



City of Bethel Police Dept.

PO Box 809
Bethel, AK 99559
Office| 543-3781 Fax| 543-5086

PUBLIC NOTICE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Wednesday, February 7th, 2018 –6:30 p.m.
300 STATE HIGHWAY – CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
AGENDA

Members

Eileen Henrikson
Chair

Jared Karr
Vice Chair

Naim Shabani
Council Representative

Julene Webber

Mary Weiss

Joan Dewey

Monroe Tyler

Mary Nanuwak
Alternate

Ex-Officio Members

Burke Waldron
Interim Chief of Police

William Howell III
Fire Chief

Jesslyn McGowan
Recorder

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF
January 3rd, 2018
- VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A. Discussion about Taxi Cameras (Naim Shabani)
 - B. Discussion of BMC Codes (Chief Waldron)
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Housekeeping (Eileen Henrikson)
 - B. Potential Opening of New Position of Transportation Inspector (Naim Shabani)
 - C. Discussion and Update Regarding 911 and Other Cell Phone GPS Tracking
Ability in Rural Alaska (Naim Shabani and Joan Dewey)
- VIII. CHIEFS' COMMENTS
 - Fire Chief
 - Chief of Police
- IX. TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR'S REPORT
- X. COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE'S COMMENTS
- XI. COMMISSION MEMBER'S COMMENTS
- XII. ADJOURNMENT

Jesslyn McGowan

Jesslyn McGowan, Recorder
POSTED on January 31, 2018

POST OFFICE, AC QUICKSTOP, CORINA'S CASE LOT, CITY HALL, & POLICE DEPT.

Next Public Safety and Transportation Commission Meeting will be **March 7, 2018.**

City of Bethel, Alaska

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

January 3rd, 2018

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Public Safety and Transportation Commission was held on January 3, 2018 in the Bethel City Hall Council Chambers.

This meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Eileen Henrikson *Chair*
Jared Karr *Vice Chair*
Naim Shabani
Julene Webber
Mary Weiss
Joan Dewey
Mary Nanuwak *Alternate*

Absent: Monroe Tyler

Ex-Officio Present: Burke Waldron *Chief of Police*
William Howell III *Fire Chief*
Jesslyn McGowan *Recorder*

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

No one to be heard

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED:	Karr	Motion to approve the agenda.
SECONDED:	Dewey	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor.	

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED:	Webber	Motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of
SECONDED:	Shabani	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor.	

VI. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

City Clerk Lori Strickler gave a presentation to the Commission on everyone’s roles and any questions people had. Also went over the basics and rules for it as well.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Taxi Rate Increase

Naim Shabani discussed the rate increase and answered questions any members had.

MOVED:	Karr	Motion to suspend the rules and let the public speak out of the People to be Heard section.
SECONDED:	Dewey	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor.	

Community Member and Kusko Cab driver Frank Mazzaro explained that driving a short distance makes you lose your turn on the dispatch board, so everyone should get charged even if they go 10 feet.

MOVED:	Webber	Motion to recommend to council to increase cab rates to the proposed rates.
SECONDED:	Karr	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor.	

B. Discussion about Taxi Cameras

Naim Shabani made a short discussion since this was discussed in previous meetings. He suggests to remove the language talking about GPS in the taxi cameras.

MOVED:	Karr	Motion to table discussion until more information is brought forward.
SECONDED:	Dewey	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor.	

C. Discuss BMC Codes

MOVED:	Dewey	Motion to table the remaining discussions to the next meeting.
SECONDED:	Shabani	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor.	

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Housekeeping

Tabled discussion to next meeting

B. Potential Opening of New Position of Transportation Inspector

Tabled discussion to next meeting

IX. CHIEF's COMMENTS

Fire Chief Howell – See report in commission packet

Chief Waldron – See report in commission packet

X. TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR'S REPORT

See report in commission packet

XI. COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE's COMMENTS

No comments due to meeting adjourned early

XII. COMMISSION MEMBER's COMMENTS

No comments due to meeting adjourned early

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED:	Karr	Motion to adjourn.
SECONDED:	Shabani	
VOTE ON MAIN MOTION	All in favor.	

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2018.

Jesslyn McGowan, Recorder

Eileen Henrikson, Chair

January 25, 2018



TO: PSTC Members

From: Chief Burke Waldron

Subject: BMC Comments

On January 9th, 2018, I met with Commission Member Shabani to discuss Chapter 5.30 of the Bethel Municipal Code (BMC). More specifically, we focused the majority of the conversation around BMC 5.30.100F. As has been discussed at prior Commission meetings, the BMC requires all regulated vehicles to be equipped with a video camera system and global positioning system (GPS). Previously, industry was given specifications for a video camera system that is equipped with GPS to be purchased and installed in their vehicles. That system has proven to be expensive to purchase and not reliable. The end result is that many regulated vehicles are operating either without a video camera, a GPS or both.

BMC 5.30.100F reads, in part, *every regulated vehicle shall be equipped at all times with a video camera surveillance system and have global positioning system capability*. Regardless of what industry was told in the past, the code mandates that a regulated vehicle be equipped with a video camera **and** a GPS, it does not mandate that both systems be one piece of equipment. If operators choose, they can have separate pieces of equipment to meet the requirement. This eliminates the problem of the expensive and unreliable equipment.

However, 05.30.100F(2) states, in part, that *the global positioning system in taxicabs must be capable of alerting the monitoring station of emergencies. The dispatch company or a company within the municipality approved by the transportation inspector will be the monitoring station for a taxicab's global positioning system*. There currently is not a company approved to be a monitoring station and Member Shabani is not aware of a dispatch company that provides the service. Consequently, the few vehicles currently equipped with both video and GPS capabilities are still in violation and equipping vehicles with separate systems would still not be fully compliant.

The requirement for GPS installation does not seem critical from a law enforcement/public safety standpoint. I have not been able to locate a single instance where the GPS information has been used as an investigative tool or in an emergency situation. One can certainly imagine scenarios or instances where it could prove helpful but they aren't common place. Driver/operators have the ability to broadcast an emergency situation over their required two way radio though that would not give location information. However, requiring a GPS for emergency purposes is of little use if there isn't 24 hour monitoring by the company or another vendor.

January 25, 2018

BMC 05.30.100F(2) is another example of challenges for both industry and law enforcement within the code. This paragraph, and others within the code, are knowingly violated on a regular basis. It is problematic for enforcement to take a strict interpretation of some paragraphs while relaxing the enforcement of other paragraphs. That being said, according to Member Shabani, there are paragraphs that each and every operator violates on a regular basis, if not daily. In order to bring the BMC up to current industry practices and be enforceable it is my recommendation that a small committee be established to review the code, paragraph by paragraph, and establish a list of changes to bring back to the Commission for consideration.



CITY OF BETHEL
Fire Department

William F. Howell III, Fire Chief
P.O. Box 1388, Bethel, Alaska 99559
Phone: (907)-543-2131
Fax: (907)-543-2702
bhowell@cityofbethel.net

Celebrating 50 Years of Service

DATE: January 30, 2018
TO: Pete Williams, City Manager
FROM: Bill Howell, Fire Chief
SUBJECT: Manager's Report December 28, 2017 through, January 30, 2018

Current Events

- GEMT legislation, which was moving through the house, is now uncertain. A hearing by house finance scheduled for February 1st has been cancelled. The Alaska Fire Chiefs are seeking a sponsor for this bill.
- The Chief attended a purchasing seminar hosted by the City Attorney on January 11, 2018. The training was very informative and timely and clarified many of the concerns and legal requirements.
- The specifications for the new ladder truck and purchase documents were submitted to the finance department for purchase.
- The RFP for ambulance billing and collection services is in its final and will be published soon.
- The Department's administrative staff continues work on a new Policies, Procedures, S.O.P. Rules and Regulations manual for the department.

Community Planning/Preparedness

- Department comments were submitted to the Manager regarding renewal of the Fili's and AC Quick stop liquor license.
- The Department attended the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association teleconference on January 4, 2018.

- We await arrival of the community ISO rating letter for fire protection. Our survey was completed in August of 2017 and should be released soon. Insurance companies determine risk and the premiums paid by home and business owners using ISO ratings.

Training

- On 01/02/18 at 7:00 p.m., an EMT Meeting was held at the fire station. Responders reviewed all equipment and supplies on Medic-6.
- On 01/11/18 at 7:00 p.m., a Fire Meeting was held at the fire station. Responders reviewed and practiced operating and maintaining the Tri-Max 30 Compressed Air Foam System on Medic-6.
- On 01/16/18 at 6:00 p.m., a Combination Fire/EMT Meeting was held at the fire station. Department staff and volunteers elected new members to serve on the BVESA Board.
- On 01/25/18 at 7:00 p.m. a Fire Meeting was held at the fire station. Responders reviewed and practiced performing rapid extrications of patients from vehicles involved in collisions. Also, a review of HURST extrication tool operations and maintenance was completed.
- The Fire Department's EMT-1 class started on 11/18/17 with 13 students. Currently, six remain enrolled in the program. Some recent topics of instruction include, but were not limited to: Airway Management, Bleeding & Shock, Chest & Abdominal Trauma, Musculoskeletal Injuries, Trauma to the Head, Neck, and Spine, Soft-Tissue Trauma, Pediatric Emergencies, and Geriatric Emergencies.
- The Driver Training program information has been assigned to staff and volunteers. Multiple staff and volunteers have completed the online training and safety cone course with our ambulances.

Responses

- Between 12/27/17 and 01/30/18, the Bethel Fire Department responded to 168 EMS and 9 Fire incidents.
- During this period, 75 EMS incidents (44.6%) were alcohol-related.
- On 01/05/18 at 10:28 a.m. medics responded to the area of H-Marker Lake for the report of a person found on the tundra. The patient was assessed and transported to the hospital.
- On 01/07/18 at 6:36 p.m. firefighters responded to Kilbuck Street for the report of a dumpster fire. The fire was extinguished and firefighters determined the fire was started by improperly disposed coals from a woodstove.

- On 01/08/18 at 5:00 a.m. medics responded to the area of Ptarmigan Street for a person who was struck by a vehicle. The patient was combative towards medics and was transported to the hospital by Bethel Police Department Officers.
- On 01/08/18 medics responded to Akakeek Street for the report of a person who swallowed a crucifix. The patient was assessed and transported to the hospital.
- On 01/10/18 at 6:42 p.m. medics responded to the area of Kaligtuk Drive for the report of a person who had been stabbed multiple times. The patient was assessed and transported to the hospital.
- On 01/19/18 at 9:21 p.m. medics responded to the area of AC Main Store for the report of two people sleeping outside. Both patients were woken by medics and requested to be treatment.
- On 01/25/18 at 4:05 p.m. medics responded to the area of Akakeek Street for the report of a person down on the ground with CPR in progress. Upon arrival, it was determined that the patient was breathing and an intoxicated person performed CPR. The patient was assessed and transported to the hospital.
- On 01/28/18 at 8:56 p.m. medics responded to the Pentecostal Church for the report of a person being struck by a vehicle. The patient was assessed and transported to the hospital.

Budget/Financial

- All Department accounts are within budget.
- The department is developing budget figures for future capital needs, firefighting foam and firefighter turnouts.
- Budget preparation for FY 19 is under way

Grants

- Purchases totaling approximately \$8,500 \$ funding for portable radios through the 2017 VFA grant. This grant has a 10 % match that will be funded through the Department's minor equipment budget.
- Two new mobile radios and 6 new portable radios have been purchased through a Homeland Security Reallocation Grant. This purchase totaled approximately \$40,000 and has no matching requirement.
- The Department was awarded \$7,500 in Code Blue grant funding for a new power stretcher for the new ambulance. This grant is administered by YKHC's EMS office. Matching funds have been committed by the Volunteer fire fighters association (BVESA).

Staffing/recruitment

- The department is fully staffed with one expected occupancy at the beginning of March 2018.

Vehicles & Equipment

- Engine 3, our 1986 Grumman reserve pumper, is still out of service but most major repairs are complete and it can be used in an emergency. The vehicle is being restocked with equipment.
- Medic Six is working great! The crew is really enjoying the reliable new vehicle. We are waiting for arrival of the new power stretcher and seek funding for a new set of extrication tools.

FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE STATUS			
Vehicle	Type	Year	Status
Medic 4	Ambulance	1999	<i>(Backup ambulance)</i> In service. Leaking airbags. Undergoing repairs of air suspension by local shop.
Medic 5	Ambulance	2003	In service. Frequent no starts/dead batteries. Batteries changed by V&E (Plan to remount to new chassis in 2018)
Medic 6	Ambulance	2017	<i>(Frontline Ambulance)</i> In service. Tires need to be studded.
Engine 4	Pumper	2013	<i>(Frontline pumper)</i> In service, Seat belt sensor silenced but still needing repair by V&E. Ground and marker lights changed to LED to reduce maintenance.
Engine 3	Pumper	1986	<i>(Back up pumper)</i> Out of service, Repairing pressure control valves and electrical. Installing B/U camera Awaiting pump test. In service for emergencies (Poor overall condition needs replacement)
Truck 1	Ladder Truck	1980	<i>(Frontline ladder truck)</i> Out of service, Pump and ladder need repair. Decertified. No work order, equipment is obsolete. (Scheduled for replacement in 2018.)
Tanker 1	Tanker (1500 gallon)	1980	In service, runs poorly, needs tune up, Work order issued. (Undersized for Bethel, poor condition, needs replacement).
Com 1	Pickup	2014	In service. Plow repaired.
Com 2	Pickup	2004	In service, plow parts ordered, running board needs repair.



January 2018 Monthly Report

Personnel:

Officer M. Shawgo continues to progress with his field training program. Public Safety Dispatcher Bosgal has completed her field training and is now covering shifts alone.

Both applicants for police officer did not pass the background investigation. There currently aren't any applicants being considered. A job offer was made and accepted to one of the CSP applicants who later declined to work for the State instead. Another offer has been made to a CSP applicant and is pending.

Operations:

There were 1,349 calls for service between January 1st and January 28th. This is down approximately 200 calls from December and nearly 600 from November. There were a total of 20,634 calls for service for calendar year 2017, up approximately 3,000 from 2015. 72 calls for service resulted in criminal investigations, 28 of those were misdemeanors and 9 Felonies.

On the evening of 1/10/2018, Officer's responded to Tundra Ridge to a reported knifing. A male subject was transported via ambulance with multiple lacerations. He survived the altercation. Charges were forwarded to the District Attorney's Office. On 1/17/2018, Officer's received a report of a kidnapping, sexual assault and sexual abuse of a minor reported by a 14 year old girl. During subsequent investigation and search warrant service, an illegal marijuana grow was discovered in the Slough area. The kidnapping/sexual assault case is still under investigation. The marijuana grow was turned over to the Alaska State Troopers WAANT unit.

There were a total of 344 reports of intoxicated pedestrians in this period. That is consistent with December numbers and down nearly 100 reports from November and 200 from October. It would seem the colder weather is having an impact.

Animal Control:

There were 27 animal control calls for service for the month and 30 calls for service for pound duties. These numbers are down significantly. Bethel Friends of K9 and the City of signed an MOU allowing limited BFK9 staff access to the shelter to assist with duties there. The shelter has had an outbreak of Parvo and clean-up has proven difficult due to water lines freezing.

CITY OF BETHEL
POLICE DEPARTMENT



TRANSPORTATION INSPECTOR REPORT: **January 2018**

2018	January
New Chauffeurs	1
Chauffeur Renewals	1
Chauffeur Transfers	1
Vehicle Permit Renewals	16
Vehicle Transfers	1
Inspections	20
Revocations	0
Temporary Permits	0

- Alaska Cab had their semi-annual inspection this month.
- Camai Cab will have their semi-annual inspection in February.
- There were 3 complaints made in the month of January. Two of them were driving complaints and one was miscommunication. All were followed up by an officer and I when available.