



# CITY OF BETHEL

P.O. Box 388 • Bethel, Alaska 99559

543-2297—Area Code 907

## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

January 12, 1993

**CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Abrant called the regular Public Safety Committee meeting of January 12 to order at 12:30 P.M.

**ROLL CALL** Present: John Abrant, Susan Rapoza, Gary Vanasse, Sherron Smyth  
Absent: Peter Twitchell (excused)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** There were no minutes to approve.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** M/M by Rapoza, 2nd by Vanasse to amend the agenda by removing Old and New Business Agenda Items from the January 12 meeting and placing them on the Agenda for the January 19 meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS** Susan Rapoza recommended that three unexcused absences of any committee member should result in the seat being involuntarily vacated. Ms. Rapoza suggested that this issue should be a future agenda item.

Gary Vanasse commended the Fire and Police Chiefs for a safe year and their use of available resources under considerable adversity.

**PEOPLE TO BE HEARD** Animal Control Agent Mike Burley addressed the Committee concerning the change to Ordinance #177.

**motion** M/M by Rapoza, 2nd by Vanasse to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 19, 1993

ALL TO ORDER                   The Public Safety Committee meeting for January 19, 1993, was called to order at 12:13 pm.

ROLL CALL                       Present: Ms. Smith, John Abrant, Peter Twitchell, Susan Rapoza  
Absent: Gary Vanasse

APPROVAL/MINUTES               M/M by Smith, 2nd by Twitchell to approve the minutes presented. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL/AGENDA               M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Rapoza to accept the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS          None

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD          None

OLD BUSINESS

Item A: Curfew Hours           REVIEW ORDINANCE # 9- CURFEW HOURS

motion                         M/M by Smith 2nd by Rapoza to table this review. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Item A: Maint. of Fire Dept. Building       MAINTENANCE OF FIRE DEPARTMENT BUILDING

motion                         Motion made by Twitchell to table, 2nd by Rapoza. Passed unanimously.

Item B: Renovation and/or Relocation of Police Building       RENOVATION AND/OR RELOCATION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT  
Recommend feasibility study of remodeling the Braun building garage to house police department.

motion                         M/M by Rapoza, 2nd by Twitchell. Passed unanimously.

Item C: Police Vehicles       POLICE VEHICLES

Future police vehicle's purchased should be mini vans/suburbans. Must get away from pick up trucks.

motion                         M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Rapoza. Passed unanimously.

Item D: Dog Ordinance       DOG ORDINANCE (12 MONTHS)

Forward to city attorney for review.

motion                         M/M by Rapoza, 2nd by Smith. Passed unanimously.

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Item E: Fire  
Dept. Vehicles

FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLES (MAINTENANCE/REPLACEMENT)

Discussion and no action needed.

Item F: Police  
Sgt. 24 hour  
Response Vehicle

POLICE SERGEANT 24-HOUR RESPONSE VEHICLE

motion

M/M by Twitchell for police supervisors to be issued emergency response vehicles for public safety purposes. 2nd by Rapoza. Passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Smith to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm. Next meeting January 26, 1993 at 1700 hrs.

## Recommended Changes

### 6.04.070.B

Any impounded animal suspected of having rabies or that has unprovokingly bitten a person shall be impounded in isolation for a minimum of ten days. An animal that has unprovokingly bitten a person a second time, shall be destroyed after the ten day holding period. The Animal Control Officer will make a reasonable attempt to notify the owner prior to destruction of animal.

### 6.04.090.A

A person who fails to comply with the provisions of this chapter shall be issued a citation for ordinance violation by the Animal Control Officer. The citation shall impose a penalty of twenty five dollars for the first violation, fifty dollars for the second violation, and one hundred dollars for each succeeding violation within one year.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 26, 1993

ALL TO ORDER           The regular Public Safety Committee meeting for January 26, 1993, was called to order by Chairman Abrant at 5:53 pm.

ROLL CALL               Present: Gary Vanasse, John Abrant, Peter Twitchell  
Absent: Sharon Smith, Susan Rapoza

APPROVAL/MINUTES       M/M by Vanasse, 2nd by Twitchell to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL/AGENDA       M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Vanasse to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS   Vanasse objected to scheduling Public Safety Committee meetings on the 2nd and 4th tuesdays of the month. Chairman Abrant agreed.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD   None

OLD BUSINESS           None

NEW BUSINESS

Item A: Budget  
Revision               SIX MONTH BUDGET REVISION

Support Chief Liu's recommendation of an additional Officer/Investigator and three suburbans.

motion                 M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Vanasse. Motion passed unanimously.

Item B: Fire/  
Ems Vehicle           FIRE/EMS VEHICLE

Recommend replacing the 1980 Bronco used by the Fire Department. Support giving Fire Chief George Young the authority to assign vehicles to his subordinates.

motion                 M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Vanasse. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT           M/M by Abrant, 2nd by Vanasse to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm. Next meeting date and time to be announced.

Public Safety Committee Minutes

February 24, 1993  
1200 hrs.

Police Department

The meeting was called to order at 1215 p.m.

Roll Call: Gary Vanasse, John Abrant, Susan Rapoza, Peter Twitchell, Sherron Smyth, and Chief Chris Liu.

Approval of Minutes: M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Vanasse to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Agenda: M/M by Vanasse, 2nd by Smith to accept the Agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Safety Committee Member Comments:

Mr. Twitchell advised committee members of the public concern for children playing on the Brown Slough Bridge after curfew.

Mr. Abrant requested the meeting be changed to the first Tuesday of each month.

People to be heard: Chief Liu reported that one Police Officer has resigned, while one other Police Officer has been transferred to the Drug Investigator's Unit. We are short staffed with two Police Officers positions open, and one Community Service Officer position open.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Item A: Review of Proposed 6-month Budget revision:  
The Committee will continue to agree with original recommendation.  
No new motion needed.

Next meeting scheduled for March 03, 1993, 1200 hrs. at the Police Department.

M/M by Rapoza, 2nd by Smith to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 1300 hrs.



# CITY OF BETHEL

P.O. Box 388 • Bethel, Alaska 99559  
907-543-2087  
FAX # 543-4171

## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

April 6, 1993

**CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Abrant called the regular Public Safety Committee meeting of April 6, 1993, to order at 12:10 P.M.

**ROLL CALL** Present: John Abrant, Susan Rapoza, Gary Vanasse,  
Absent: Sherron Smyth (excused) Peter Twitchell (unexcused)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** M/M by Vanasse, 2nd by Rapoza to approve the minutes of the February 24, 1993, meeting as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA** M/M by Rapoza, 2nd by Vanasse to approve the agenda as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS** There were no comments from committee members.

**PEOPLE TO BE HEARD** Chris Devlin, representing the Transportation Commission requested that a joint meeting of the Public Safety Committee and the Transportation Commission be scheduled to discuss problems with ATVs and snow machines. A tentative date of April 21, 1993, 7:30 PM, City Offices was scheduled.

**NEW BUSINESS:**  
Item A:

### **SALE OF FIREWORKS**

**motion** M/M by Vanasse, 2nd by Rapoza to table the discussion on the sale of fireworks to the April 21 meeting.

Item B: **POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENT FY 94 BUDGETS**

The budget was presented to the Committee and after review recommended presentation to the City Council as submitted.

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**Items C,D & E GOALS & OBJECTIVES  
CSO PROGRAM  
POLICE RESERVES**

M/M Vanasse, 2nd by Rapoza to table the agenda Items C, D, and E to the April 21 meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**motion** M/M by Rapoza, 2nd by Vanasse to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting of the Public Safety is scheduled for April 21, 8:30 PM at the Police Department following the joint meeting with the Transportation Commission scheduled for 7:30 PM at the City Offices.



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## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

April 21, 1993

**CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Abrant called the April 21, 1993, regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee meeting to order at 9:20 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** Present: John Abrant, Sherron Smith, Gary Vanasse  
Absent: Susan Rapoza, Peter Twitchell

**APPROVAL/MINUTES** M/M by Vanasse, 2nd by Smith to approve the minutes of the April 6, 1993, meeting as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL/AGENDA** M/M by Smith, 2nd by Vanasse to accept the agenda as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

**PEOPLE TO BE HEARD** There were no people to be heard.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Item A: BPD/BFD Goals** **BPD/BFD GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**  
No discussion or motion.

**Item B: CSO Program** **CSO PROGRAM**  
No longer an issue-no discussion.

**Item C: Police Reserves** **POLICE RESERVES**

**motion** M/M by Vanasse, 2nd by Smith to table this issue until the next meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Item D: Police  
Budget**

**POLICE PERSONNEL BUDGET**

After a lengthy discussion, the committee, by consensus, decided to forward the Police personnel budget to Administration.

**motion**

M/M by Vanasse, 2nd by Smith to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously. The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, May 5, 1993, at 12:00 p.m. at the Police Station.

*Connie Tucker*

Connie Tucker, Committee Clerk



# CITY OF BETHEL

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## TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION/PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE JOINT MEETING MINUTES

April 21, 1993

### CALL TO ORDER

Public Safety Committee Chairman Abrant called the joint Transportation Commission/Public Safety Committee meeting of April 21, 1993, to order at 7:38 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Present: (Transportation) Don Constantine, Allen Glore, Wally Richardson, Dave Trantham; (Public Safety) John Abrant, Sherron Smith, Gary Vanasse  
Absent: (Transportation) Chris Devlin, Warren Manwill, Johnny Watts; (Public Safety) Susan Rapoza, Peter Twitchell

### APPROVAL/AGENDA

M/M by Vanasse, 2nd by Smith to approve the agenda as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

### NEW BUSINESS

Item A: ATV's  
and Sno-gos

### REGULATION OF ATV'S AND SNO-GO'S AND PUBLIC USE THEREOF

Mr. Vanasse suggested the issue should go to the Transportation Commission for a motion and/or submission to the Bethel Municipal Code.

Chairman Abrant opened the Public Hearing on the issue.

-Steve Gruber stated that ATV's and snowmachines should be allowed on city roads, and agreed with stipulations of sixteen years of age, valid operator's license, vehicle inspection and helmet.

-Tom Beck spoke in support of allowing three wheelers/ATV's on the roads, with the Bethel Municipal Code setting requirements for speed limits, operator's licenses, and vehicle permits.

-Bruce Perry also supported an amendment

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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
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to the BMC to allow ATV's and snowmachines on the City streets with an operator's license and vehicle inspection, adding that this approach works in Kotzebue and Nome.

-Chris Sum stated that as long as an ATV or snowmachine was operated in a safe and sober manner, they were no more dangerous than a car.

-Ron Horvath reminded the body that ATV's were allowed on City roads on the early 1980's with good results. He also supported an ordinance allowing these vehicles on City roads, but did not support operator's licenses, vehicle inspections and permits.

-Brad Loll stated that the roads are too bad to support cars and, since the City can't afford to keep them fixed, they should allow ATV's and snowmachines on the roads.

Chairman Abrant asked if any other people wanted to be heard. Hearing none, Chairman Abrant closed the public hearing and opened the meeting up to Commissioner's comments:

-Mr. Constantine expressed his concern of the effect of an ordinance on the police department.

-Ms. Smith stated she would support an ordinance allowing ATV's and snowmachines on the City streets with safeguards such as helmets and slower speed limits for the vehicles.

-Mr. Trantham said that he would entertain an ordinance restricting ATV and snowmachine use on City streets to going to and from work or grocery stores. He also said he would like to see a recommendation from the Public Safety Committee.

-Mr. Glore stated he had a problem with ATV and snowmachine use on City streets and would not support an ordinance allowing such use.

-Mrs. Richardson also stated that she would not support such an ordinance,

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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
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adding that state laws were already in effect and that the City and the Police department do not need the added strain.

-Mr. Vanasse spoke in favor of an ATV ordinance with restrictions, maintaining that people should be responsible for themselves. He added that the age factor is the single most important restriction. Mr. Vanasse spoke against allowing snowmachines on the roads and in support of helmet laws.

-Chairman Abrant stated he would not support an ordinance allowing ATV's and snowmachines to operate on City roads.

**motion**

M/M by Trantham, 2nd by Constantine to recommend an ordinance allowing ATV's and snowmachines on City streets be forwarded to Council. Poll vote. Motion failed, 1-yes (Trantham), 3-no.

**motion**

M/M by Richardson, 2nd by Glore to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.



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Connie Tucker  
Commission Clerk



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-Mr. Liu explained that he talked to the grand jury about how the case was handled. The grand jury was satisfied, and suggested more officer coverage in the field, as well as more training and retention of officers.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

-Mr. Young stated that he has submitted a budget to Council which falls below last years budget figures. Mr. Young expressed disappointment at the prospect of losing one fire fighter position, which was not part of the budget he submitted. He described some of the problems he has had in the past year with keeping all staff positions filled.

-Mr. Hunter explained that it is the responsibility of the City Manager to submit a balanced budget. Departments are encouraged to make proposals, but they do not make the final budget decisions. Mr. Hunter expressed the need examine the current allocation of limited resources, and arrive at a broader (city-wide) perspective of how to use these resources in best service to the community.

OLD BUSINESS

Item A:  
Fireworks

-Mr. John Watts stated that he speaks as a representative of DECO Enterprises, and not as a representative of Camai Air. He reviewed that last year was a success, and that people enjoyed the fireworks. He described incidents in which he turned away sales to minors accompanied by (non-parental) young adults. Mr. Watts said that he was not aware of any injuries resulting from last year's fireworks. He is open to enhancing safety, and requests the approval of Chief Liu for the sale of fireworks again this year.

A lengthy discussion followed, including the following topics: Problems encountered last year, possible restrictions to control the use of fireworks, and who is responsible for safe use of fireworks.

motion

M/M by Vanasse to recommend the sale of fireworks in Bethel to the authority, Chief Liu. No second.

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-Mr. Liu asked Mr. Twitchell to accumulate current opinions from the public via radio. Mr. Liu stated that he will postpone the decision, in order to allow for more community input.

Item B:  
Reserves

-Mr. Vanasse stated that he would like to see a plan for reserves, citing past successes of reserves in the Fire Department. Mr. Vanasse recommended that Chief Liu incorporate reserves into the long range plan.

A brief discussion revealed general agreement that Reserves are an important topic, but should be postponed for a short period because of pressing budget and staffing issues.

motion

M/M by Twitchell to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Vanasse. Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

NEXT MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE IS ON JUNE 1, 1993.

Connie Johnson  
Connie Johnson  
Police Department Admin. Asst.



# CITY OF BETHEL

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## PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 2, 1993

- CALL TO ORDER** Acting Chairman Vanasse called the June 2, 1993, regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee meeting to order at 12:13 p.m.
- ROLL CALL** Present: Gary Vanasse, Peter Twitchell, Susan Rapoza
- Absent: Sherron Smith, John Abrant
- APPROVAL/MINUTES** M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Rapoza to approve the minutes of the May 5, 1993, meeting as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.
- APPROVAL/AGENDA** M/M by Rapoza, 2nd by Twitchell to amend the agenda as follows: Delete Item A, Delete Item B. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.
- PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**
- Mr. Twitchell commented that it is good to see more native Officers in the community.
  - Mr. Vanasse asked Chief Liu to describe how things were going in the police department.
  - Chief Liu described the impacts of the recent shooting incident, and the Critical Incident Stress Team that was brought in from Anchorage. He outlined current staff vacancies, and stated that he is having difficulty in finding qualified applicants for the Lieutenant position. He summarized that department morale is up and teamwork has increased.
  - Mrs. Rapoza and Mr. Vanasse both commended the department for their successes in spite of the many recent stress factors, including vacant positions and the shooting incident.
  - Chief Liu described and answered questions about the upcoming Oleoresin Capsicum Aerosol training and ASP Tactical Baton training.

-Mr. Vanasse stated that he would like to see Police and Fire Chief Reports added to the committee meetings between Approval of the Minutes and Committee Member Comments.

-Chief Liu announced that his decision *not* to allow the sale of fireworks this year, due to the amount of negative public opinion on the subject. He also stated that in the future, the decision should not be made by the Police Chief. He recommended that the committee review the ordinance. Liu asserted that the decision should be made by City Council, or some other responsible group of people, rather than by one person. He stated that his position is to enforce laws, not make them.

-General discussion followed that the Police Chief's decision might not be objective, might have a negative impact on the community's perception of the police department, and that no single person should make the decision.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD (none)

NEW BUSINESS

Item C:  
Reserve Police  
Force

-Mrs. Rapoza stated that she wanted to review what the committee had discussed in prior meetings.

-Mr. Vanasse reviewed that the committee had decided a reserve force should be implemented in the future, but must be postponed for a short time, until the police department is in a position to make recommendations. The issue will wait until the police department can stabilize its staffing issues, including training new officers, so it can give full consideration to the implementation of the program.

-Chief Liu described his vision for the reserve force: that the reserve officers would be individuals who meet Police Standards, and that the reserves would become an effective applicant pool for filling future Police Officer vacancies. He

explained that implementation involves more than re-instating an old program. It will require much planning and analysis to ensure success.

Item D:  
FY 94 Budget

-Mr. Vanasse stated that the FY 94 budget has been introduced, and reviewed the budget that was proposed for the police department.

-A discussion evolved regarding the changes in the V & E budget. Mr. Vanasse described how that budget had been divided and appropriated to the various departments in an attempt to monitor expenses for each department. He stated that these appropriations would be reviewed heavily at the six-month budget revision.

-Chief Liu stated that he is not completely satisfied with the change. He explained that setting the budget for each department without hard data, and intending to review after six months, is reactive rather than proactive.

-Mrs. Rapoza asked about other impacts of the introduced budget.

-Chief Liu reviewed the proposed pay increases for Police Officers. He thanked the committee members for their support of the budget. He described ways in which the department is attempting to maximize the efficiency of the Officers' time, including computerized reports on the new ACRIS system.

-Mr. Vanasse suggested that the fire department budget not be discussed in the absence of George Young.

motion

M/M by Twitchell to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Rapoza. Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

DUE TO THE ABSENCE OF CHAIRMAN ABRANT, THE DATE AND TIME FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE WAS NOT SET.

*Connie Johnson*  
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Connie Johnson  
Police Department Admin. Asst.



# CITY OF BETHEL

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## PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

August 4, 1993

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Abrant called the August 4, 1993, regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Present: John Abrant, Peter Twitchell, Susan Rapoza

Absent: Sherron Smith, Gary Vanasse

### APPROVAL/MINUTES

M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Rapoza to approve the minutes of the June 2, 1993, meeting as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL/AGENDA

M/M by Rapoza, 2nd by Twitchell to approve the agenda. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

### PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

-Ms. Rapoza described a call she had received from a citizen concerning an incident of cruelty to a puppy. She stated that many community members want to know whether the police had pressed charges.

-Lt. Meece replied that to the best of his knowledge, charges were pressed against the man who beat the dog (who was not the animal's owner), but no charge seemed to fit against the dog or its owner for making the noise.

-Ms. Rapoza stated that in this type of incident, and other forms of cruelty to animals, the offenders should be prosecuted. She also suggested that an ordinance be created to require pet owners to be responsible for the noise their animals make.

-A general discussion followed about how other communities deal with the issue, and whether any existing laws or ordinances apply.

-Ms. Rapoza suggested that this animal control issue be added to a future agenda, and that the Animal Control Officer should be invited to attend.

-Mr. Twitchell stated that an additional problem in the incident was that the puppy's owners had called the police and received too slow of a response.

-Mr. Twitchell commented that a truck had been parked in front of his driveway, and it took 4-5 calls over a period of two days to get a response from the police department.

-Lt. Meece said that he was unaware of the two day lapse in response, but he has been working on the vehicle impound procedure. He described a property owner's right to impound a vehicle from his own driveway.

-Mr. Twitchell stated that the vehicle had been a nuisance, and a safety hazard (obstruction of vision to the road). He said that the police need to respond to calls more quickly.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD (none)

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### Item A: Fireworks

-Chairman Abrant read the fireworks ordinance as a prelude to discussion.

-Ms. Rapoza re-capped Chris Liu's reluctance to make the fireworks decision for the community. She agreed that the decision should not be made by one person, and asked for suggestions of who should be responsible.

-Mr. Twitchell likes the idea of a committee, with input from the public and the fire department.

-Mr. Young stated that he heard there were a lot of fireworks this year, despite the ban.

-Mr. Abrant stated that he would like to know how many citations were issued this year, and asked how well the Police Chief enforced his decision. Mr. Abrant said that he had also heard that there were a lot of fireworks.

-Mr. Young qualified that many people took their fireworks to safer areas, like the sand pits and the river.

-Mr. Abrant suggested the following for a

committee to make the fireworks decision: at least three (an odd number) of people, including the Chief of Police, Fire Chief, City Manager, with recommendations from the Public Safety Committee.

-Mr. Twitchell supported Abrant's proposal, and suggested that the next meeting of City Council include a public hearing to change ordinance 9.08.050.

motion

M/M by Rapoza, 2nd by Twitchell to change the fireworks ordinance 9.08.050 to hold a public hearing to add the Fire Chief and City Manager to the decision making process. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Item B: Police  
Dept. Open House

-Connie Johnson reviewed the status of open house plans.

-Ms. Rapoza commented that the last open house was generally successful, but the Police Officers themselves were not very visible. She also stated that the Committee members should volunteer time and resources.

-General discussion followed in which all committee members volunteered resources and time, and made suggestions about the coordination of the project. All members showed interest and support for the open house, which is scheduled for August 15.

motion

M/M by Twitchell to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Rapoza. Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

THE DATE AND TIME FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE WAS NOT SET.

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Connie Johnson  
Police Department Admin. Asst.



# CITY OF BETHEL

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543-2297—Area Code 907

## PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 3, 1993

- CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Abrant called the November 3, 1993, regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee to order at 12:19 p.m.
- ROLL CALL** Present: Abrant, Twitchell, Tubbs  
Absent: Susan Rapoza (excused), Sherron Smith
- APPROVAL/MINUTES** M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Tubbs to approve the minutes of the August 4, 1993, meeting as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.
- APPROVAL/AGENDA** M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Tubbs to amend the agenda to include Item D: Amendment to Animal Control Ordinance #177. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.
- PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**  
-Mr. Twitchell stated that it is good to see the police department hiring natives.  
-Mr. Tubbs announced that he is glad to be on the committee, and hopes for regular attendance of all members in order to effectively address issues.  
-Chairman Abrant questioned the vacancy of Sherron Smith's seat. He suggested that the committee should wait thirty days for notification from Sherron, and place the item on the agenda for the next meeting.  
-Chief Liu pointed out that the committee vacancy has already been announced on cable.
- PEOPLE TO BE HEARD** (none)
- NEW BUSINESS**  
Item A: Department Head -Chief Young summarized the success of the Fire Prevention activities in October,

Reports

including school visitation and the department open house. He stated that the free smoke detector tests yielded 22 defective smoke detectors, and that between 600 and 700 children visited the Fire Station in October. Young welcomed Mr. Tubbs to the committee.

-Chief Liu described personnel vacancies including two police officer positions and one drug investigator position. CSO Anthony Olick will be promoted to Police Officer in December. Liu described the recent shooting incident, and thanked the various departments and agencies who participated. He mentioned several areas of training that the department is currently involved in. Liu stated that he and Sgt. Short would be covering all calls on Nov. 8-10 while officers attend Reid Technique training in interviewing, which will be held at the fire department.

Item B:  
Installing Street  
Lights/Caution  
Lights

-Mr. Tubbs stated that City Council had approved yellow flashing lights at school crossings, and wanted to cooperate in the implementation of the school guard program. He explained that the city is seeking resources to pay for additional street lights. Tubbs stated that it is impossible to see children waiting at bus stops because of inadequate lighting, and questioned whether the Fire Department could distribute reflective tape.

-Chief Young advised that there is already free reflective tape available through YKHC's Accident and Injury Prevention department.

-Chairman Abrant added that YKHC has been at M.E. and Kilbuck, ironing on a lot of reflective tape. He then expressed concern that the public safety committee should avoid redundancy with the Bethel Advisory School Board (ASB). The two entities should either work together on the issues, or separately pursue different aspects of the problem. Abrant also stated that the ASB thinks Nate Brown should move the bus stops to existing lighted areas.

-Chief Liu stated that Kilbuck and M.E. are

willing to put floodlights on school grounds. He described the availability of a grant for up to \$5,000 for safety equipment. Liu asserted that the community needs to pitch in, rather than just leaving it to the city to take care of. Liu recommended a joint sub-committee of the School Board and the Public Safety Committee.

-Mr. Twitchell stated that it is important to send Council the message that the schools are working on the problem.

motion

M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Tubbs: The Public Safety Committee recommends Councilman Tubbs to coordinate efforts with the Bethel Advisory School Board and the Lower Kuskokwim School District concerning traffic hazards within school zones and the safety of school children. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Item C: Crossing  
Guard Program

-Chief Liu stated that at the ASB meeting, he urged parents, teachers, the school board, and the city to work together to implement a crossing guard program. He described how high school students might be used as crossing guards to meet their community service requirement. Liu outlined the necessary steps to be taken: Obtain grant for equipment, compile a list of volunteers, make a schedule, and provide training. Liu relayed Rex Lauber's willingness to provide training through the YKHC.

-General discussion revealed a consensus to work with the ASB on the crossing guard program.

Item D: Amendment  
to Animal Control

-Animal Control Officer Mike Burley explained that the Alaska Statute permits each city to define its own "disturbance of the peace" laws. He stated that Bethel Ordinances do not include noise/nuisance situations. The problem in enforcing animal control is that there is no law there to enforce. Burley reports that when talking to the pet owner doesn't work, the problem can lead civil litigation or physical harm to the animal. ACO Burley read ordinance 6.04.020, and

proposed to change item D to read, "An owner shall prevent the dog from engaging in the following activities: barking, whining, or howling in an excessive, continuous, or untimely fashion," and move the prior item D to make it item E. Burley reported that he has contacted several other communities to compare animal control laws, and that he has tried to write an amendment that would not immediately put a large number of pet owners in violation. Burley requested a second amendment, that the word "shall" be changed to "may" in 6.04.090, to allow the animal control officer some discretion in issuing citations. He stated that often the owner shows responsibility simply by paying impound or licensing fees, rather than by paying a fine for a citation.

-Chief Liu supported the amendments, and assured the committee that changing "shall" to "may" will allow for warnings, but the law will be enforced in a consistent manner according to departmental policy.

motion

M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Tubbs, to request a public hearing for the proposed amendments to Ordinance 177, Sections 6.04.020 and 6.04.090. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Items Proposed For  
Next Agenda:

A: Report from Mr. Tubbs on Coordination with Bethel Advisory School Board

motion

M/M by Twitchell, 2nd by Tubbs to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE WILL OCCUR ON  
DECEMBER 6, 1993, 12:00 P.M., AT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

  
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Connie Johnson  
Police Department Admin. Asst.



# CITY OF BETHEL

P.O. Box 388 • Bethel, Alaska 99559

543-2297—Area Code 907

## PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 22, 1993

- CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Abrant called the December 22, 1993, regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee to order at 12:21 p.m.
- ROLL CALL** Present: Abrant, Tubbs, Gregory  
Absent: Susan Rapoza (excused), Twitchell
- APPROVAL/MINUTES** M/M by Tubbs, 2nd by Gregory to approve the minutes of the November 3, 1993, meeting as presented. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.
- APPROVAL/AGENDA** M/M by Tubbs, 2nd by Gregory to amend the agenda to include New Business Item C: Snow machine crossings. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.
- PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**  
-Mr. Abrant welcomed Paul Gregory to his new position on the committee.  
-Mr. Gregory noted that he had served on this committee years ago with Tom Dillon, and he is glad to be back to assist in public safety matters.
- PEOPLE TO BE HEARD** (postponed to end of meeting because Mr. Stanley Hoffman had not yet arrived, and it was known that he wished to be heard.)
- OLD BUSINESS**  
Item A: School Crossing Guards  
-Mr. Tubbs reported that he had attended the ASB meeting. The ASB is forming a sub-committee which will include one member of the Public Safety Committee.  
-General discussion followed about the continuing safety hazards for school children. Progress reports on the existence of crossing guards, and on the status of the

ASB sub-committee were called for, and the item was referred to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Item A: FY95  
Budget

-Due to Chief Liu's absence, the police budget report was referred to the next meeting.

-Chief Young stated that he could bring a printout of the budget to the next meeting. Young announced that he does not anticipate major changes in next year's budget. He expects the City's upcoming financial concerns to outweigh the need for any major purchases for the fire department.

-Chairman Abrant encouraged all committee members to seriously consider the budget issues. He reviewed some of the pros and cons of the size of the police department.  
-All committee members agreed that this item should be referred to the next meeting.

Item B: Police  
Department Rank  
Structure

-Chairman Abrant stated that this item was proposed by Twitchell, in response to Officer Nick Evan resigning from the police department. Abrant described the old rank system that included corporals, and strict qualifications for each rank.

-Lt. Meece described the point system that was used to assess the training background of the applicants for the sergeant position.

-Mr. Tubbs requested the qualifications for each position, and the item was referred to the next meeting.

Item C: Snow  
Machine Crossings

-Mr. Gregory voiced concern over the traffic accidents occurring at snow machine crossings.

-General discussion followed, during which it was explained that snow machines do not have the right of way, but caution signs might be erected to alert drivers on the road.

-Chairman Abrant requested that the police department recommend 10-12 sites for caution signs, based on high risk locations and/or high traffic volume. "Snow Machine Crossing Signs" was proposed as an agenda item for the next meeting.

PEOPLE TO BE HEARD

-Mr. Stanley Hoffman stated that he wanted to

sell fireworks, and that he understood that the committee could give him an answer. -Chief Young described the process of business licenses, permits, proof of insurance, and review by the State Fire Marshall. He explained that, per ordinance, a decision could be reached by the City Manager, Fire Chief, and Police Chief, as to whether the sale would be permitted within City limits before Mr. Hoffman began the paperwork.

motion

M/M by Tubbs, 2nd by Gregory to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE WILL OCCUR ON JANUARY 5, 1994, 12:00 P.M., AT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.



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Connie Johnson  
Police Department Admin. Asst.