

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A Regular Meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on May 23, 2023 at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

Mayor Henderson called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ROLL CALL**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Comprising a quorum of the Council, the following members were present:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                |
| City Council Member Beth Hessler<br>City Council Member Sophie Swope (telephonically)<br>City Council Member Patrick Snow<br>Vice-Mayor Henry Batchelor<br>Mayor Rose Henderson<br>City Council Member Mark Springer (arrived after roll call telephonically) |
| <b>Members Absent:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| City Council Member Eric Whitney                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Also in attendance were the following:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| City Manager Peter Williams, City Clerk Lori Strickler, City Attorney Libby Bakalar (telephonically)                                                                                                                                                          |

**4. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD – Five minutes per person**

*Kate Glover, Juneau Alaska- Spoke in favor of Resolution 23-10.*

**Item 4.1. - Written Public Comments**

*No written comments were submitted.*

**5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND REGULAR AGENDA**

Main Motion: Approve the Consent and Regular Agenda.

|              |                                                                           |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Patrick Snow                                                              |
| Seconded by: | Henry Batchelor                                                           |
| In favor:    | Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow, Sophie Swope |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                      |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                            |

Remove New Business 10.2 Introduction of Ordinance 23-11, Council Member Hessler.

## **6. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

**Item 6.1.** - \*5-2-2023 Special City Council Meeting

*Passed on the consent agenda.*

**Item 6.2.** - \*5-4-2023 Special City Council Meeting

*Passed on the consent agenda.*

**Item 6.3.** - \*5-9-2023 Regular City Council Meeting

*Passed on the consent agenda.*

## **7. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

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

Port Commission, Council Member Hessler- A meeting was not held due to a lack of a quorum.

Planning Commission, Council Member Swope- Next meeting will be held on June 8th.

Community Action Grant Committee, Vice-Mayor Batchelor- A meeting has not been held since the last city council meeting.

Finance Committee, Council Member Henderson- No one available to provide a report.

Public Safety and Transportation Commission, Council Member Snow- A meeting has not been held since the last city council meeting.

Public Works Committee- No one available to provide a report.

Finance Committee- No one available to provide a report.

## **8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

## **9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Item 9.1.** - Public Hearing Of Ordinance 23-08: Amending Bethel Municipal Code 6.04 Licensing And Impoundment Relating To Care, Restraint, Impoundment, And Destruction Of Animals (Public Safety And Transportation Commission)

*Mayor Henderson opened the Public Hearing.*

*No one present to be heard.*

*Mayor Henderson closed the Public Hearing.*

Main Motion: Approve Ordinance 23-08.

|              |                                                                           |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Patrick Snow                                                              |
| Seconded by: | Beth Hessler                                                              |
| In favor:    | Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow, Sophie Swope |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                      |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                            |

**Item 9.2.** - Public Hearing Of Ordinance 23-09: Amending Bethel Municipal Code 2.05.190, Employment Prohibited, Expanding Opportunity For City Employment Following City Council Member Service (Mayor Henderson)

*Mayor Henderson opened the Public Hearing.*

*No one present to be heard.*

*Mayor Henderson closed the Public Hearing.*

*Ordinance 23-09 fails due to lack of a motion.*

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

*Mayor Henderson opened the Public Hearing.*

*No one present to be heard.*

*Mayor Henderson closed the Public Hearing.*

Main Motion: Approve Budget Ordinance 22-22(k).

|              |                                                                           |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Henry Batchelor                                                           |
| Seconded by: | Patrick Snow                                                              |
| In favor:    | Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow, Sophie Swope |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                      |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                            |

## **10. NEW BUSINESS**

**Item 10.1.** - \*Introduction Of Ordinance 23-10: Amending The City Of Bethel Fee And Rate Schedule Animal Impounds (Council Member Snow)

*Passed on the consent agenda.*

**Item 10.2.** - \*Introduction Of Ordinance 23-11: Adopting The City Of Bethel Operating Budget For Fiscal Year 2024 Beginning July 1, 2023, Ending June 30, 2024 (City Manager Williams)

Main Motion: Introduce Ordinance 23-11.

|              |                                                                           |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Beth Hessler                                                              |
| Seconded by: | Patrick Snow                                                              |
| In favor:    | Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow, Sophie Swope |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                      |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                            |

Motion to move into committee of the whole.

|              |                                                                           |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Beth Hessler                                                              |
| Seconded by: | Patrick Snow                                                              |
| In favor:    | Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow, Sophie Swope |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                      |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                            |

Amendment No. 1

Amend each salary line item to reflect the current wage associated with the employee assigned to the Budget's Personnel Control Number, as applicable/available, to include the benefit and taxes adjustments as may be necessary.

Amendment No. 2.

Amend the general wage increase for the employee Personnel Control Numbers to strike 2.5% and insert 0.

Amendment No. 3

Amend the merit increase for the executive level personnel control numbers to strike a 3% and insert 0%.

Amendment No. 5

Increase 100-66-6023, Streets and Roads Leave Cash out to strike \$12,796 and insert \$23,159 to accommodate retirement cash out and to include the benefit and taxes adjustments as may be necessary.

Amendment No. 9

Amend Municipal Dock Fund Revenues 520-50 to insert Alaska Marine Lines \$30,552 and to strike Alaska Marine Lines \$30,552 under Leased Properties 530-44.

Amendment No. 10

Amend Leased Properties 530-44-44525, Faulkner Walsh to strike \$12,000 and insert \$12,600.

|              |                                                                            |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Beth Hessler                                                               |
| Seconded by: | Patrick Snow                                                               |
| In favor:    | Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow, Sophie Swope, |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                       |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                             |

*Council Member Springer joined the meeting at 7:08 p.m.*

Maintain the Grant Manager under administration and not move it to finance.

|              |                                             |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Mark Springer                               |
| Seconded by: | Patrick Snow                                |
| In favor:    | Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Sophie Swope |
| Opposed:     | Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow |
| Results:     | Motion Fails                                |

*Clerk's Office note: This is not an actionable motion. The council never authorized the grant manager position to be moved to the Finance Department.*

Amendment No. 6

Increase 100-51-6023, Admin Leave Cash out to strike \$15,490 and insert \$25,944 to accommodate retirement cash out and to include the benefit and tax adjustments as may be necessary.

|              |                                                                                          |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Beth Hessler                                                                             |
| Seconded by: | Henry Batchelor                                                                          |
| In favor:    | Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow, Sophie Swope |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                                     |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                                           |

Amendment No. 7

Amend 510-84-6711, City Sub Water Treatment Plant to insert \$20,700.

Amendment No. 8

Amend 510-85-6240 Hauled Sewer Property Maintenance to insert \$56,640.

|              |                                                                                          |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Beth Hessler                                                                             |
| Seconded by: | Henry Batchelor                                                                          |
| In favor:    | Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow, Sophie Swope |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                                     |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                                           |

Motion to amend the Personnel Control Numbers associated with positions which

require a CDL to strike Range 4 and insert Range 5, in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Bethel and the Employee's Association, Local 6055, APEA/AFT.

|              |                                                                                          |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Beth Hessler                                                                             |
| Seconded by: | Patrick Snow                                                                             |
| In favor:    | Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow, Sophie Swope |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                                     |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                                           |

Motion to amend 510-81-6003, Hauled Water and 510-85-6003 Hauled Sewer to insert \$50,000 under each line item for a \$10,000 sign on bonus for hauled water and sewer drivers. \$5,000 for initial sign on, \$2,500 after the 1st year and \$2,500 after the 2nd year and to be paid back if the employee doesn't stay with the City.

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| Moved by:    | Beth Hessler |
| Seconded by: | Patrick Snow |

Motion to table amendment until the next meeting.

|              |                                                                                          |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Patrick Snow                                                                             |
| Seconded by: | Mark Springer                                                                            |
| In favor:    | Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow, Sophie Swope |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                                     |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                                           |

Motion to amend the acting finance director's salary to be in accordance with Bethel Municipal Code 3.16.030 D.

|              |                                                                                          |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Beth Hessler                                                                             |
| Seconded by: | Patrick Snow                                                                             |
| In favor:    | Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow, Sophie Swope |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                                     |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                                           |

*Council Member Swope departed the meeting at 8:39 p.m.*

Motion to amend 100-53106 Range 5 to strike \$63,665 and insert \$46,184 and insert and 100-53108 Range 6 to strike \$75,898 and insert \$49,880.

|              |                                                                            |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Beth Hessler                                                               |
| Seconded by: | Patrick Snow                                                               |
| In favor:    | None                                                                       |
| Opposed:     | Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow |
| Results:     | Motion Fails                                                               |

**Item 10.3. - \*Resolution 23-10: Directing The City To Join As Amicus Or Intervenor**

In Pending Federal Litigation Supporting An Updated Environmental Impact Statement And Fisheries Management Plan For Groundfish Fisheries Of The Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, And Gulf Of Alaska (Council Member Swope)

*Passed on the consent agenda.*

**Item 10.4.** - \*AM 23-11: Appointment Of Committee And Commission Members For A Term Of Three Years (Mayor Henderson)

*Passed on the consent agenda.*

**Item 10.5.** - \*AM 23-12: Authorizing the City Clerk's Office To Negotiate and Enter Into An Agreement With An Executive Search Firm (Mayor Henderson)

*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 Henderson- Encouraged people to be safe on the river.

Vice-Mayor Batchelor- Encouraged people to be safe on the river. Stated YKHC is searching for employees at the WIC department.

Council Member Springer- Congratulated two new ONC council members, Gage Hoffman, and Sophie Swope. Stated appreciation for the work Ana Hoffman did to assist in the coordination of the First Lady visit, and the others that visited our community. Encouraged people to be safe on the river, and to watch for logs.

Council Member Hessler- Offered sincere condolences to the City Manager for the passing of his wife. Congratulated the 48 High School graduates. The Library won the 2023 Museum and Library Services Award.

Council Member Snow- Asked people to take a moment to reflect on the freedoms and rights we have and the sacrifices that people have made for those freedoms.

## **13. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Item 13.1.** - In Accordance With AS 44.62.310.(C)(3) Matters Which By Law,

Municipal Charter, Or Ordinance Are Required To Be Confidential- Union Negotiations  
(City Manager Williams)

Motion to amend the agenda to move 13.2 to the next item of business.

|              |                                                                            |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Patrick Snow                                                               |
| Seconded by: | Henry Batchelor                                                            |
| In favor:    | Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                       |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                             |

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- Settlement Offer- Brayton Lieb V. City of Bethel 4BE-22-00032 CI  
(Council Member Springer)

|              |                                                                            |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Mark Springer                                                              |
| Seconded by: | Patrick Snow                                                               |
| In favor:    | Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Henry Batchelor, Patrick Snow |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                       |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                             |

*Vice-Mayor Batchelor declared a conflict of interest for item 13.1 because his wife is a member of the union.*

*Mayor Henderson determined there is a conflict of interest and Vice-Mayor Batchelor did not attend the Executive Session for Item 13.1 and departed the meeting at 9:57 p.m.*

Main Motion: Move into Executive Session- In Accordance With AS 44.62.310.(C)(3) Matters Which By Law, Municipal Charter, Or Ordinance Are Required To Be Confidential- Union Negotiations.

Those attending this item of business will be the City Council, City Manager, City Clerk, City Attorney, and Dianne Blumer.

|              |                                                                         |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Mark Springer                                                           |
| Seconded by: | Beth Hessler                                                            |
| In favor:    | Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Patrick Snow, Sophie Swope |
| Opposed:     | None                                                                    |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                                          |

**Item 13.2.** - 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- Settlement Offer- Brayton Lieb V. City of Bethel 4BE-22-00032 CI (Council Member Springer)

*Moved to precede Item 13.1.*

#### 14. ADJOURNMENT

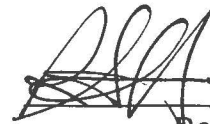
Main Motion: Adjournment.

|              |                                                           |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Moved by:    | Mark Springer                                             |
| Seconded by: | Beth Hessler                                              |
| In favor:    | Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Beth Hessler, Patrick Snow |
| Opposed:     | None                                                      |
| Results:     | Motion Carries                                            |

*Meeting ended at 10:23 p.m.*

ATTEST:

  
Lori Strickler, City Clerk

  
Rose Henderson, Mayor

  
BETHEL, ALASKA