

Introduced by: Vice-Mayor Williams
Introduction Date: September 13, 2011
Public Hearing: September 27, 2011
October 11, 2011
Action: Failed
Vote: 7-0

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

Ordinance #11-17

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BETHEL CITY COUNCIL PROHIBITING
THE ADDITION OF FLUORIDE IN ANY FORM TO COMMUNITY
WATER SYSTEMS AND WATER PROCESSED
FOR USE BY THE PUBLIC**

WHEREAS, the City of Bethel has never been required to add fluoride to the community water system or water processed for use by the public;

WHEREAS, there is no "informed consent" in the administration of fluoride as a medication, a drug classified as "unapproved" by the U. S. Food and Drug Administration, against dental caries in water supplied by the City to all who consume it in uncontrolled amounts, based on each individual's consumption of water and food and without regard to each individual's medical or dental history, or age;

WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control in its Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report of August 17, 2001/Volume50/No. RR-14 entitled "recommendations for Using Fluoride to Prevent and Control Dental Caries in the United States" proclaims on page 4, paragraph 5 "fluoride's predominant effect is after the tooth comes into the mouth and on the surface of the tooth;"

WHEREAS, and the administration of fluoride in water delivers the chemical throughout the human body and to fetuses during pregnancy.

WHEREAS, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has stated "Exposure to excessive consumption of fluoride over a lifetime may lead to increased likelihood of bone fractures in adults, and may result in effects on bone leading to pain and tenderness;"

WHEREAS, the study, "Intake and metabolism of fluoride" published in the journal Advances in Dental Research 8:5-14 by GM Whitford in 1994 reports, "Overall, an average of 86.8% of the dose was retained by the infants, which is about 50% higher than would be expected for adults... There is a clear need for more information about the renal handling and general metabolism of fluoride in young children...;"

Introduced by: Vice-Mayor Williams
Introduction Date: September 13, 2011
Public Hearing: September 27, 2011
October 11, 2011
Action: Failed
Vote: 7-0

WHEREAS, the study, "Suppression by medical journals of a warning about overdosing formula-fed infants with fluoride" by M Deisendorf and A Diesendorf in the journal Accountability in Research 5:225-237 in 1997 states: "the uptake of fluoride into bone is greatest in infants and young children. Thus, infants who drink mainly powdered formula reconstituted with fluoridated water are likely to be a high-risk group for developing both skeletal fluorosis and hip fractures in old age;"

WHEREAS, the study "Fluoride in Drinking Water: A Scientific Review of EPA's Standards" by the National Research Council, published by the National Academies Press, Washington D.C. page 140 states: "In patients with reduced renal function, the potential for fluoride accumulation in the skeleton is increased. It has been known for many years that people with renal insufficiency have elevated plasma fluoride concentrations compared with normal healthy persons and are at a higher risk of developing skeletal fluorosis;"

WHEREAS, an example of a Material Safety Data Sheet, required by all chemical manufacturers by the U.S. government and published by one manufacturer reporting on sodium fluoride, an ingredient in toothpastes, mouthwashes and other products, reads, "LABEL PRECAUTIONARY STATEMENTS: TOXIC IF SWALLOWED. HARMFUL BY INHALATION AND IN CONTACT WITH SKIN. CONTACT WITH ACIDS LIBERATES VERY TOXIC GAS. CAUSES SEVERE IRRITATION. TARGET ORGAN(S): KIDNEYS, BONES DO NOT BREATHE DUST. WEAR SUITABLE PROTECTIVE CLOTHING;"

WHEREAS, toothpastes containing fluoride are required to state on their containers, "Warnings. Keep out of the reach of children under 6 years of age. If more than used for brushing is accidentally swallowed, get medical help or contact a Poison Control Center right away;"

WHEREAS, dozens of municipalities which had added fluoride to their community water supplies for years since the chemical was first introduced in 1945, have ceased the practice as evidence of health dangers has accumulated in the form of peer reviewed scientific studies published in recognized medical and dental journals and in U.S. government reports;

WHEREAS, the report "Fluoridation of water. Questions about health risks and benefits remain after more than 40 years" by B Hileman in the journal Chemical and

Introduced by: Vice-Mayor Williams
Introduction Date: September 13, 2011
Public Hearing: September 27, 2011
October 11, 2011
Action: Failed
Vote: 7-0

Engineering News of August 1, 1988, pages 26-42 states, "Although skeletal fluorosis has been studied intensely in other countries for more than 40 years, virtually no research has been done in the U.S. to determine how many people are afflicted with the earlier stages of the disease, particularly the preclinical stages. Because some of the clinical symptoms mimic arthritis, the first two clinical phases of skeletal fluorosis could be easily misdiagnosed... Even if a doctor is aware of the disease, the early stages are difficult to diagnose;"

WHEREAS, the National Research Council released in March 2006 a review of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's safe water standard for fluoride of 4 ppm in which the following statements were published: "On the basis of information largely derived from histological, chemical, and molecular studies, it is apparent that fluorides have the ability to interfere with the functions of the brain and the body by direct and indirect means." p187. "Fluoride is therefore an endocrine disruptor in the broad sense of altering normal endocrine function or response, although probably not in the sense of mimicking a normal hormone." p223. "The conclusion from the available studies is that sufficient fluoride exposure appears to bring about increases in blood glucose or impaired glucose tolerance in some individuals and to increase the severity of some types of diabetes." p217;

WHEREAS, an individual's consumption of the chemical fluoride in water and in food is dependent upon variables that are difficult if not impossible to determine;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of Bethel Alaska:

SECTION 1. Classification. This ordinance is of permanent nature and shall be codified within the Bethel Municipal Code.

SECTION 2 AMENDMENT. Section 8.16.010 Of the Bethel Municipal Code to insert new language under Section 8.16.010 prohibiting the use of fluoride in any form in community water, new language is underlined.

8.16 Community Water Systems

8.16.010. Prohibition of the addition of fluoride in any form to community water systems and water processed for use by the public.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE Date. This ordinance shall become effective upon regulatory approval from the State of Alaska Department of Conservation, Environmental Health,

Introduced by: Vice-Mayor Williams
Introduction Date: September 13, 2011
Public Hearing: September 27, 2011
October 11, 2011
Action: Failed
Vote: 7-0

Drinking Water Program but not later than December 31, 2011.

ATTEST:

Richard Robb, Mayor Pro Tem

Lori Strickler, City Clerk