

Introduced William F. Howell, III, Acting City
by: Manager
Date: December 10, 2019
Action: Passed
Vote: 5-0

CITY OF BETHEL

Resolution # 19-16

CITY OF BETHEL PRIORITIES FOR THE FY 2021 STATE OF ALASKA CAPITAL BUDGET

- WHEREAS,** the City of Bethel is proactively pursuing funding strategies with Federal and State agencies, as well as private funding sources;
- WHEREAS,** the City partners with other entities, such as the local tribe, Orutsararmuit Native Council, to work collaboratively for residents' needs;
- WHEREAS,** Bethel City sales taxes and Port of Bethel dock and petro port revenues are used to fund the City's operating budget and major maintenance needs;
- WHEREAS,** in recent years, the City of Bethel raised its water and sewer subscription rate fees to fund capital depreciation and to better meet basic human health and sanitation needs;
- WHEREAS,** as a hub community for the 30,000 living in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region, the City of Bethel often supports projects and expenditures that benefit tens of thousands of Alaskans who do not reside in City limits;
- WHEREAS,** the Bethel City Council is a seven-member body elected by resident voters of Bethel to act in the best interest of the community and intends to exhibit transparency, oversight, and accountability for all funds awarded through this request;
- WHEREAS,** the priorities established herein are rank-ordered and vital to the well-being of the community and municipality of Bethel;
- WHEREAS,** a summary of the City of Bethel's priorities and requested funding amounts are listed in the following table:

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Five Priorities	Request
1. Construct C-Loop, Extend Sewer System, and Perform Spot Repairs in Bethel Heights Public Works Building Repairs	\$10,146,000 \$7,000,000
2. Public Works Building Repairs Construct C-Loop, Extend Sewer System, and Perform Spot Repairs in Bethel Heights	\$7,000,000 \$10,146,000
3. Dust Control Measures	\$1,200,000
TOTAL	\$18,346,000

#2 <u>#1</u> Public Works Building Repairs	\$7,000,000
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WHEREAS, the City relies on its Public Works building as the base of operations to meet a host of responsibilities: road maintenance, water and sewer haul deliveries, maintenance of 32 structures, vehicle and equipment maintenance/repair, and Planning Department functions;

WHEREAS, at the request of the City, two professional engineers from BFM Engineers, Inc. evaluated the floor, walls, and others structural features of the City's Public Works building and issued a report on October 4, 2019;

WHEREAS, the report concludes by saying, "serious structural deficiencies were found and included rot in the floor beams and girders, corrosion and failure of the connection between beams and girders, and corrosion in the insulated metal wall panels;"

WHEREAS, specifically, the engineers believe that the following replacements MUST be made: 120 metal hangers, 12 glulam beams, 5 girders, and 4 truck bays worth of 2"x8" decking;

WHEREAS, the condition of the buried pilings were in satisfactory shape leading to the conclusion that the major repairs recommended would extend the life of the building significantly and allow for continued City operations;

WHEREAS, the engineers estimate that the full cost of repairs could be as high as \$7 million, the amount the City feels is needed to effect the repairs needed to keep all building occupants safe and to allow for continued operations;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Bethel City Council hereby requests that the State of Alaska provide \$7,000,000 in its FY 2021 Capital Budget to fund the cost of repairs needed for the City's Public Works building.

#1 #2	Construct C-Loop, Extend Sewer System, and Perform Spot Repairs in Bethel Heights	\$10,146,000
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WHEREAS, Engineer firm DOWL generated a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) and Environmental Report (December 2019) that evaluated the water and sewer systems in Bethel Heights Subdivision in Bethel;

WHEREAS, the Report considered six alternatives and recommended the construction of C-Loop, extension of the sewer system, and completion of spot repairs;

WHEREAS, the original gravity-fed sewer main was constructed in 1977 and has exceeded its expected 40-year useful life;

WHEREAS, according to the PER, "the age of the system has resulted in tangibly reduced reliability and performance, comparatively high and increasing cost of O&M, and an overall reduction in the safety of the system;"

WHEREAS, the City filed noncompliance notifications with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation during the last two winters for flushing an open section of frozen sewer pipe over the tundra—the only way to thaw the pipe;

WHEREAS, the City of Bethel serves approximately 300 customers in Bethel Heights by piped water and sewer and 25 additional properties nearby are not connected to piped water and sewer, but are served by the truck haul system;

WHEREAS, the City has an opportunity to run new high density polyethylene water and sewer pipes to 25 homes in the Martina Oscar Subdivision adjacent to Bethel Heights and save \$200,000 a year in operation and maintenance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Bethel City Council hereby requests that the State of Alaska provide \$10,146,000 in its FY 2021 Capital Budget to fund the construction of C-Loop and sewer system improvements in Bethel Heights.

#3	Dust Control Measures	\$1,200,000
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WHEREAS, the community of Bethel is plagued by airborne dust and the ill-health effects associated with its inhalation, ingestion, and contact with eyes, ears, and skin;

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WHEREAS, purchasing and applying gravel, calcium chloride, and hydroseed to road slopes have proven to be effective dust control measures for Bethel, Alaska;

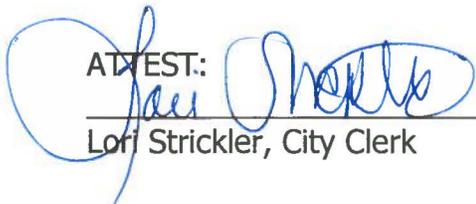
WHEREAS, the City will purchase one new water spray truck with project funds so that it can apply water to the dusty streets throughout the summer;

WHEREAS, the City must purchase and apply gravel and other implements in bulk quantities on its subdivision roads, which are currently underserved because the City has had to focus on its thoroughfares;

WHEREAS, the City has the heavy equipment, trained personnel, and operating costs in its budget to apply gravel, calcium chloride, and hydroseed to the City's roads, as needed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Bethel City Council hereby requests that the State of Alaska provide \$1,200,000 in its FY 2021 Capital Budget to fund the Dust Control Measures project;

ENACTED THIS 10TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2019 BY A VOTE OF 5 IN FAVOR AND 0 OPPOSED.

ATTEST:

Lori Strickler, City Clerk


Perry Barr, Mayor