward to hearing what the lawyer has to say

B. Mark Miller

We are needing to expedite this in one way or the other. This is directed to the Police or the Community Service Officer I am still concerned about the kids along first road in housing sitting in the road playing, I drive around slow but not everyone does and I have concerns because it gets worse in the winter I was hoping that there was some kind of education, besides rolling the window down and yelling at them. Was wondering if maybe an officer could get with the parents on a personal level. (Lt. Achee we have tried to do that and the sad thing is that a lot of the parents just don't care. I have seen the officers talk with the kids and as soon as they leave they are right back out there in the street. There isn't a lot that we can do because it isn't a crime it is a safety issue but not much we can do.) I know that it is a great place to play because there isn't any other place for them to play but still. I just wanted to bring that up because I do have those concerns.

C. Charlie Chung

No comment

D. Mark Springer

I am hoping that we can get this done as quick as we can, we knew that it was coming, Ben Barris came to us before James did and this has been on our radar for a while. We need to get this rolling, School is going to be starting and will be in session on our next meeting.

**C. ADJOURNMENT
MOTION TO ADJOURN**

MOVED BY:	Lefferts	
SECONDED BY:	Chung	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	All in favor
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Mark Springer, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Sharri Salyers, Recorder