

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

January 13, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety & Transportation Commission was held on January 13, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Vice Chair Don Poe called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Hastie	John Dickens
Tae Hwa Chung	Tom Fazzini
Don Poe	Brad Kehoe

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

George Young, Fire Chief
 Andrew Steele, Taxi Technician
 Nicole Williams, Recorder

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	To accept the nominations of Chair and Vice Chair for the year of 2003.
SECONDED BY:	Poe	

John Hastie was nominated and voted in as Chair.

John Dickens was nominated and voted in as Vice Chair.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

There were no members of the public to be heard.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	To approve the regular agenda.
SECONDED BY:	Dickens	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting on December 2, 2002.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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CHIEFS' COMMENTS

None

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTORS REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

Taxi Technician, Andrew Steele, reported the following:

- 2003 permits have been made for all applications received by the City and the Police Department and are as follows:
 66 Owner Permits
 82 Chauffeur Permits

Discussion ensued regarding the map of zones for taxi cabs and it was concluded that the issue be left alone.

Fire Chief, George Young, discussed recent activities with the Fire Department.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items to be discussed under Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items to be discussed under New Business.

COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Don Poe mentioned the incident of a Yukon fuel truck backing into one of his airplanes.

John Dickens spoke on assisting the mayor in the project of building a road across the tundra from Alex Hatley to Ptarmigan.

Brad Kehoe would like to see a public transit system and will contact Carl Berger on behalf of the committee for his attendance and presentation of his idea at the next PS&TC meeting.

Mr. Chung stated that he doesn't see an improvement in the parking lot of the AC store with taxi cabs.

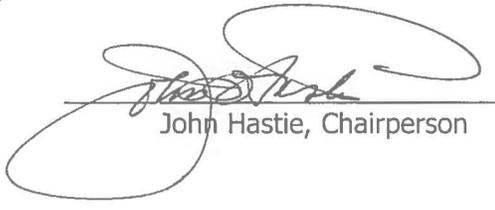
ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Poe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m., January 13, 2003.

Approved this 18 day of February, 2003.


John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Nicole Williams, Recorder

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

February 18, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety & Transportation Commission was held on February 18, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Chair John Hastie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Hastie	John Dickens
Tae Hwa Chung	Tom Fazzini
Jim Blake	Michael Cho

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Howard H. Morris, Chief of Police
Andrew Steele, Taxi Technician

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Frank Mazzaro voiced his opinions regarding the taxicabs in the AC parking lot.
Carl Berger briefly spoke on his public transit idea.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To approve the regular agenda.
SECONDED BY:	Fazzini	

Under New Business added – amendment to taxi ordinance.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Blake	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting on January 13, 2002.
SECONDED BY:	Dickens	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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CHIEFS' COMMENTS

Chief Morris briefly commented on a few issues. The Police Department still has two Police Officer positions open. The Department has not been able to utilize the new snow machines due to weather conditions and lack of snow so far. Taxi technician, Andrew Steele, put much work

and effort into setting up a meeting with cab owners and the manager of AC to resolve the issues at hand.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTORS REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

Andrew Steele stated that David Hicks, manager of AC, reported that he was very pleased with the compliance of the cab industry and that the situation of taxi cabs in the parking lot seemed to be improving. Also, Mr. Steele reported of problems with river cabs.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items to be discussed under Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Taxi Technician, Andrew Steele, has proposed an amendment to the taxi ordinance that would require a regulation of more accurate and honest inspections performed on cabs by inspector stations. It has been brought to Mr. Steele's attention that possibly a local garage is signing off on inspections for these vehicles when in fact no inspection has been done.

COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Jim Blake asked Mr. Steele about more detailed requirements on cabs such as the wearing of seat belts and child restraints.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Fazzini	
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.	

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m., February 18, 2003.

Approved this 26th day of March, 2003.


John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Nicole Williams, Recorder

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

March 10, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety & Transportation Commission was held on March 10, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Vice Chair John Dickens called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Dickens	Brad Kehoe
Tae Hwa Chung	Tom Fazzini
Michael Cho	

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

None were present.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Frank Mazzaro inquired about the headlight ordinance whether it was to affect all public transportation or only certain ones.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Fazzini	To approve the regular agenda.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Fazzini	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting on February 18, 2002.
SECONDED BY:	Cho	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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CHIEFS' COMMENTS

None.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTORS REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Brad Kehoe suggested having a copy of any information such as an ordinance amendment to Council to be included in the packets prior to the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

John Dickens congratulated the Police and Fire Departments on the excellent work being done.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Fazzini	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m., March 10, 2003.

Approved this 26th day of March, 2003.



John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Nicole Williams, Recorder

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

March 26, 2003

Special Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Public Safety & Transportation Commission was held on March 26, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Chair John Hastie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

Jerry Drake	Brad Kehoe
Tae Hwa Chung	Tom Fazzini
Jim Blake	John Hastie

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Howard H. Morris, Chief of Police and Taxi Inspector
Nicole Williams, Recorder

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Mary Krevans spoke about the upcoming bike rodeo, the importance of protection against head injuries by wearing a helmet, recycling of helmets when out grown, and requirement of wearing a helmet for individuals under the age of 18.

Cub Scouts also noted the importance of wearing a helmet while riding a bike and the idea of helmets being issued out by the city.

Gretchen Brown with Injury Prevention at YKHC distributed a statistics sheet on head injuries, noted that head injuries due to not wearing a helmet are massive in numbers, and would like to try to reduce the number of injuries in our community by wearing helmets. There are approximately 10 head injuries per year in Bethel. Gretchen also mentioned that there is not currently a bill before legislature for helmets in the state of Alaska.

Carl Berger along with Kelly Shawn, from Washington, D.C. and Bruce Wells from the Department of Transportation in Juneau were present to discuss the possibility of a public transit system in Bethel.

Bruce Wells said that the DOT looks at community needs and costs and in his perspective, a study needs to be done for each level of service being considered.

Kelly Shawn mentioned that Colleen Soberay had submitted a federal grant application to his organization for public transit and his goal while in Bethel is to try to determine the needs of our community and hopes to build a foundation of information to help get us on the right track based on our community needs.

Suggestions to the Public Safety & Transportation Commission are to continue and proceed to the next level of process but need to wait for Kelly Shawn's results of his time spent here first.

Discussion ensued.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the regular agenda.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	
Under New Business added – Bike helmet ordinance.		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting on March 10, 2003.
SECONDED BY:	Blake	
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.	

CHIEFS' COMMENTS

Chief Morris stated that the Police Department has finally completed the project of the new radio console installation. The Police Department will be preparing for the Break Up Party.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTORS REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Bike helmet ordinance - requested Chief Morris to obtain information from the city attorney on helmet ordinance for snow machines, four wheelers, etc.

COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Brad Kehoe mentioned the problem of cabs blocking traffic in the BNC parking lot.

Jim Blake asked if the headlight ordinance pertained to any vehicle transporting passengers or if it pertained to "for hire" only.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Drake	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.	

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.,
March 26, 2003.

Approved this 2nd day of June, 2003.

By direction 
John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Nicole Williams, Recorder

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

May 5, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety & Transportation Commission was held on May 5, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Vice Chair John Dickens called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Dickens	Brad Kehoe
Tae Hwa Chung	Michael Cho
Don Poe	

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Howard H. Morris, Chief of Police and Transportation Inspector
George Young, Fire Chief
Nicole Williams, Recorder

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	To approve the regular agenda.
SECONDED BY:	Poe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Poe	To approve the minutes of the special meeting on March 26, 2003.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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CHIEFS' COMMENTS

Chief Morris asked the Commission members to review the information provided by him regarding the possible helmet law and to please respond at the next meeting if the City Attorney should proceed on

this issue. Pertaining to the bicycle law that was mentioned along with the helmet law, it was the Chief's suggestion to proceed with the helmet law only due to that the bicycle law doesn't really pertain to our community.

Also, Chief Morris mentioned that we have vaccinated approximately 154 dogs for rabies and gave thanks to all that pitched in and helped out.

Fire Chief, George Young, briefly mentioned the FY04 budget.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTORS REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

Taxi Technician, Andrew Steele, reported the following:

A) Taxi Cab Issue

A letter from Chief Morris has been sent to all cab company owners reminding them that all vehicles parked illegally on private property are in violation and will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. This resulted from many complaints regarding the BNC property.

B) Public Safety Issue

Images of animals in the pound are now being posted on the DDC, in the lobby of the Police Department and with the BPD dispatchers. These images will be updated on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, whenever new animals are impounded or the animals listed are no longer in the pound. In conjunction with this, there is a sub folder on the DDC for animals available for adoption.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A) Discussion of FY04 Budget

Discussion of the FY04 Budget ensued. Some cuts to the Police Department budget for FY04 have already been made.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

MOVED BY:	Poe	To consider the addition of one line item to the FY04 Police Department budget for funds to cover the purchase of an ATV required to respond to calls at certain times of the year.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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B) For Hire Ordinance

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	To discuss this topic at the next meeting when Mr. Steele is present.
SECONDED BY:	Chung	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Brad Kehoe discussed the helmet safety information passed by Chief Morris and would like for him to obtain information on the state of Hawaii's helmet ordinance as well as what some Indian Reservations have put together for helmet laws.

Vice Chair, John Dickens, extended thanks to both Chiefs' and the Police Department and Fire Department for all efforts and great work put into the rabies crisis.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Cho	

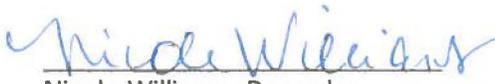
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m., May 5, 2003.

Approved this 2nd day of June, 2003.

By direction 
John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Nicole Williams, Recorder

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

June 2, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety & Transportation Commission was held on June 2, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Vice Chair John Dickens called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Dickens	Brad Kehoe
Tae Hwa Chung	Michael Cho
Don Poe	Tom Fazzini

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Howard H. Morris, Chief of Police and Transportation Inspector
Andrew Steele, Transportation Technician
Nicole Williams, Recorder

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Several members of the community, most of which were in the cab industry, were present to make statements regarding money collected for cab fares, regulation of fares and the letter sent out to all cab owners by Police Chief Morris.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Poe	To approve the regular agenda.
SECONDED BY:	Chung	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Poe	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting on May 5, 2003.
SECONDED BY:	Cho	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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CHIEFS' COMMENTS

Chief Morris handed out copies of the Duckwater Tribal Police Department ordinance on helmet laws. Hawaii has not yet responded to his request for the state's laws regarding the helmet issue.

Some cab owners have come to Chief Morris regarding the issue of regular customers receiving a cut rate on fares. This was based on an undercover operation to try to determine how often and by what cab companies this practice is taking place.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTORS REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

Taxi Technician, Andrew Steele, reported the following:

- A) The traffic problems with cabs in the BNC parking lot have seemed to improve lately.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Steele addressed the issue of "For Hire Ordinance".

NEW BUSINESS

- A) Discussion took place regarding cab fare cuts and free rides for regular customers as well as receiving a free ride once a "ticket card" has been filled. Mr. Chung requested that Chief Morris inquire about the different types of tickets that each cab company gives out for a free ride, however, being the Transportation Inspector, it is at Chief Morris's discretion as how to deal with this.

LETTER TO LOCAL PAPERS

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	To write a letter to the local papers as an editorial stating the ordinance of cab fare regulations and to make the public aware.
SECONDED BY:	Cho	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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Regarding the helmet issue, Mr. Kehoe directed towards Chief Morris as to what direction the Commission wants to go with this and have the City Attorney or appropriate person(s) go forward with this.

HELMET ORDINANCE

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	Recommend to Chief Morris to pursue the issue of the helmet ordinance for resolution.
SECONDED BY:	Fazzini	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Mr. Chung commented on the length of time that it took the Bethel Fire Department to respond to the house fire on Ridgecrest. Chief Morris responded by stating that from the time the 911 call was received until the time the Fire Department arrived at the scene, there was absolutely

no delay in response or arrival by the Fire Department. Response time by the Fire Department and the Police Department was excellent.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved BY:	Kehoe	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Fazzini	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m., June 2, 2003.

Approved this 6 day of August, 2003.


John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Nicole Williams, Recorder

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

July 14, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety & Transportation Commission was held on July 14, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Chair John Hastie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Hastie	Brad Kehoe
Jerry Drake	Tom Fazzini
Don Poe	

* Michael Cho attended the meeting late; after roll call.

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Howard H. Morris, Chief of Police and Transportation Inspector
George Young, Fire Chief
Andrew Steele, Transportation Technician
Nicole Williams, Recorder

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Frank Mazzarro, Theresa Williams, Hugh Short and Diana Chon, all members of the cab industry. All four of the above voiced opinions and concerns regarding the ongoing issue of cab fares being cut and that this act is a violation of city ordinance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Poe	To approve the regular agenda.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

Under New Business added – Ordinance 03-11
Under New Business added – Meeting time

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting on June 2, 2003.
SECONDED BY:	Fazzini	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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CHIEFS' COMMENTS

Chief Morris mentioned that the letters sent to all cab companies and owners were published in both local papers for public awareness regarding the issue of discount fare rates. The Police Department must have proof of this act of violation in order to pursue the violator(s). If proof is provided that this act is continuing, the driver and cab company will be pursued and punished by the Bethel Police Department. The violation of discount fare rates are to cease. Information regarding this investigation will not be disclosed to any individual within the cab industry.

In response to Frank Mazzaro's comment, the agendas for the Public Safety & Transportation Commission Meeting are, always have been and will continue to be posted at Anica, City Hall, Swanson's and AC at least five days prior to the upcoming meeting.

The Police Department is moving forward with the helmet laws and vehicle recommendations to Council as requested by this commission.

Chief George Young expressed thanks to Police Chief Howard Morris for "stepping up to plate" and responding to Mr. Chung's statement and concern regarding the time frame in which it took for the Fire Department to arrive at a fire scene on Ridgecrest earlier this summer.

The Fire Department is in the process of filling the last vacant Fire Fighter/EMT position which will bring the department up to full staffing.

Chief Young extends much thanks to this commission for all of the support given regarding the new fiscal year budget process.

The Fire Department is almost in possession of a new ambulance made possible to the community by YKHC's coordination of a foundation USDA State of Alaska EMS grant. The cost of the vehicle could be estimated at close to \$150,000.00 and will cost the community and tax payers of Bethel very little.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTORS REPORT

Nothing to report at this time.

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

- A. Yellow Cab, City Cab and Taxi Cab are the three cabs in question regarding the above mentioned issue. Mr. Steele brought in all three companies on separate occasions to discuss and inform them that what is going on is illegal. It was followed up by a letter from Mr. Steele to each of the above named cab companies and has been made clear and understood that this conduct of discount fare rates must come to a stop.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A) Mr. Steele brought forth ordinance 03-11 before the commission with hopes that the commission will review the documentation and vote to make a recommendation to Council on this issue.

LETTER TO LOCAL PAPERS

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	Recommend to Council to adopt amendment 03-11 as presented.
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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B) Commission member Drake suggested changing the time of the meeting to a lunch time rather than in the evening which could result in better attendance, agenda topics covered more quickly with less unnecessary discussion leading to shorter meeting time and overall more productive meetings.

MEETING TIME

MOVED BY:	Drake	To change the time of the Public Safety & Transportation meeting to noon. (On a trial basis for a couple of months at which point this will be assessed again.)
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

Note that Don Poe voted against but trial run of this change still passed.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by vote.
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COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Brad Kehoe addressed the problem of cabs parking in the unloading zone directly in front of AK AIR terminal. This creates an inconvenience for ticketed passengers trying to unload at the terminal. He would like for all cab companies to leave the unloading zone curbside open.

Jerry Drake addressed budget cuts.

John Hastie addressed cabs that are in bad exterior condition, extruding metal etc.

Don Poe addressed the scam on cabs short stopping and causing an individual to hit them.

Discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Drake	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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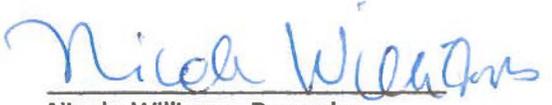
With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m., July 14, 2003.

Approved this 6 day of August, 2003.



John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Nicole Williams, Recorder

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

August 6, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety & Transportation Commission was held on August 6, 2003 at 12:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Chair John Dickens called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Dickens Michael Cho
Jerry Drake Tom Fazzini
Tae Hwa Chung Brad Kehoe

- John Hastie attended the meeting late; after roll call.

EXCUSAL OF ABSENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To excuse absent committee members James Blake, Don Poe, and John Hastie who are either working or not feeling well.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Howard H. Morris, Chief of Police and Transportation Inspector
George Young, Fire Chief
Andrew Steele, Transportation Technician
Linda Solomon, Recorder

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Nicole Williams

Ms. Williams went through the Helpful/Appropriate Hints for Rules and Order for Commission Meetings.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the regular agenda with two amendments.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

Under New Business added – Ordinance 03-11

Under New Business added – Item C: Council Representative chairing Committee/Commission meetings

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting on July 14, 2003.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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CHIEFS' COMMENTS

Chief Young stated that the new ambulance has been transferred to the City of Bethel. Vacant fire fighter position has been filled and the Fire Department is fully staffed now. The oldest ambulance is now parked behind the City Office and is going to be a community vehicle between the Fire and Police Department to transport the deceased. The next oldest ambulance that is about 12 years old is going to be slowly converted to charge air bottles in the field. Will start looking for updated fire equipment such as fire trucks and storage equipment.

Chief Morris informed the commission that the Police Department is finally fully staffed now. We are down 4 Dispatcher but have part time employees to fill in. P. D. is in the process of the 9-1-1 Upgrade that will keep us up on the 911 system. We are still working on the Helmet Law; two attorneys are here today and will get to speak with them. There was a concern of a cab driving around town with metal sticking out of it. The cab was found and the problem is resolved. The other concern is that some cabs that have a tendency of pulling up behind people causing accidents. We are in the process of sending out a memo to all cab owners advising them this may/may not be a problem and will not be tolerated. Some time in the future, we will meet with the cab owners and try to address some of the problems. With the issue at the airport, I will meet with L. J. and Alaska Airlines to resolve the traffic situation in front of Alaska Airlines.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTORS REPORT

Two items: one addressed already by the Chief which is actually Item # A under new business. Item B which is added onto agenda by Council Member Drake is the air bag order (Ordinance 03-11) was turned down by city council.

TRANSPORTATION TECHNICIAN'S REPORT

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- A) Chief Morris covered this issue in his comments.
- B) Ordinance 03-11: Jerry Drake planning on reintroducing ordinance at the next city council meeting. This ordinance relates to children under 12 riding in the front seat that has an operating air bag.

ORDINANCE 03-11

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	Motion made for Commission to continue to support the adoption of Ordinance 03-11.
SECONDED BY:	Fazzini	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.
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C) Commission member Drake's proposal for the council representative serving on a committee/commission would be the chair of that committee/commission. This would make them fully involved in the committee/commission process and be more likely to take committee/commission concerns back to the city council for possible action. This should be Mayors responsibility to remind council members of part of their duty as a council member.

SUSPENTION OF RULES TO ADD ITEM D

MOVED BY:	Dickens	D) Formal appreciation to Ms. Williams on the outstanding job that she has done for the commission, Police Department and the City of Bethel as a whole.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

John Dickens expressed his gratitude to the police department for a professional public safety establishment and enhanced 911 center. Dickens also complimented members for attending meeting today. Also would like to thank Ms. Williams again for the job that she has done for the commission.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Drake	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Fazzini	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m., August 6, 2003. Next meeting on Wednesday – 9/2/03 at 12:00 p.m.

Approved this 3 day of September, 2003.


 John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:


 Linda Solomon, Recorder

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

September 3, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety & Transportation Commission was held on September 3, 2003 at 12:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Chair John Hastie called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Hastie	Michael Cho
Jerry Drake	Brad Kehoe
Tae Hwa Chung	

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

George Young, Fire Chief
Andrew Steele, Transportation Technician
Linda Solomon, Recorder

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Chief Young informed PS&TC that Jim Blake had passed away.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	To approve the regular agenda with one amendments.
SECONDED BY:	Chung	
Under New Business added – Item B: Appeal to Taxi Cab		
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting on August 6, 2003.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.	

RECESS UNTIL TOMORROW AT 11:30 A.M.

MOVED BY:	Drake	Due to more needed time to hear taxi cab appeal, motion made to recess until tomorrow 9/4/03 at 11:30 a.m.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	
VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous vote.	

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

September 4, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

Continued regular meeting of the Public Safety & Transportation Commission was held on September 4, 2003 at 11:30 a.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Chair John Hastie called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Hastie	Michael Cho
Tom Fazzini	Brad Kehoe
Tae Hwa Chung	
Don Poe	

John Dickens and Jerry Drake are both at work.

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Howard H. Morris, Chief of Police and Transportation Inspector
Andrew Steele, Transportation Technician
Linda Solomon, Recorder

CHIEF'S COMMENTS

Informed PS&TC of Jim Blake's passing. Hugh Short Sr. had a heart attack and is going to go through surgery. The Bicycle Helmet ordinance that PS&TC supported should be before the city council at the next city council meeting.

John Hastie added to the Chief's comments to send a card to the families of Jim Blake and Hugh Short, Sr. from PS&TC. Chief to pick up cards and get around to all commission members.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT

- A. The City of Bethel web page is on line that includes the Police Department which also includes information on taxi cabs. Officers were finding that taxis stopped for various reasons and were asked for trip sheets, the drivers would say they are the dispatcher for the company. The ordinance says that dispatchers do not need to fill out trip sheets and there was no way to verify if driver is the dispatcher. Steele developed a 4x6 card that includes the taxi company name, dispatch, permit for the present year which is hard to duplicate.

A solution was made for the parking/loading situation in front of Alaska Airlines terminal by moving the concrete barriers in one lane and making the outer lane for taxi loading. The other two lanes are to be used for parking and the other is for drive through. No unattended vehicles are allowed in these areas. We are in the

process of writing warning tickets for 10 days and normal tickets after the 10 days.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Would like the commission to think about a possible 3-way Stop at the corner of QFC 1, Water Plant and the Laundry Mat. At this point it is a two way stop where two lanes have to wait until the one non-stop lane is clear to proceed and this would back up traffic. New signs will be going up regarding pedestrians on Akakeek Street with the new boardwalk will impact the traffic in that area. Suggestion for a short term plan to have signs posted; long term plan to straighten the road out to develop a safer intersection.
- B. There is an appeal before the commission on a gentleman that has failed the chauffeur's license. Transportation Technician went through the application procedure with the commission. Stage I is all the paperwork filled out and notarized including criminal history and copy of driving record. Stage II is taking the written test. Stage III is the road test. The written/driving test is one test and the applicant has three tries to pass. If the applicant fails then he/she would have to wait one year to reapply. Ordinance 01-30 is not really clear that the written/driving test is one test and that there is a total of three tries to pass these tests. The applicant understood that he had three tries to pass the written and three for the driving test. Applicant was a taxi driver in New York and was only required to go to a two-week driving school to obtain chauffeur's license. Chairman Hastie cited paragraph of 01-30 amending various sections of chapters 5.20, 5.30, and 5.40 of the Bethel Municipal Code regarding regulations of taxi cabs. In Section III, Amendment of Section 5.40.020, Application for License, Paragraph C: The examination shall consist of a written and a driving test. If an applicant fails either the written or the driving portion of the examination three times in a calendar year, the applicant may not reapply for a chauffeur's license for one year from the date of the third failure. The commission members to vote on whether to grant the applicant another chance for the driving test. Four (4) members voted to grant the applicant's appeal for another change at the driving test; one (1) voted against granting applicant's appeal; and one(1) abstained to vote. The applicant is scheduled to take the driver's test on Monday, September 15 at 10:00 a.m. Need a written memo to the City Clerk in reference to the outcome of the applicant's appeal and advise of any administrative/ financial matters that need to be cleared up.

COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Dispatcher's card: City Cab does not run 24 hours a day so the night shift may not be able to get the card to the next dispatcher. The responsibility lies with the cab drivers to get the dispatcher card to the next person. The other problem is that when a dispatcher needs to go on a short break, they may not be able to get the dispatcher card to the person dispatching temporarily. Cab owners need to discuss this issue that the dispatcher keeps a trip sheet then the ordinance will be changed. To be discussed further at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

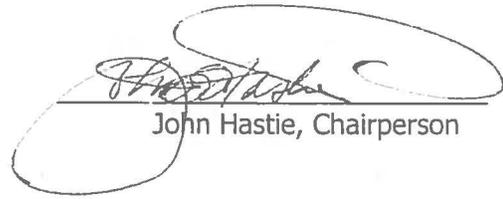
MOVED BY:	Cho	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION

Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 1:08 p.m., September 4, 2003. Next meeting on Wednesday – 10/1/03 at 12:00 p.m.

Approved this 3rd day of OCTOBER, 2003.



John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Linda Solomon
Linda Solomon, Recorder

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

October 1, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

Regular meeting of the Public Safety & Transportation Commission was held on October 1, 2003 at 12:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Vice Chair John Dickens called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Hastie	Michael Cho
Jerry Drake	Tom Fazzini
Charley Hwa Chung	Brad Kehoe
Don Poe	

Ex-Officio members present were the following:

Howard H. Morris, Chief of Police and Transportation Inspector
Andrew Steele, Transportation Technician
Linda Solomon, Recorder

EXCUSAL OF MEMBERS

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To excuse Don Poe who is not able to attend due to work.
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve agenda with additions.
SECONDED BY:	Dickens	

Additions: Approval of Agenda; Approval of Minutes

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Drake	To approve minutes of 9/3-4/03 as amended.
SECONDED BY:	Dickens	

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

On October 7, possibly the 8th, Ridgecrest Drive will be closed to traffic for installation of a conduit for a new crossing for the City's main sewer line. Discussion of where closed signs are going to be posted.

The three month trial of a Wednesday noon meeting needs to be decided by the commission if they will continue to meet on the first Wednesday at noon or go back to the first Monday at 7:00 p.m. Next meeting on November 3 at 7 p.m.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT

- A. None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Commission Members support a three way stop at the corner at QFC 1 which is practically the same as Watson's corner that has a three way stop. Commission would like to get information from DOT on traffic count for that area from last year to support the three way stop. Commission needs to get this recommendation to the City Council to recommend to the State for this change. With addition of stop sign on a three way stop, that corner needs another light pole at that corner. Recommendations: 1) need for a light pole at the intersection of Akakeek and Ptarmigan Street; 2) pave about the first 20 feet before the stop sign at the corner of QFC 1 on Akakeek Street. Chief Morris to move ahead with the 3-way stop and talk with DOT to check on the lighting issues. Chief Morris to update PS&TC on progress of the three way stop.

RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL

MOVED BY:	Drake	To send recommendation to the City Council for a three way stop at the corner of Ridgecrest Drive and Akakeek Street.
SECONDED BY:	Dickens	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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- B. Two of the commission members who are cab drivers met with some of the cab owners and stated that some owners preferred using the Dispatch Card and some did not. Recommendation that the Police Department meet with the cab owners to see if use of dispatch card is preferred. Andrew Steele and Chief Morris to set up meeting with cab owners to discuss this issue.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. At the last meeting, commission talked about the possibility of making the verbiage in the ordinance a little bit more distinguishable. The wording in ordinance 03-10 where it says, "If the applicant fails either portion of the examination three times in any one calendar year, the applicant may not reapply for a chauffeur's license for at least one year from the date of the third failure of either portion of the examination could be changed to read, "If an applicant fails either portion of the examination in any combination....."

ORDINANCE 03-10 AMENDMENT

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To amend ordinance 03-10 and accept as such.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

It is good to see aggressive patrolling by officers with courtesy and professionalism. Concern of the stop sign area at the intersection of Akakeek and Ptarmigan when it becomes slippery – Chief Morris to look at this issue. With a new Public Works Director, there should be more sanding of the roads during the winter.

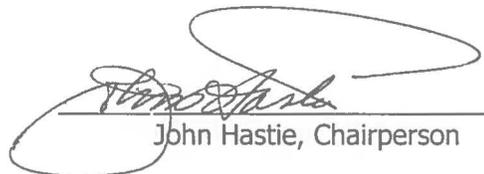
ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Drake	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 1:03 p.m., October 1, 2003. Next meeting on Monday – 11/3/03 at 7:00 p.m.

Approved this 3rd day of October, 2003.



 John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:



 Linda Solomon, Recorder

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

December 8, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety Transportation and Commission was held on December 8, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Chairperson John Hastie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

DRAFT

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Hastie	John Dickens
Charley Chung	Michael Cho
Brad Kehoe	Tom Fazzini
Hugh Dymont	

Ex-Officio member present were the following:

Howard H. Morris, Chief of Police
Linda Solomon, Recorder
Andrew Steele, Transportation Technician

EXCUSAL OF ABSENT COMMISSION MEMBER

MOVED BY:	Cho	To excuse Don Poe due to work commitments.
SECONDED BY:	Dymont	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To approve the regular agenda with two additions under New Business.
SECONDED BY:	Dymont	

Under (B) of New Business item 2 was added – Curfew Enforcement.

Under (C) of New Business item 3 was added – Impounding Vehicles of third time DUI violators.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting on 11/3/03.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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CHIEFS' COMMENTS

Receiving complaints from taxi cab passengers requesting being brought directly to destination and cab still making stops and picking up passengers along the way. Chief and Steele to do a Public Service Announcement; get on the air and speak in open forum to address some of the taxi cab problems and concerns that the public may have.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT

- A. Andrew Steele requested dropping the Transportation Inspection Report on the agenda and leaving at Transportation Technician Report – members agreed. We are 2/3 of the way through getting the permits ready for 2004 and should all be in place by January 1, 2004 when the new permits have to change hands. Last year there were 116 chauffeurs and so far 83 have signed up for 2004. There are two new chauffeurs in town who are being tested at the moment and two existing chauffeurs that are leaving town.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Going forward with the three way stop at the corner of QFC 1 but would like to wait for spring due to winter road conditions. May be hazardous in trying to get the community using the three way stop with road conditions. A Public Service Announcement will go out 30-45 days before the change is made.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Good idea to go to tape recorded dispatch. Cab companies that do not have the equipment will need to purchase. Cab companies will be responsible to maintain the tapes for length of time decided on. BPD can do quality assurance to make sure that cab companies are maintaining tapes for the required length of time that tapes are to be maintained. Due to majority of cab companies desire to go to tape recording dispatch, committee members decided to go forward with recommendation to the city council to go from paper to tape recorded dispatching.

TAPE RECORDED DISPATCH

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	To recommend as a committee that the cab industry go to tape recorded dispatch.
SECONDED BY:	Cho	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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- B. Question of the status of curfew enforcement both in Bethel and in the State. Concern of kids getting hurt/hurting of others after 11:00 p.m. If curfew is enforced then it would most likely eliminate some of the problems caused by kids after curfew. Due to the tremendous amount of calls that BPD responds to there is no doubt that curfew falls down on the list but officers should actively be working the curfew policy. Suggestion by a committee member to spot check on an irregular basis in certain areas in town which would put a message out to teens that they could get picked up for curfew violation.

Along with curfew enforcement, it would be nice to have more lighting around town. There should be a street light every hundred feet. If anyone notices that lights need maintenance, contact dispatch at BPD who in turn will inform Public Works. Officers working night shift to keep an eye out for lights that need maintenance or bad spots that need lighting.

- C. With third "Driving Under the Influence" there is a law that the vehicle will be seized and auctioned. Does or should the city impound/seize vehicles? City of Bethel does not have an impound area and the liability of caring for the vehicle while it is in impound. Problem the city had before was vandalism to impounded vehicles. Bethel Packing and Moving Company was interested in creating an impoundment area. Chief to bring back information to PS&TC the DUI arrest information.

IMPOUNDMENT AREA

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	To recommend as a committee that the city council consider the possibility of developing a city or private owned impound area.
SECONDED BY:	Cho	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Smoking in cabs is still an issue and needs to be addressed. This issue will be brought up at the PSA when discussing cabs bringing passengers directly to destination when requested.

PS & T Committee should continue to improve the Fire and Police Department and look at where we stand on wage and salary. There is a lot of good cab drivers in this town but public is starting to get upset about touring of town before getting to destination. Haroldsen Subdivision is in the city limits and the road should be made accessible provide essential services. Also would like to see another route to Kasayuli Subdivision for safety purposes. How can we visit with YKHC regarding Kasayuli subdivision that is growing in population. With Bethel continuing to grow, we need to get going on our infra-structure to keep up with growth.

There is a serious problem with kids throwing eggs, snowballs or rocks at cabs causing hazardous conditions. There is a need for law enforcement to take action. Chief to remind officers to ride in cabs when possible to help deter this problem. BPD has couple snowmachines to utilize for violators that use snowmachines to hit cabs and get away.

Hugh Dymont to check with city planner on what city liability is on Haroldsen Subdivision. People are working on creating a road through the doughnut hole to alleviate traffic congestion.

House address numbers and street name signs need improvement. There is an ordinance on what size, etc. need to be used for house numbers and is citable.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To adjourn meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m., December 8, 2003. Next meeting on Monday – 1/12/04 at 7:00 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2003.

John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Linda Solomon, Recorder

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

November 3, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety Transportation and Commission was held on November 3, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Chairperson John Hastie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Hastie	John Dickens
Charley Chung	Michael Cho
Brad Kehoe	Tom Fazzini
Don Poe	Hugh Dymont

Ex-Officio member present were the following:

Howard H. Morris, Chief of Police
Linda Solomon, Recorder
George Young, Fire Chief
Andrew Steele, Transportation Technician

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

Hugh Short Sr. commented on the Taxi Trip Sheets which he states is turning out to be a mess and would like to see the cab industry go back to tape recording. The recording is more accurate and records for 24 hours at a time.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To approve the regular agenda with an addition of Tape Recorder Dispatch.
SECONDED BY:	Cho	

Under (A) of New Business item 1 was added – Tape Recorder Dispatch.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting on 10/1/03.
SECONDED BY:	Fazzini	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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CHIEFS' COMMENTS

Chief Morris distributed and went through the Helmet Ordinance before presenting to the City Clerk. The commission members decided to omit sleds from the ordinance.

Officers are now fully staffed; dispatch still has two open positions. We have 5 new officers learning to be officers and doing a great job for the City of Bethel. Have gotten public comments on how officers are friendly and courteous.

The Fire Department has had their annual interaction with kids in the community, fire prevention, winterizing vehicles. Last week had eight of the EMT II's go through re-certification class; this week is the three cardiac class. The Fire Department is preparing for the winter.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT

- A. Letter to the owner's of the cab companies went out this morning informing that 2004 applications can be found in the lobby of the Police Department for chauffeurs and other drivers. There is also a time line in order to get permits out by 1/1/04. Observed the traffic lanes in front of Alaska Airlines a couple times and the cabs are doing what is expected of them. The public however had 9 unattended vehicles this morning and 5 at lunch time. Need someone to monitor traffic. TSA applied for grant of \$25,000 to assist with this problem. Chief Morris to check with TSA, AK. Airlines Manager, and D.O.T. regarding other airline parking space.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Chief Morris talked with D.O.T. regarding the intersection at QFC 1 and advised that is not their property. Met with Greg Sergeant and Chief Young and are in the process of discussing how to set up a barricade in that corner where the public will not cut through in front of the water plant. Will move forward with the 3-way Stop as soon as we devise a plan on how to barricade that corner and still have room for water and fire trucks to access the water plant. We should have an answer by next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Chief Morris and Andrew Steele met with the cab companies and discussed the dispatch card. Suggestion made by cab companies is that they would like to see all cabs go to a recorded dispatch. Three cab companies already have the recorders. There is concerns with cab companies that have only a few cabs with funding to purchase the recorders, imperative that dispatch goes in and out in English otherwise it will make it difficult to monitor, and date and time needs to be included. With the concern of the language used on the recorders, if there is a need for a translator the cab companies should take the responsibility for the translator. Chief Morris and Andrew Steele to meet and report back to PS&TC.

COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS

John Dickens asking for assistance in thinking of ways that we can to analyze salary of the Police and Fire personnel. Compared to the rest of the state, we are at the lower end of the spectrum in salary. We have a lot of violent crimes and would like ideas to put a stop to as the crimes continue to get worse.

Tom Fazzini feels good about the helmet ordinance and is a good thing to get moving and support.

Don Poe: welcomes Hugh Dymont to the PS&TC. There continues to be a problem with the cross walks. With winter coming, the lines are going to disappear under the snow and ice and would create a hazard. If unable to have flashing lights of crosswalk ahead then the cross walks should be done away with.

Hugh Dymont: reiterated when running for council regarding concern of the Police and Fire Department salaries.

John Hastie: street lights need maintenance and more lights put in at intersections around town. By ordinance it would force the issue that every 100 feet and at all intersections there be a street light. Asked Chief to let the proper department know of maintenance needed on the street lights.

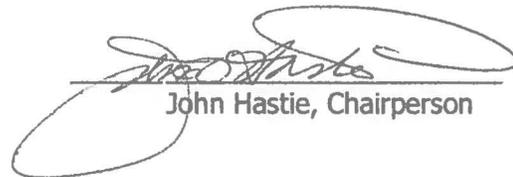
ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Cho	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m., November 3, 2003. Next meeting on Monday – 12/1/03 at 7:00 p.m.

Approved this 8th day of DECEMBER, 2003.


John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:


Linda Solomon, Recorder

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

December 8, 2003

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety Transportation and Commission was held on December 8, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. in the city hall conference room, Bethel, Alaska.

Chairperson John Hastie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the commission, the following were present:

John Hastie	John Dickens
Charley Chung	Michael Cho
Brad Kehoe	Tom Fazzini
Hugh Dymont	

Ex-Officio member present were the following:

Howard H. Morris, Chief of Police
Linda Solomon, Recorder
Andrew Steele, Transportation Technician

EXCUSAL OF ABSENT COMMISSION MEMBER

MOVED BY:	Cho	To excuse Don Poe due to work commitments.
SECONDED BY:	Dymont	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To approve the regular agenda with two additions under New Business.
SECONDED BY:	Dymont	

Under (B) of New Business item 2 was added – Curfew Enforcement.

Under (C) of New Business item 3 was added – Impounding Vehicles of third time DUI violators.

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To approve the minutes of the regular meeting on 11/3/03.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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CHIEFS' COMMENTS

Receiving complaints from taxi cab passengers requesting being brought directly to destination and cab still making stops and picking up passengers along the way. Chief and Steele to do a Public Service Announcement; get on the air and speak in open forum to address some of the taxi cab problems and concerns that the public may have.

TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT

- A. Andrew Steele requested dropping the Transportation Inspection Report on the agenda and leaving at Transportation Technician Report – members agreed. We are 2/3 of the way through getting the permits ready for 2004 and should all be in place by January 1, 2004 when the new permits have to change hands. Last year there were 116 chauffeurs and so far 83 have signed up for 2004. There are two new chauffeurs in town who are being tested at the moment and two existing chauffeurs that are leaving town.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Going forward with the three way stop at the corner of QFC 1 but would like to wait for spring due to winter road conditions. May be hazardous in trying to get the community using the three way stop with road conditions. A Public Service Announcement will go out 30-45 days before the change is made.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Good idea to go to tape recorded dispatch. Cab companies that do not have the equipment will need to purchase. Cab companies will be responsible to maintain the tapes for length of time decided on. BPD can do quality assurance to make sure that cab companies are maintaining tapes for the required length of time that tapes are to be maintained. Due to majority of cab companies desire to go to tape recording dispatch, committee members decided to go forward with recommendation to the city council to go from paper to tape recorded dispatching.

TAPE RECORDED DISPATCH

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	To recommend as a committee that the cab industry go to tape recorded dispatch.
SECONDED BY:	Cho	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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- B. Question of the status of curfew enforcement both in Bethel and in the State. Concern of kids getting hurt/hurting of others after 11:00 p.m. If curfew is enforced then it would most likely eliminate some of the problems caused by kids after curfew. Due to the tremendous amount of calls that BPD responds to there is no doubt that curfew falls down on the list but officers should actively be working the curfew policy. Suggestion by a committee member to spot check on an irregular basis in certain areas in town which would put a message out to teens that they could get picked up for curfew violation.

Along with curfew enforcement, it would be nice to have more lighting around town. There should be a street light every hundred feet. If anyone notices that lights need maintenance, contact dispatch at BPD who in turn will inform Public Works. Officers working night shift to keep an eye out for lights that need maintenance or bad spots that need lighting.

- C. With third "Driving Under the Influence" there is a law that the vehicle will be seized and auctioned. Does or should the city impound/seize vehicles? City of Bethel does not have an impound area and the liability of caring for the vehicle while it is in impound. Problem the city had before was vandalism to impounded vehicles. Bethel Packing and Moving Company was interested in creating an impoundment area. Chief to bring back information to PS&TC the DUI arrest information.

IMPOUNDMENT AREA

MOVED BY:	Kehoe	To recommend as a committee that the city council consider the possibility of developing a city or private owned impound area.
SECONDED BY:	Cho	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
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COMMISSON MEMBER'S COMMENTS

Smoking in cabs is still an issue and needs to be addressed. This issue will be brought up at the PSA when discussing cabs bringing passengers directly to destination when requested.

PS & T Committee should continue to improve the Fire and Police Department and look at where we stand on wage and salary. There is a lot of good cab drivers in this town but public is starting to get upset about touring of town before getting to destination. Haroldsen Subdivision is in the city limits and the road should be made accessible provide essential services. Also would like to see another route to Kasayuli Subdivision for safety purposes. How can we visit with YKHC regarding Kasayuli subdivision that is growing in population. With Bethel continuing to grow, we need to get going on our infra-structure to keep up with growth.

There is a serious problem with kids throwing eggs, snowballs or rocks at cabs causing hazardous conditions. There is a need for law enforcement to take action. Chief to remind officers to ride in cabs when possible to help deter this problem. BPD has couple snowmachines to utilize for violators that use snowmachines to hit cabs and get away.

Hugh Dyment to check with city planner on what city liability is on Haroldsen Subdivision. People are working on creating a road through the doughnut hole to alleviate traffic congestion.

House address numbers and street name signs need improvement. There is an ordinance on what size, etc. need to be used for house numbers and is citable.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY:	Dickens	To adjourn meeting.
SECONDED BY:	Kehoe	

VOTE ON MOTION	Motion carried by a unanimous vote.
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With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m., December 8, 2003. Next meeting on Monday – 1/12/04 at 7:00 p.m.

Approved this 12 day of January, 2003.



John Hastie, Chairperson

ATTEST:



Linda Solomon, Recorder