
City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

September 4, 2008

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety and Transportation Commission was held on September 4, 2008 at 7:00 pm. in the City Hall Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

Vice-Chairperson Brian Lefferts 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 here at 7:13

Brian Lefferts

Charlie Chung

Pat Jennings

Tiffany Zulkowsky

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Police Chief Larry Elarton

Fire Chief George Young

Recorder Sharri Salyers

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

A. John Sargent – handed out flier on WHPacific. He explained that ONC had hired the company to do a transportation plan for the city of Bethel. Updating the current 1997 transportation element that was part of the 1997 comprehensive plan for the city of Bethel it has been eleven years that this has been updated. This plan includes all transportations of vehicles, roads, proposed roads and trails in the city of Bethel.

John stated he needed to speak about the Emergency plan that was on the agenda and would like to be recognized at that time.

B. Ben Barnes – handed out fliers on vehicles that other limousine companies use that are not limousines but are vans, SUV's and sedans. He handed out another document with e-mails from a manufacture stating that the vehicles that they have are not limousines but do have limousine packages. Mr. Barnes had concerns of the definition of limousine that is proposed for the ordinance in the BMC, as to vehicles that are not Limousines not being able to obtain the limousine permit. Mr. Barnes also had concerns that the Hummer Limousine that was coming in, would need to have a CDL licensed driver.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF September 4, 2008

MOVED BY:	Zulkosky	Move to approve
SECONDED BY:	Lefferts	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF August 7, 2008

MOVED BY:	Zulkosky	Move to approve
SECONDED BY:	Jennings	

Discussion

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

- A. **Fire Chief** – The biggest issue that the fire department is having is the collapse of the building, they have found damage to the roof and now the foundation. The Lieutenant Governor has come and looked at the building. They are looking to give up the building all together and try and get more funding for a new facility. With all of the damage it is not safe to have the vehicles in the bays it is no longer just one bay that is damaged it is all of the sub-flooring. He is going to try and make it work for this winter and next spring, he said he could go maybe for two more seasons. They are going to hold the money that they have gotten from the legislative money and request for more from capital projects lists. It has been brought to Chief Young's attention that his employees are in the process of making a formal complaint to their union and to OSHA for safety issues because of the unsafe working environment. There could be a report from OSHA but the city and the fire department could ask OSHA to come out and help. This will put OSHA on the helpful side and not the enforcement side. OSHA would come out and write it up and they would give the fire department and city time to try and get it fixed. No one is wanting to make it that the fire department would have to leave the building and ground all of the trucks. Chief Young know that the employee's are not going to make the formal complaint for a while yet.

Basic fire training class and EMT volunteer's classes will be coming up. Twelve people have signed up for the EMT classes.

We have lost two more volunteers since the budget cuts.

- B. **Police Chief** – A burglar was found in Nicholson's, subject had been out of jail for four hours before he was found in this new crime.

January 1st a new law comes into effect that will be a concern to budget issues on anonymous sex assault reporting at the hospital, AST will be paying the costs of the anonymous reports, the bad thing was that the grant was going to pay for all of the SART exams and now they are only paying the anonymous ones. The other bad thing for us is that once there has been an exam done we will be the ones to be responsible for the storage of these exams.

The school crosswalks are not marked on the streets by the school. Chief will be making contact with public works to have them fix the problem.

The police department is still having issues with the generator not coming on. There was a power outage this past week and the generator wouldn't power up. Cumming's will be coming out to check on that.

Personnel wise the police department still has two openings, there are four applications being reviewed at this time.

Two recruits are still at the Academy and will be graduating in Nov.

The Department has not received the new sur chargers for 911 as if yet, There needs to be a letter written that will be going out next week.

VII. TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT

Tabled to next meeting

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Tabled to next meeting

MOVED BY:	Zolkosky	Move to approve
SECONDED BY:	Lefferts	

Discussion Request to have both VII and VIII tabled to next meeting

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Emergency plan – Chief Young requested it to be tabled for up to four months due to the new plan is not done at this time. A discussion from John Sargent needing a timely issue of being NIMS compliant by September 30, 2008 for the Homeland Security Grants. City passed a resolution 08-20 on August 19, 2008 that formally documents that the city supports NIMS (National incident management system). The resolution has all of the language that the Department of Homeland Security wants to see that they hold all of the communities accountable for this is coming from the Federal Department of Homeland Security. There is more and more scrutiny that everyone is NIMS compliant with proof of this compliance.

B. Limousine Regulation – tabled

MOVED BY:	Zulkosky	Move to approve
SECONDED BY:	Jennings	

Discussion need more time to review the paper work set a special meeting later in the month

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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C. Public Health Nurse mass immunization exercise – On October 11, 2009 they will be giving out free flu shots at that time. Along with the mass casualties exercise.

X. COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMENTS

A. Tiffany Zulkosky-

Tuesday the city council will be recognizing the Police Department.

B. Charlie Chung

No comment

C. Brian Lefferts

I am not opposed to having a special meeting toward the end of the month so we
Can get the limousine regulations done and sent to council for their approval.

D. Mark Springer

No Comment

XI SPECIAL MEETING SET

MOVED BY:	Zulkosky	
SECONDED BY:	Lefferts	

Discussion Special Meeting set for September 17, 2008 5:30 pm

VOTE ON MOTION	All in favor
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**XII ADJOURNMENT
MOTION TO ADJOURN**

MOVED BY:	Zulkosky	
SECONDED BY:	Jennings	

Discussion

VOTE ON MOTION	All in favor
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Mark Springer, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Sharri Salyers, Recorder