

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on March 13, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., in the council chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

Mayor Richard Robb called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ROLL CALL**

<b>Comprising a quorum of the Council, the following members were present:</b>	
Mayor Rick Robb	Council Member Mark Springer
Vice-Mayor Fred Watson	Council Member Leif Albertson
Council Member Mitchell Forbes	Council Member Thor Williams
<b>Members Absent:</b>	
Council Member Naim Shabani	
<b>Also in attendance were the following:</b>	
City Manager Pete Williams	City Clerk Lori Strickler
City Attorney Patty Burley	

**IV. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD**

Michelle Dewitt, Bethel Community Services Foundation- Addressed the Council with concerns related to the letter from Administration distributed to the non-profit community, which reflected interpretations of the new sales tax code which were different from those that were discussed in public meetings when the sales tax code was being developed. Stated there will be considerations made by the attorney to modify the current code to address the concerns identified.

Eileen Arnold, Tundra Women’s Coalition- Reiterated the statements provided by Michelle Dewitt and further stated that the earnings from the fund raisers aren’t going

into the pockets of owners or into bonuses for the employees and the money raised is going back into direct services.

Buck Bukowski, VFW Representative- Outlined the processes which the VFW uses to remit taxes to the City, which has become complicated since the monthly remittance requirements. Feels that it has become a very cumbersome process. Stated opposition to the City's intent to start taxing the revenues collected on the proceeds raised from fundraisers.

Mike Walsh, VP of Public Policy for the Foraker Group- Provided statements of support to the communities' non-profits in their quest to prevent unnecessary taxation on the non-profit sector. A goal of the Foraker Group is to establish a fair and equitable sales tax structure.

David E. Trantham Jr.- Stated opposition to the Council's spending of the tax payers' money. Suggested that businesses are leaving Bethel because of the City's Tax structure. Explained that the City's qualified audit is going to cost the tax payers money.

Mary Nanuwak- Stated that she doesn't feel as though the members of the Public Safety and Transportation Commission, of which she is a member, do not treat her nicely. Complained that last year when she was backed into at the VFW, she was not able to get help from the Police Department.

## V. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AND REGULAR AGENDA

**Main Motion:** Approve the Consent and Regular Agenda.

---

Moved by:	Springer
Seconded by:	Forbes
Action:	Motion carries by a vote of 6-0
In favor:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robb <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Watson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Albertson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Springer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Williams <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forbes
Opposed:	-0

### Removal from

**Consent:** New Business Item J, IM 18-03.

---

Moved by: Williams

### Removal from

**Consent:** New Business Item B, Resolution 18-05.

---

Moved by: Springer

### Removal from

**Consent:** New Business Item A, Introduction of Budget Ordinance 17-28 (j).

---

Moved by: | Robb

**Removal from**

**Consent:** New Business Item C, Resolution 18-06

---

Moved by: | Williams

**VI. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES**

**Item A – 2-27-2018 Regular Meeting Minutes**  
*Passed on the Consent Agenda*

**VII. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Public Safety and Transportation Commission**

A meeting has not been held since the last City Council Meeting.

**Port Commission**

A meeting has not been held since the last City Council Meeting.

**Planning Commission**

Nothing to report.

**Parks, Recreation, Aquatic Health and Safety Center Committee**

Michelle Dewitt- Thanked John Sargent for acting as recorder. There were three people that spoke in opposition to the Kasayuli park development. There will be a community forum about community parks next week. At the next committee meeting, the committee is going to consider concepts for the park development. The Committee is also concerned about the annual transfer from the pool account to the City's general fund; specifically, how that transfer lacks a processes for approving those transactions. The Committee established a scope of work and budget and presented a recommendation for the Council to contract parks and recreation services. The committee is also asking that the Council direct administration to draft a RFP for Owl Park completion.

**Finance Committee**

A meeting has not been held since the last city council meeting.

**Energy Committee**

A meeting has not been held due to a lack of a quorum.

**Public Works Committee**

A meeting has not been held due to a lack of a quorum.

**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Item A – Public Hearing Of Ordinance 18-03:** Amending BMC Section 5.20.050(F) To Increase Maximum Taxi Cab Rates Charged By Cabs And 5.20.160 A. Increasing The Fees Paid By Cab Companies.

*Mayor Robb opened the Public Hearing.*

*Jared Karr, Vice Chair of the Public Safety and Transpiration Commission- Wanted to clarify that the Commission has not had a chance to review the changes to the ordinance. Stated that the Commission, when they considered the pricing of the senior discount, adjusted the rate based off the new rate. The increase proposed is far below the cost of living increase of 20% over the last 11 years.*

*Mayor Robb closed the Public Hearing.*

**Main Motion:** Adopt Ordinance 18-03 was made at the February 27, Regular Meeting.

---

Moved by: Forbes  
Seconded by: Albertson  
Action: Motion carries by a vote of 4-2  
In favor:  Springer  Williams  Forbes  Albertson  
Opposed:  Robb  Watson

**Item B – Public Hearing Of Ordinance 18-04:** Amending Section 4.16.160(p) Of The Bethel Municipal Code, Sales Tax Exemptions For Real Estate Purchases.

*Mayor Robb opened the Public Hearing.*

*No one present to be heard.*

*Mayor Robb closed the Public Hearing.*

**Main Motion:** Adopt Ordinance 18-04.

---

Moved by: Albertson  
Seconded by: Springer  
Action: Does not carry by a vote of 3-3  
In favor:  Albertson  Springer  Forbes  
Opposed:  Williams  Robb  Watson

**Item C – Public Hearing Of Ordinance 18-05:** Authorizing The Disposal Of Property Pursuant To BMC 4.08.030(B) Lease Agreement Between The City Of Bethel As Landlord And The Alaska Court System Tenant Of 17,045 Square Feet Of Office Space Within The Nora Guinn Justice Center, Court House Located At 204 Chief Eddie Hoffman Highway.

*Mayor Robb opened the Public Hearing.*

*No one present to be heard.*

*Mayor Robb closed the Public Hearing.*

**Main Motion:** Adopt Ordinance 18-05.

---

Moved by: Springer  
Seconded by: Forbes  
Action: Motion carries by a vote of 5-1  
In favor:  Robb  Watson  Springer  Williams  Forbes  
Opposed:  Albertson

**Item D – Public Hearing Of Ordinance 18-06: Amending Chapter 1 Of The Bethel Municipal Code, General Provisions.**

*Mayor Robb opened the Public Hearing.*

*David E. Trantham Jr.- Stated concerns with the increase of the fines to \$400, as there are many people who are not able to pay these fines. Additionally asked the Council if they are going to be doing selective enforcement.*

*Mayor Robb closed the Public Hearing.*

**Main Motion:** Adopt Ordinance 18-06.

---

Moved by: Springer  
Seconded by: Albertson  
Action: Motion carries by a vote of 6-0  
In favor:  Robb  Watson  Albertson  Springer  Williams  Forbes  
Opposed: -0

**Subsidiary Motion:** Take a ten-minute break.

---

Moved by: Springer  
Seconded by: Williams  
Action: Motion carries by a vote of 6-0  
In favor:  Robb  Watson  Albertson  Springer  Williams  Forbes  
Opposed: -0

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**Item A – Introduction Of Budget Ordinance 17-28(j): Amending The Adopted Annual FY 2018 Budget-Change To Water And Sewer Fund- Moving Alcohol Tax Revenue To Community Action Grant Fund.**

**Main Motion:** Introduce Ordinance 17-28(j).

---

Moved by: Springer  
Seconded by: Forbes

---

Action: Motion carries by a vote of 6-0  
In favor:  Robb  Watson  Albertson  Springer  Williams  Forbes  
Opposed: -0

**Primary Amendment:** Amend Revenues to strike 10-40-480 and insert 10-10200 and to amend Water and Sewer Fund to insert decreases to 51-10-100 in the amount of \$9,350.

---

Moved by: Albertson  
Seconded by: Springer  
Action: Motion carries by a vote of 6-0  
In favor:  Robb  Watson  Albertson  Springer  Williams  Forbes  
Opposed: -0

**Item B – Resolution 18-05:** Authorizing The City’s Participation In The State Of Alaska’s Public Employees’s Deferred Compensation Plan.

**Main Motion:** Adopt Resolution 18-05.

---

Moved by: Springer  
Seconded by: Albertson  
Action: Motion carries by a vote of 6-0  
In favor:  Robb  Albertson  Watson  Springer  Williams  Forbes  
Opposed: -0

**Primary Amendment:** Suspend the rules to hear from PERS Representative.

---

Moved by: Springer  
Seconded by: Forbes  
Action: Motion carries by a vote of 6-0  
In favor:  Robb  Watson  Albertson  Springer  Williams  Forbes  
Opposed: -0

*Lisa Templeton, Public Employees Retirement and Benefits; Kendra Kaska, Empower Retirement; and Keith Henthorn, City’s Human Resources Manager addressed the City Council.*

**Item C – Resolution 18-06:** Authorizing The Administration To Enter Into A Lease Purchase Of A New Ladder Truck For The City Of Bethel Fire Department.

**Main Motion:** Adopt Resolution 18-06.

---

Moved by: Springer  
Seconded by: Forbes  
Action: Motion carries by a vote of 6-0  
In favor:  Robb  Watson  Albertson  Springer  Williams  Forbes  
Opposed: -0

**Subsidiary Motion:** Suspend the rules to hear from the Fire Chief.

---

Moved by: Springer  
Seconded by: Albertson  
Action: Motion carries by a vote of 5-1  
In favor:  Robb  Watson  Albertson  Springer  Forbes  
Opposed:  Williams

**Item D – AM 18-17:** Appointment Of Brian M. Henry To The Finance Committee For A Term Of Three Years.

*Passed on the consent Agenda.*

**Item E – AM 18-18:** Authorizing The City Attorney To Travel To Nome For The Alcohol Beverage Control Board Meeting Of April 3, 2018.

*Passed on the consent Agenda.*

**Item F – AM 18-19:** Direct Administration To Sign A Village Safe Water Program Agreement In The Amount Of \$2,071,473 To Fund Additional 2018 Dredging Of The Sewer Lagoon.

**Main Motion:** Approve AM 18-19.

---

Moved by: Springer  
Seconded by: Forbes  
Action: Motion carries by a vote of 6-0  
In favor:  Robb  Watson  Albertson  Springer  Williams  Forbes  
Opposed: -0

**Item G – AM 18-20:** Authorizing The City Manager To Negotiate And Execute A Contract Amendment To The Professional Services Agreement With Carmen Jackson CPA Originally Executed On January 19, 2016.

**Main Motion:** Approve AM 18-20.

---

Moved by: Forbes  
Seconded by: Springer  
Action: Postponed

**Subsidiary Motion:** Postpone

---

Moved by: Springer  
Seconded by: Williams  
Action: Motion carries by a vote of 6-0  
In favor:  Robb  Watson  Albertson  Springer  Williams  Forbes

---

Opposed: | -θ

**Main Motion:** Motion to Amend Something Previously Adopted, Introduction of Ordinance 17-28 (j).

---

Moved by: Williams  
Seconded by: Watson  
Action: Motion does not carry by a vote of 3-3  
In favor:  Robb  Watson  Williams  
Opposed:  Albertson  Forbes  Springer

**Item H – AM 18-21: Authorizing The City Manager To Negotiate And Execute A Contract With Hughes Fire Equipment/Pierce For The Purchase Of A Ladder Truck For The Fire Department.**

---

**Main Motion:** Approve AM 18-21.

---

Moved by: Springer  
Seconded by: Forbes  
Action: Motion carries by a vote of 6-0  
In favor:  Robb  Watson  Albertson  Springer  Williams  Forbes  
Opposed: -θ

**Item I – AM 18-22: Direct Administration To Appoint And Identify One Staff Member To Act As The Primary Contact In The City For The 4th Of July Festivities.**

*Council Member Williams stepped away from the meeting at 9:32 p.m.*

---

**Main Motion:** Approve AM 18-22.

---

Moved by: Forbes  
Seconded by: Springer  
Action: Motion carries by a vote of 5-0  
In favor:  Robb  Watson  Albertson  Springer  Forbes  
Opposed: -θ

*Council Member Williams returned to the meeting at 9:35 p.m.*

**Item J– IM 18-03: City Invokes BMC 4.20.180 Emergency Procurements Section To Handle Lift Station Failure.**

*Passed on the consent Agenda.*

**Item K – Personal Leave Request For The City Clerk March 16, April 13th and 16th And July 19 – August 3.**

*Passed on the consent Agenda.*

**X. MAYOR'S REPORT**

**XI. MANAGER'S REPORT**

**XII. CLERK'S REPORT**

**XIII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mayor Richard Robb –  
Looking forward to another Camai Festival. Encouraged that everyone travel safely.  
Wished hunters the best of luck in their hunting.

Vice-Mayor Fred Watson –  
No comment.

Council Member Leif Albertson –  
Reminded everyone that, although the roads are in bad condition, pedestrians still  
have the right of way.

Council Member Mark Springer –  
Hoped to see some of the higher snow berms get knocked down. Noted that Steven  
Hawking passed away recently.

Council Member Thor Williams–  
Reminded everyone that there is free style wrestling tournament.

Council Member Mitchell Forbes–  
Welcomed everyone coming into town. Also encouraged people to celebrate Camai  
responsibly. Parks and Recreation will hold another public meeting for Kasayuli park  
development.

**XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

**Main Motion:** Adjournment.

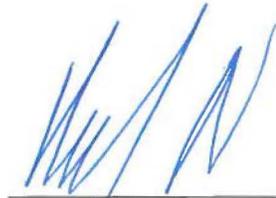
---

Moved by:	Springer
Seconded by:	Forbes
Action:	Motion carries by a vote of 6-0

---

In favor:  Robb  Watson  Albertson  Springer  Williams  Forbes  
Opposed:  -0

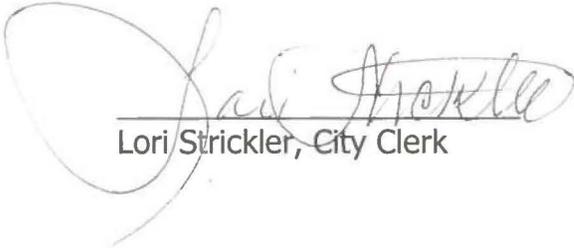
*Council adjourned at 10:11 p.m.*



---

Richard Robb, Mayor

ATTEST:



---

Lori Strickler, City Clerk