

**City Council Meeting
City of Bethel, Alaska
Regular Meeting
September 27, 2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on September 27, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska.
Mayor Springer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the Council, the following members were present:
City Council Member Perry Barr (telephonically) City Council Member Rose Henderson (telephonically) Council Member Michelle DeWitt City Council Member Beth Hessler City Council Member Eric Whitney Vice-Mayor Conrad McCormick Mayor Mark Springer
Members Absent:
Also in attendance were the following:
City Manager Peter Williams, City Clerk Lori Strickler

4. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD – Five minutes per person

*Lorin Bradbury, resident of Bethel, Alaska-- Spoke in favor with Ordinance 22-34.
Asked the Council to have discussion about Donlin Creek Mine.*

Item 4.1. - Written Public Comments

Marsha Riley- resident of Bethel, Alaska- Provided written comment concerning road signs and road grading upkeep.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND REGULAR AGENDA

Main Motion: Approve the Consent and Regular Agenda.

Moved by:	Beth Hessler
Seconded by:	Rose Henderson
In favor:	Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Conrad McCormick, Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler
Opposed:	None

Results: | Motion Carries

Council Member Henderson experienced technical difficulties with connectivity and a motion was made during Reports of Standing Committees to return to this Item of Business.

Removal of Ordinance 22-34 from the consent agenda- Council Member Henderson.

Main Motion: Approve the Consent and Regular Agenda.

In favor: | Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick,
Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler

Opposed: | None

Results: | Motion Carries

6. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Item 6.1. - *9-13-2022 Regular City Council Meeting

Passed on the consent agenda.

7. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Item 7.1. - Committee/Commission Agendas And Draft Meeting Minutes

Motion to suspend the rules to move back to the approval of the agenda.

Moved by: | Conrad McCormick

Seconded by: | Eric Whitney

In favor: | Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick,
Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler

Opposed: | None

Results: | Motion Carries

Port Commission, Council Member Hessler- Reviewed tariff rates; a notice will be going out to initiate an increase of Port Rates in the coming weeks. The harbor weathered the storm from the typhoon quite well. The Port will soon receive two new work trucks.

Planning Commission, Council Member Henderson- Nothing to report.

Community Action Grant Technical Review Board, Council Member Barr- Provided a summary of the current funding level and encouraged people to apply.

Community Parks and Recreation Committee, Council Member DeWitt- Received an update from a Committee member on Ordinance 22-28 and Ordinance 22-22(b) to discuss for tonight's meeting.

Finance Committee, Council Member Whitney- A meeting was not held due to a lack of a

quorum.

Public Works Committee, Mayor Springer- A meeting was not held due to a lack of a quorum.

Public Safety and Transportation Commission, Vice-Mayor McCormick- A new Vice-Chair was elected, Megan Newport. Curfew laws and vandalism was discussed. Recent thefts were also discussed. Discussed potential awareness opportunities for sexual assault/prevention information in public areas and received an update on four-wheeler compliance. The Commission would like to amend the code to allow more discretion to Bethel Friends of Canines to evaluate dog bites. The Police Department attended crisis intervention training.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item 9.1. - Public Hearing Of Ordinance 22-28: Adopting Fees And Rates For The YK Fitness Center And Establishing A "Pay What You Can" Policy (Council Member Barr)

Mayor Springer opened the Public Hearing.

No present to be heard.

Mayor Springer closed the Public Hearing.

Main Motion: Adopt Ordinance 22-28.

Moved by:	Perry Barr
Seconded by:	Rose Henderson
In favor:	Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick, Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Motion to amend the proposed ordinance to adopt the updated standard fees presented by the Administration.

Moved by:	Perry Barr
Seconded by:	Beth Hessler
In favor:	Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick, Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Motion to amend to insert the opportunity to provide discounts for marketing opportunities.

Moved by:	Michelle DeWitt
Seconded by:	Eric Whitney
In favor:	Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick, Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler

Opposed: | None
Results: | Motion Carries

Item 9.2. - Public Hearing Of Budget Ordinance 22-22(b): Amending The City Of Bethel Fiscal Year 2023 Budget (Community Parks And Recreation Committee)

Mayor Springer opened the Public Hearing.
No one present to be heard.
Mayor Springer closed the Public Hearing.

Main Motion: Adopt Budget Ordinance 22-22(b).

Moved by: | Michelle DeWitt
Seconded by: | Beth Hessler
In favor: | Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick, Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler
Opposed: | None
Results: | Motion Carries

Item 9.3. - Public Hearing Of Budget Ordinance 22-22(c): Amending The City Of Bethel Fiscal Year 2023 Budget (City Manager Williams)

Mayor Springer opened the Public Hearing.
No one present to be heard.
Mayor Springer closed the Public Hearing.

Main Motion: Adopt Budget Ordinance 22-22(c).

Moved by: | Rose Henderson
Seconded by: | Conrad McCormick
In favor: | Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick, Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler
Opposed: | None
Results: | Motion Carries

Item 9.4. - Public Hearing Of Ordinance 22-32: Amending Chapter 3.12, Administration And Maintenance Of The Classification Plans, Establishing A Pay Grade, Job Titles, And Compensation Plan For Non-Unionized City Employees (City Manager Williams)

Mayor Springer opened the Public Hearing

Suspend the rules to also allow city employees to address the council.

Moved by: | Conrad McCormick
Seconded by: | Rose Henderson
In favor: | Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick,

	Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Xavier Mason- Disagreed with the classification structure for the Finance Department and recommended postponing the ordinance to gather more information.

Mayor Springer closed the Public Hearing.

Motion to postpone.

Moved by:	Rose Henderson
Seconded by:	Conrad McCormick
In favor:	Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick, Beth Hessler
Opposed:	Eric Whitney
Results:	Motion Carries

Item 9.5. - Public Hearing Of Ordinance 22-33: Amending Bethel Municipal Code Chapter 3.60, Leave, By Repealing Annual Leave And Sick Leave And Adopting Paid Time Off (City Manager Williams)

Mayor Springer opened the Public Hearing.

No one present to be heard.

Mayor Springer closed the Public Hearing.

Main Motion: Adopt Ordinance 22-33.

Moved by:	Rose Henderson
Seconded by:	Michelle DeWitt
In favor:	Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick, Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

10. NEW BUSINESS

Item 10.1. - *Introduction Of Ordinance 22-34: Establishing A Short-Term Amnesty Program Requiring Compliance With The Sales Tax And Business Licensing Codes For The Payment Of Delinquent Taxes And Allowing The Forgiveness Of Fees, Penalties And Interest To Incentivize Voluntary Compliance (Council Member Hessler)

Main Motion: Introduce Ordinance 22-34.

Moved by:	Beth Hessler
Seconded by:	Perry Barr
In favor:	Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Conrad McCormick, Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler

Opposed: | Rose Henderson, Michelle DeWitt
Results: | Motion Carries

Motion to suspend the rules to hear from the Finance Director.

Moved by: | Beth Hessler
Seconded by: | Eric Whitney
In favor: | Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick,
Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler
Opposed: | None
Results: | Motion Carries

Item 10.2. - *Introduction Of Budget Ordinance 22-22(d): Amending The Fiscal Year 2023 Budget (City Manager Williams)

Passed on the consent agenda.

11. REPORTS

Item 11.1. - Mayor's Report

Item 11.2. - City Manager's Report

Item 11.3. - Clerk's Report

12. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Mayor Springer- Thanked the outgoing council members. Spoke about the ethics of not paying sales tax.

Vice-Mayor McCormick- Wished KYUK reporter Anna Rose MacArthur the best as she transitions to a new community. Thanked Council Member Barr and Council Member DeWitt for their service on Council.

Council Member DeWitt- It was an honor to serve the community. Grateful for the city employees and the work that they do. Has learned a lot from serving on council, and encouraged residents to run for city council at some point. Would like to specifically thank the three employees working for the City Council; City Manager Williams, City Clerk Strickler, and City Attorney Bakalar.

Council Member Barr- Wished that the City Manager and the administration could do things faster. Would like to see more community events to bring the community together. We need to be a community that cares for each other. Hopes that the new city council has that vision. Hopes that future council members get reimbursed for their time.

Council Member Henderson-Thanked the Finance Director, Duane Wright. Congratulated and thanked the outgoing council members. Looking forward to meeting the new Police Chief in-person.

Council Member Whitney-Thanked the outgoing council members. Encouraged residents to serve on council or on one of the City's committees.

Council Member Hessler- Thanked the outgoing council members. Had a good visit with the Police Chief. Read a portion of a book by Benjamin Franklin.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item 13.1. - In Accordance With AS 44.62.310.(C)(1) Matters, The Immediate Knowledge Of Which Would Clearly Have An Adverse Effect Upon The Finances Of The Public Entity; And (3) Matters Which By Law, Municipal Charter, Or Ordinance Are Required To Be Confidential- Pending Delinquent Sales Tax Litigation (City Manager Williams)

Main Motion: Move into Executive Session- In Accordance With AS 44.62.310.(C)(1) Matters, The Immediate Knowledge Of Which Would Clearly Have An Adverse Effect Upon The Finances Of The Public Entity; And (3) Matters Which By Law, Municipal Charter, Or Ordinance Are Required To Be Confidential- Pending Delinquent Sales Tax Litigation.

Attending this item of business will be the City Council, City Manager, City Clerk, Contract Attorney Michael Gatti, and the Finance Director.

Moved by:	Rose Henderson
Seconded by:	Michelle DeWitt
In favor:	Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick, Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

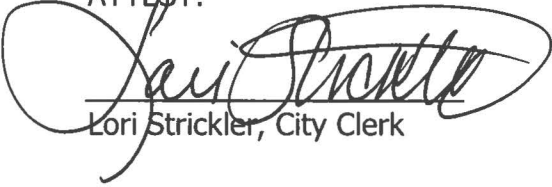
14. ADJOURNMENT

Main Motion: Adjournment.

Moved by:	Rose Henderson
Seconded by:	Conrad McCormick
In favor:	Perry Barr, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick, Eric Whitney, Beth Hessler
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Meeting ended at 9:45 p.m.


Mark Springer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lori Strickler, City Clerk