

Introduced by: Finance Committee
Introduction Date: August 8, 2017
Public Hearing Date: August 22, 2017
Action: Passed
Vote: 5-1

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

Ordinance #17-41

AMENDING THE BETHEL MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 5.04.050(A), ADDITIONAL FEES FOR BUSINESSES SELLING GAMES OF SKILL AND CHANCE

Whereas, the Finance Committee has been working on the updated sales tax code for nearly a full year;

Whereas, prior to the updated sales tax code, the local charitable organizations have come to the Finance Committee seeking relief from the high fees imposed on gaming;

Whereas, attendance at gaming events has decreased significantly over the years while costs have increased;

Whereas, as a result, the charitable organizations are finding it difficult to break even;

Whereas, the difficult financial situation has forced some gaming operations to close their doors permanently;

Whereas, pursuant to Alaska law, all profits earned from gaming operations within the City are used to provide charitable donations to persons in need;

Whereas, in order to continue providing the much needed services, the charitable organizations desperately need a reduction in the fees collected by the City so that there are sufficient monies left over to distribute to those who need it the most;

Now, Therefore Be It enacted by the City Council of Bethel Alaska as follows:

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

Section 2. Amendment: Bethel Municipal Code 5.04.040 is amended, new language is underlined, removed language is stricken.

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5.04.050(A) ADDITIONAL FEES FOR BUSINESSES SELLING GAMES OF SKILL AND CHANCE

Each business selling games of skill and chance shall pay an additional fee equal to ~~six~~ ~~three~~ four (~~6~~ ~~3%~~ 4%) percent of the gross revenues from sales of games of skill and chance. Gross revenues from a sale is the total cost to the player for the right to each single chance or play, whether paid to the operator or qualified organization in cash or by relinquishment of winnings or in exchange for other things of value.

SECTION 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective upon passage by the Bethel City Council.

ENACTED THIS 22 DAY OF AUGUST, 2017, BY A VOTE OF 5 IN FAVOR AND 1 OPPOSED.

ATTEST:


Richard Robb, Mayor
Lori Strickler, City Clerk