



CITY OF BETHEL

PLANNING COMMISSION

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024, 6:30 PM

LOCATION: 300 CHIEF EDDIE HOFFMAN HIGHWAY, BETHEL ALASKA

JOIN MEETING AT ZOOM.US:

[HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/J/3350154000?PWD=HYFLQJB5BBF9IUAXHBN9SOZQAFWPLS.1&OMN=81314125060](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3350154000?pwd=HYFLQJB5BBF9IUAXHBN9SOZQAFWPLS.1&OMN=81314125060)

MEETING ID: 335 015 4000

PASSCODE: 140569

US TOLL-FREE PHONE NUMBERS: 888 475 4499; 833 548 0276; 833 548 0282; 877 853 5257

MEMBERS

Kathy Hanson, Chair Lorin Bradbury, Vice Chair
Mary Beth Hessler, Council Rep.
Alex Wasierski Shadi Rabi
Haley Hanson Sundi Scott
Vacant Seat, Alternate 1
Vacant Seat, Alternate 2

STAFF

Pauline Boratko, Ex Officio Member
Lee Foley, City Planner
planning@cityofbethel.net
907-543-5301

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD – FIVE MINUTES PER PERSON

- A. Please submit written public comments to planning@cityofbethel.net by 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

V. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- A. Regular September Meeting Minutes- 09/12/2024
- B. Special September Meeting Minutes- 09/19/2024

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Discussion on Subdivisions on designated open space for parks
- B. Discussion on public nuisance properties

VII. NEW BUSINESS

VIII. EX OFFICIO REPORT

IX. MEMBER COMMENTS

X. ADJOURNMENT

Posted <<10/04/2024>> at City Hall, AC Co., Swanson's, and the Post Office.

Ex-Officio Staff

City of Bethel, Alaska

Planning Commission

September 12, 2024

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

I. CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission was held virtually via Zoom and in person at the City Hall Council Chambers in Bethel, Alaska on September 12, 2024. The Chair of the Commission, Kathy Hanson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

II. ROLL CALL:

Compromising a quorum of the Commission, the following members were present for roll call: Kathy Hanson, Alex Wasierski, Haley Hanson, Sundi Scott, and Council Rep. Mary Beth Hessler. Shadi Rabi arrived late at 7:03pm.

Also Present: Pauline Boratko, Recorder, Lee Foley, City Planner, Lori Strickler, Acting City Manager, and LaQuita Chmielowski, DOWL

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD: Betsy Jumper- would like to have construction hours be from 8am to 8pm.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

MOVED:	Haley Hanson	Motion to approve the agenda.
SECONDED:	Lorin Bradbury	
VOTE ON MOTION	Unanimous	

V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

MOVED:	Haley Hanson	Motion to approve regular meeting minutes for August 8, 2024
SECONDED:	Sundi Scott	
VOTE ON MOTION	Unanimous	

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Review and approve Bethel Comp Plan 2045:

MOVED:	Lorin Bradbury	Motion to approve the Bethel Comp Plan 2045
SECONDED:	Mary Beth Hessler	
VOTE ON MOTION	6 yes; 0 no motion passes unanimous	

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Approving rezoning from Public Lands and Institutions (PLI) zone to General Use (GU) zone to lots 4,5,6 Block 7 U.S. Survey 3230 AB

MOVED:	Lorin Bradbury	Motion to approve the rezoning from Public Lands and Institutions (PLI) zone to General Use (GU) zone to lots 4,5,6 Block 7 U.S. Survey 3230 AB with
SECONDED:	Mary Beth Hessler	

		the condition to include findings in the resolution.
VOTE ON MOTION	3 yes; 4 no motion does not pass	

VIII. PLANNER'S REPORT:

IX. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

H. Hanson- no comment.

A. Wasierski- no comment

M. Hessler- I'm grateful for those that care that we do things right.

S. Scott- no comment

K. Hanson- Its good to be a stickler for all the details

L. Bradbury- I'm comfortable with the outcome.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED:	Haley Hanson	Motion to adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED:	Lorin Bradbury	
VOTE ON MOTION	Unanimous	

With no further business the meeting adjourned 7:35 pm

APPROVED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2024

Kathy Hanson, Chair

ATTEST: Pauline Boratko, Recorder

City of Bethel, Alaska

Planning Commission

September 19, 2024

Special Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

I. CALL TO ORDER:

A special meeting of the Planning Commission was held virtually via Zoom and in person at the City Hall Council Chambers in Bethel, Alaska on September 19, 2024. The Chair of the Commission, Kathy Hanson called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

II. ROLL CALL:

Compromising a quorum of the Commission, the following members were present for roll call: Kathy Hanson, Lorin Bradbury, Alex Wasierski, and Council Rep. Mary Beth Hessler

Excused absence: Shadi Rabi, Haley Hanson, and Sundi Scott

Also Present: Pauline Boratko, Recorder, and Lee Foley, City Planner

III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD: no one wished to be heard

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. PUBLIC HEARING:** Purpose: Amend Bethel's Land Use Zoning Map Location: 5th Avenue, U.S. Survey 3230AB Block 7 Lots 4,5, & 6 from Public Lands and Institutions to General Use Zone. Applicant and Property Owner: City of Bethel.

The Chair of the Kathy Hanson opened the public hearing.

The Chair asked members of the Commission to disclose any conflicts of interest or Ex Parte Communications they may have had on the action before them.

Testimony by Interested Parties:

Lee Foley, City Planner gave his report.

Commissioners asked questions of the Planner

People to be heard: no one wished to be heard

Planner Lee Foley did not have any closing comments.

Planning commission deliberated.

<i>MOVED:</i>	<i>Lorin Bradbury</i>	<i>Motion to approve Resolution 2024-02 recommending the rezoning of city owned property at fifth avenue, Lots 4,5,6, block 7, U.S. Survey 3230AB from Public Lands and Institutions to General Use.</i>
<i>SECONDED:</i>	<i>Alex Wasierski</i>	
<i>VOTE ON MOTION</i>	<i>4-yes; 0-no; motion passes</i>	

The Chair of the Commission Haley Hanson, closed the public hearing

V. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS:

A. Wasierski- no comment
M. Hessler- no comment
K. Hanson- no comment
L. Bradbury- no comment

X. ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED:	Lorin Bradbury	Motion to adjourn the meeting.
SECONDED:	Alex Wasierski	
VOTE ON MOTION	Unanimous	

With no further business the meeting adjourned 6:37 pm

APPROVED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2024

Kathy Hanson, Chair

ATTEST: Pauline Boratko, Recorder



City of Bethel

MEMORANDUM

October 10, 2024

FROM: Planning Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "P. M. J.", is placed next to the "FROM" field.

TO: Bethel Planning Commission

SUBJ: Agenda Discussion Items

A. Blue Sky Subdivision Park Space:

1. Blue Sky has an obligation to set aside 10% of the subdivision for open space. They are also required to designate 80% of that open space to be usable park space. The Acting City Manager, Lori Strickler, is working with the Blue Sky Subdivision owner, Senator Lyman Hoffman, in addressing this issue.
2. A totally separate proposal is being considered for a property transfer between the City and Senator Hoffman. ***This is not tied in any way to the open space/park space requirement for Blue Sky.***

B. ONC Park Space:

1. A copy of the ONC Subdivision plat is attached with this memorandum. The highlighted portion of the plat is the area ONC has said they set aside as open space.

C. Potential Park Space on the Kilbuck School Lot:

1. When construction of the City's Professional Housing Project is completed, there will be room enough on the property for park space.

D. IPHC Church Property on Main Street:

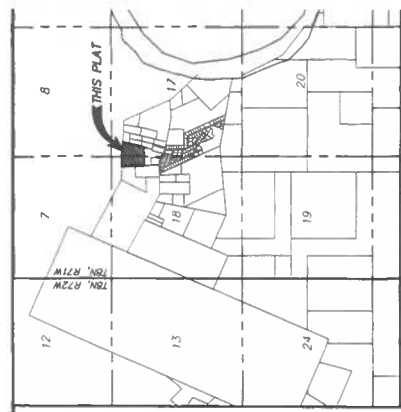
1. Negotiations to purchase the property by Bethel Community Services are still in play. In the interim, BCS contracted environmental tests to be conducted on the land and the buildings. The tests have been completed with the report on soil (land) forthcoming. Some environmental issues were found with the buildings, but most exist in the main building. BCS believes they have sufficient funding to correct environmental problems.

E. Nuisance Properties That Planning is Involved With:

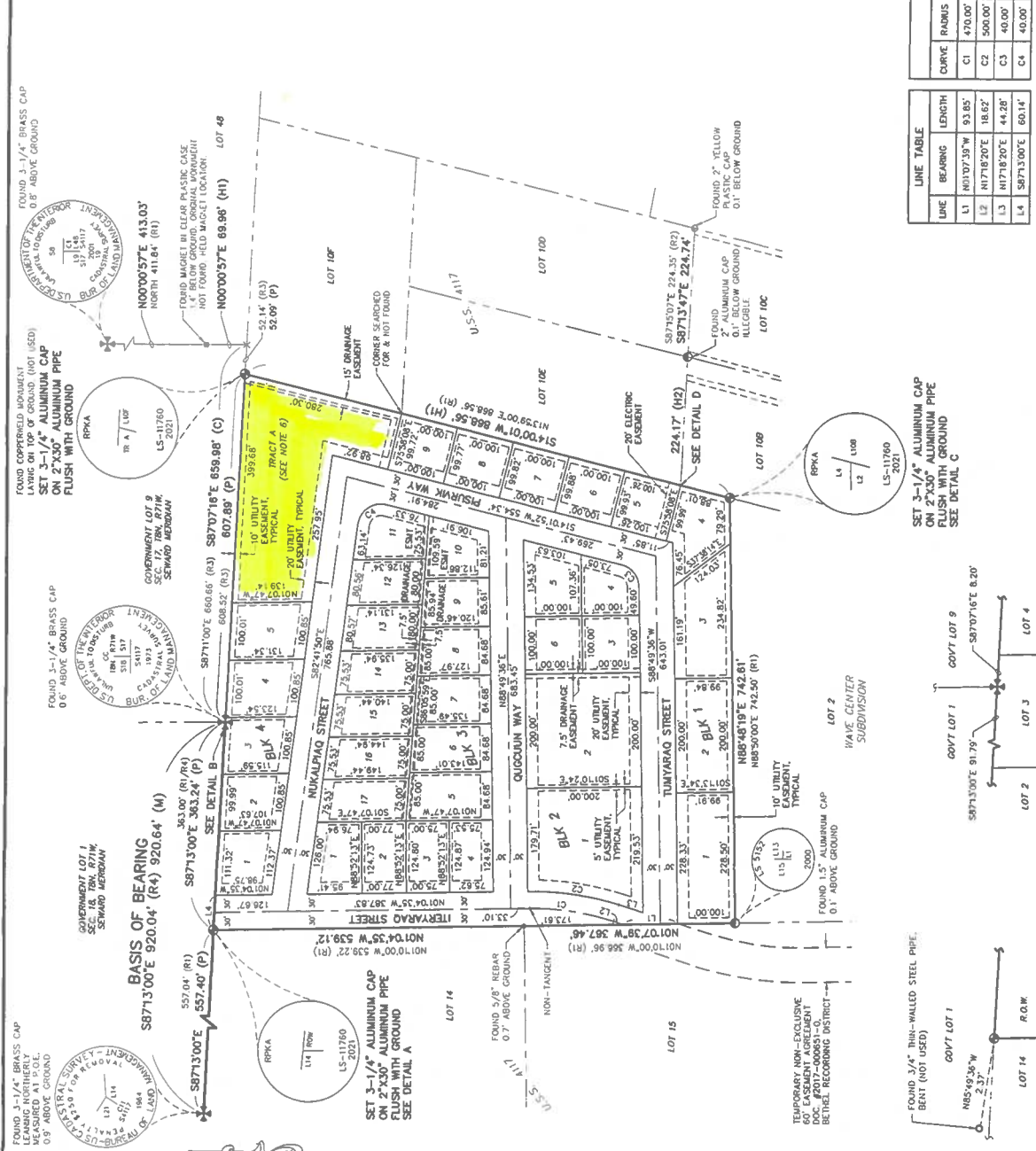
1. Properties at 910 & 910A Seventh Avenue are the most current. Disturbances at all hours of the day and night have been cited. Drunken fighting, drug use/exchanges, and gun shots fired have all been reported. The nearby residents are very interested in meeting with the Public Safety Director, James Harris, to discuss their concerns and possibly form a Neighborhood Watch, a program that Chief Harris is putting together to make things safer for community members. Historical Information provided by a long-time resident has been sent to Chief Harris.
2. 17 Kwethluk in City Sub was reported to Planning as a nuisance property with broken vehicles and junk equipment scattered about the property. A fire deduced to be arson turned the case over to the Court for adjudication. Planning was told to hold any public nuisance issues in abeyance by the District Attorney.
3. Certified letters have been sent to owners of properties at 236 Akiak, 244 Akiak, & 229 Akiak in City Sub; 681 Sixth Avenue; and 1111 Uvik, addressing public nuisance concerns and requesting they correct the issues. These are ongoing.
4. Public Nuisance concerns at 1025A Ridgecrest Drive, Watson's Corner, & 121 State Avenue have all been corrected.

F. How Can Citizens Find Relief from Nuisance Property in Their Neighborhood:

1. Citizens can contact the Planning Department telephonically or via email and explain the situation that is causing concern. Planning will then act and share information with the Director of Public Safety if a coordinated effort is required. Should safety be the primary concern expressed in the nuisance complaint, that should be sent to the Director of Public Safety with cc to the Planning Department. Chapter 9.36, Section 9.36.030, of the Bethel Municipal Code addresses prevention and abatement of Public Nuisances.



- LEGEND:**
- (R1) RECORD PER USS 4117
 - (R2) RECORD PER PLAT 2002-17
 - (R3) RECORD PER TBN R71K, S.M. DEPENDANT RECORD & SUBDIVISION DATED JULY 29, 2004
 - (R4) RECORD PER TBN R71K, S.M. RECTANGULAR NET SURVEY DATED JUNE 24, 1976
 - (M) MEASURED
 - (C) COMPUTED
 - (H1) HELD DISTANCE PER USS 4117
 - (H2) HELD DISTANCE PER PLAT 2002-17
 - (P) PIRATED
 - P.O.E. POINT OF ENTRY
 - X COMPUTED POINT (NOT SET THIS SURVEY)



CERTIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP AND DEDICATION

I, CLARK E. KINNEY, BEING THE OWNER(S) OF THE PLAT HEREIN, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE PLAT IS A TRUE AND CORRECT REPRESENTATION OF THE ACTUAL SURVEY AND THAT THE PLAT IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION.

NOTARY ACKNOWLEDGMENT

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT ON the 19th DAY OF October, 2021, BEFORE ME, a Notary Public in and for the State of Alaska, duly qualified and sworn, and who executed the above Certificate of Ownership and Dedication, and who being sworn or under oath, acknowledged to me that they executed the same as the owner(s) of the land described therein, and that they did so on behalf of and with the full authority of the owner(s) of the land described therein.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL THE DAY AND YEAR IN THIS CERTIFICATE FOR MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 9-21-2025

ACCEPTANCE OF DEDICATION

THE CITY OF BETHEL HEREBY ACCEPTS FOR PUBLIC USE AND PURPOSE, ALL AREAS DEDICATED AND GRANTED TO PUBLIC AS SHOWN ON THIS PLAT.

PLATTING OFFICER'S CERTIFICATE

I, CLARK E. KINNEY, BEING THE PLATTING OFFICER, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAT HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR RECORDING IN THE OFFICE OF THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION, AND THAT THE PLAT IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION.

TAX CERTIFICATION

THIS SUBDIVISION IS OUTSIDE ANY TAXING AUTHORITY AT THE TIME OF PLATTING.

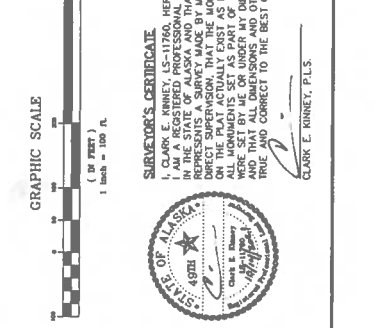
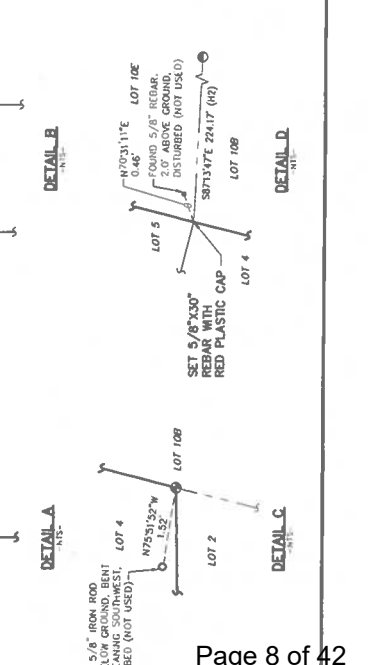


TABLE 1

CURVE	RADIUS	LENGTH	CHORD BEARING	DELTA	CHORD LENGTH
C1	470.00'	148.01'	180°23'	180°23'	147.40'
C2	500.00'	160.78'	182°23'	182°23'	160.09'
C3	40.00'	52.22'	30.58'	74°47'3"	48.59'
C4	40.00'	67.53'	45.00'	95°43'3"	59.79'

TABLE 2

LINE	BEARING	LENGTH
L1	N01°37'35"W	93.85'
L2	N01°16'20"E	18.62'
L3	N01°18'20"E	44.28'
L4	S87°33'00"E	60.14'



Chapter 9.36

PUBLIC NUISANCE ABATEMENT

Sections:

- 9.36.010 Purpose.**
- 9.36.020 Definitions.**
- 9.36.030 Prevention and abatement of public nuisances.**
- 9.36.035 Enforcement and exceptions.**
- 9.36.040 Notice and order.**
- 9.36.050 Hearing regarding notice and order – Decision – Appeal.**
- 9.36.060 Conduct of the hearing.**
- 9.36.070 Effect of abatement efforts – Defenses.**
- 9.36.080 Abatement orders.**
- 9.36.090 Penalties and remedies.**
- 9.36.100 Remedies under other laws unaffected.**
- 9.36.110 Effect of property conveyance.**
- 9.36.120 Nature of remedies.**
- 9.36.130 Civil enforcement remedies.**
- 9.36.140 Liens.**

9.36.010 Purpose.

Various laws are directed towards the conduct of persons on private property, and are intended to ensure that neither the conduct of such persons, nor the physical condition of such properties, constitutes a nuisance to other residents in the vicinity of the properties or passersby on the public rights-of-way. These laws are generally enforced against the persons immediately responsible for the violations. Notwithstanding these enforcement efforts, recurring violations of such laws on private property where individuals immediately responsible for such violations congregate can result in the creation of public nuisances which seriously threaten the peace and safety of neighboring residents and undermine the quality of life of the residents of the city. The purposes of this chapter are to enact a local public nuisance law in order to: make property owners where such individuals congregate vigilant in preventing public nuisances on their property; make such property owners responsible for the use of their property by tenants, guests, occupants and others on their property; provide locally enforceable remedies for violations of local public nuisance laws; and otherwise to deter public nuisances.

This chapter is not intended to be a tool for landlords and property owners to discriminate against persons or to impede the reporting of crimes, especially those involving domestic violence, and/or the reporting of injuries or illnesses. The city of Bethel does not endorse or support any form of discrimination for any reason whatsoever.

Individuals who are the victims of discrimination are urged to report such discrimination to the proper state authorities. [Ord. 17-27 § 2; Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

9.36.020 Definitions.

The following words used in this chapter shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

- A. "Abate" means to bring to a halt, eliminate, or where that is not possible or feasible, to suppress, reduce and minimize.
- B. "Leasehold interest" means a lessor's or lessee's interest in a parcel under a verbal or written lease agreement.
- C. "Legal or equitable interest" means every legal and equitable interest, title, estate, tenancy and right of possession recognized by law or equity in a parcel, including but not limited to, freeholds, life estates, future interests, condominium rights, time-share rights, leasehold interests, ownership interests, easements, licenses, liens, deeds of trust, contractual rights and any right or obligation to manage or act as agent or trustee for any person holding any of the foregoing interests in a parcel.
- D. "Notice and order" means a notice of violation of public nuisance ordinance and order to abate and otherwise comply with public nuisance ordinance issued in accordance with this chapter.
- E. "Ownership" or "ownership interest" means a fee interest in title to a parcel.
- F. "Parcel" means any lot or other unit of real property upon which hotels or lodges are located. This term does not include real property upon which government offices, jails, courthouses, hospitals or drug or alcohol treatment facilities are located.
- G. "Public nuisance" means the occurrence of two (2) or more separate violations within a ninety- (90-) day period even if the persons accused of such violations are not convicted, have not entered no contest pleas or entered default judgments within the ninety- (90-) day period in which the separate violations occurred.
- H. "Separate violation" means any violation of any provision of Chapters [9.08](#), [9.12](#), [9.16](#) or [9.24](#) BMC or AS [11.41.200](#) through [11.41.230](#) (assault); AS [11.46.320](#), AS [11.46.330](#) (criminal trespass); AS [11.61.110](#), AS [11.61.120](#) (offenses against public order) or AS [11.71.010](#) through [11.71.090](#) (controlled substances); provided, that such violation has resulted in a conviction, a no contest plea or a default judgment and has occurred on a parcel. Multiple separate violations committed within any twenty-four (24-) hour period of time by the same person shall be considered a single separate violation for purposes of this chapter. [Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

9.36.030 Prevention and abatement of public nuisances.

- A. No person having a legal or equitable interest in any parcel shall commit, conduct, promote, facilitate, permit, fail to prevent or otherwise let happen, any public nuisance. Such person shall abate and prevent any such public nuisance.
- B. The city manager may issue a notice and order in accordance with BMC [9.36.040](#) that would require the person upon whom the notice and order is served to abate or prevent a public nuisance, pay penalties or otherwise comply with this chapter. [Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

9.36.035 Enforcement and exceptions.

No property owner may threaten to or may take actual action against a tenant simply because they are a victim of a crime, domestic violence, illness or injury. [Ord. 17-27 § 2.]

9.36.040 Notice and order.

- A. The city manager may issue a notice and order by personal service or by certified mail service on the person with a legal or equitable interest in the parcel that is the subject of the notice and order. If the identity and address of the person with a legal or equitable interest in the parcel cannot be ascertained through the Bethel District recording office or another reasonable method, then the notice and order shall be sent by certified mail to the last known person with a legal or equitable interest in the parcel at their last known address, and posted at or on the parcel that is the subject of the notice and order. Employees or agents of the city are authorized to enter upon the parcel for the purpose of serving or posting a notice and order. Certified mail service is complete upon mailing. Personal service is complete upon handing the notice and order to the person being served.
- B. The notice and order shall set forth the reasons for its issuance, contain a brief description of the five (5) or more separate violations which serve as the basis for the issuance of the notice and order, identify the resultant penalties or other required actions, including but not limited to any abatement orders, and the notice and order shall otherwise comply with the provisions of this chapter.
- C. Person(s) served with a notice and order shall fully comply with the notice and order within fifteen (15) days or such longer time as may be required in the notice and order for compliance. Failure to comply with a notice and order shall constitute a separate violation of this chapter. Each day following the deadline for compliance that a person fails to fully comply with a notice and order constitutes a separate violation of this chapter unless the person has contested the notice and order in strict accordance with the provisions of this chapter.
- D. The notice and order shall inform the person served with it that they may contest it by filing a written request with the city manager for review of the notice and order by the city council in accordance with the procedures provided for in this chapter, and that the written request must be filed no later than fifteen (15) days after the notice and order was served. [Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

9.36.050 Hearing regarding notice and order – Decision – Appeal.

- A. A person served with a notice and order may contest it by filing a written request with the city manager for review of the notice and order by the city council in accordance with the procedures provided for in this chapter. The written request for such review must be filed no later than fifteen (15) days after service of the notice of public nuisance.
- B. If the city manager timely receives a written request for review, a hearing shall be conducted by a hearing officer, appointed by the city council at its next regularly scheduled meeting which occurs ten (10) or more days following the timely filed written request. The hearing officer shall be an attorney licensed to practice law in Alaska who is not the city attorney. In addition to conducting the hearing, the hearing officer shall make rulings regarding the admission of evidence and procedure, and prepare a proposed written decision for the city council to consider, upholding or denying in whole or in part the notice and order, including but not limited to any penalties, abatement order or other remedies provided for in the notice and order. The decision shall contain findings of fact and conclusions of law.
- C. The city council may adopt the hearing officer's decision or decide the matter itself based on the record created before the hearing officer.

The record shall include an audio tape recording or transcript of the hearing before the hearing officer. The hearing officer shall be present at the city council's consideration of the hearing officer's proposed decision to assist and advise the city council.

- D. An appeal from any final decision of the city council shall be filed in Superior Court, Fourth Judicial District, Bethel, Alaska, no later than thirty (30) days following service of the final decision upon the parties. Review of the decision by the Superior Court shall be limited to determining whether it is supported by substantial evidence in the record and whether the abatement order, penalties and other remedies imposed are authorized under this chapter. [Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

9.36.060 Conduct of the hearing.

- A. After the city council appoints a hearing officer, the city clerk shall inform the city manager and the person served with the notice and order of the appointment of the hearing officer. The hearing officer shall set a time and place for the hearing to be conducted within thirty (30) days of their appointment as the hearing officer unless the hearing officer orders that the hearing shall be conducted at a later date, which shall not exceed ninety (90) days following the appointment of the hearing officer.
- B. The hearing officer shall prescribe rules for the conduct of the proceeding. In developing such rules, the hearing officer shall be guided by the procedural rules established in AS [44.62.430](#) through [44.62.540](#) (state administrative procedures for the conduct of administrative hearings by hearing officers) and this chapter. In the event of a conflict between the provisions of this chapter and AS [44.62.430](#) through [44.62.540](#), the provisions of this chapter shall apply.

- C. The hearing officer's proposed decision shall be issued within fifteen (15) days of the close of the record in the hearing.
- D. The city shall have the burden to prove by clear and convincing evidence the facts that form the basis for the public nuisance. The city shall be afforded substantial deference in fashioning an appropriate abatement order, penalties, and/or other remedies as long as such orders, penalties and remedies are provided for in this chapter.
- E. A hearing officer may be appointed to conduct appeals without complying with BMC [4.20.170](#). [Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

9.36.070 Effect of abatement efforts – Defenses.

- A. It shall be a defense to a notice and order that, before the service of the notice and order, the person served has:
 - 1. Evicted, or attempted to evict by commencing and pursuing with due diligence appropriate court proceedings, all of the tenants and occupants of the parcel that committed each of the separate violations that constitute the alleged public nuisance; and
 - 2. Undertaken and pursued with due diligence, considering the nature and extent of the separate violations, reasonable means to avoid a recurrence of similar violations on the parcel by the present and future tenants or occupants of the parcel.
- B. Steps taken to abate the public nuisance after receiving a notice and order do not constitute a defense to penalties or other required actions provided for in a notice and order but may be taken into account by the hearing officer and the city council in upholding or denying, in whole or in part, any abatement order included in the notice and order. [Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

9.36.080 Abatement orders.

- A. Every abatement order issued under this chapter shall set forth the reasons for its issuance; shall be reasonably specific in its terms; shall describe in reasonable detail the acts and conditions authorized, required or prohibited; and shall be binding upon the parcel, the person issued the notice and order, all persons with a legal or equitable interest in the parcel, and their agents, employees or other representatives.
- B. Abatement orders shall be narrowly tailored to address the particular kinds of separate violations that form the basis of the alleged public nuisance. Such orders may:
 - 1. Require those bound by the order to take specified steps to abate the public nuisance;
 - 2. Require those bound by the order to require certain named individuals to stay away from the parcel at all times or for some specified reasonable period of time;

3. Allow city officials and employees to access to the parcel to inspect it for compliance with an abatement order; and
4. Require all actions which are necessary for the purposes of abating the public nuisance or preventing the public nuisance from occurring or recurring; provided, however, that no such order shall require the seizure of, the forfeiture of title to, or the temporary or permanent closure of, a parcel, or the appointment of a special receiver to protect, possess, maintain or operate a parcel. [Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

9.36.090 Penalties and remedies.

- A. A person who violates any provision of this chapter shall be subject to a civil penalty of:
 1. Three hundred dollars for the first (1st) violation;
 2. Seven hundred dollars for the second (2nd) violation;
 3. One thousand dollars for the third (3rd) and all subsequent violations.
- B. An abatement order may be issued in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.
- C. Penalties shall be paid within fifteen (15) days of service of the notice and order or within ten (10) days after the city council's final decision if a party served with a notice and order timely requests a hearing to contest it in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. If the city council's decision is timely appealed to the Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, the penalty shall be paid within ten (10) days after an appellate decision upholding the city council's decision to impose penalties.
- D. Each day that a person fails to comply with the provisions of this chapter shall constitute a separate violation of this chapter, including but not limited to each day that a person fails to comply with any abatement order issued under this chapter.
- E. In addition to other penalties and remedies provided for in this chapter, a person who was previously issued a notice and order that was not contested or was upheld by the hearing officer and city council, shall be required to pay all fees and costs, including but not limited to full reasonable attorney fees and costs, incurred by the city in bringing about compliance with any subsequent notice and order that is not contested or is upheld by the hearing officer and the city council. [Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

9.36.100 Remedies under other laws unaffected.

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as limiting or otherwise prohibiting the city or any other person from pursuing any other remedies available at law or in equity, or requiring that evidence or property seized, confiscated, closed, forfeited or destroyed under other provisions of law be subjected to the special remedies and procedures provided in this chapter. [Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

9.36.110 Effect of property conveyance.

When any legal or equitable interest to a parcel is conveyed from one (1) person to another, any separate violation existing at the time of the conveyance which could be used under this chapter to prove that a public nuisance exists with respect to such parcel, shall not be so used unless a reason for the conveyance was to avoid the parcel being declared a public nuisance pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. It shall be a rebuttable presumption that a reason for conveyance of the parcel was to avoid the parcel from being declared a public nuisance pursuant to the provisions of this chapter if: (1) the parcel was conveyed for less than fair market value; (2) the parcel was conveyed to an entity or entities controlled directly or indirectly by the person conveying the parcel; or (3) the parcel was conveyed to a relative of the person conveying the parcel. [Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

9.36.120 Nature of remedies.

The remedies provided in this chapter shall be civil and remedial in nature. [Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

9.36.130 Civil enforcement remedies.

A. The city may enforce any order or decision issued in accordance with this chapter that is not complied with by the person to whom the order or decision is issued by any method available in law, including but not limited to lien, foreclosure, sale of real and personal property or a civil action. In addition to seeking enforcement of an order or decision, a civil action may be instituted for injunctive and compensatory relief. [Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

9.36.140 Liens.

A. The fines, fees and other costs due and owing the city under this chapter constitute a lien in favor of the city upon the assets and property of all persons liable for the payment of the fines, fees and other costs.

B. The lien imposed by this section arises and attaches at the time that payment becomes delinquent and continues until the entire amount due is paid.

C. If delinquent fines, fees and other costs are not paid within thirty (30) days of service of an order or decision, a notice of lien may be recorded in the office of the district recorder in any recording district where the person liable has assets or property, and upon recordation, a lien arising under this section has priority over any other liens except those for special assessments or those granted priority by state or federal law.

D. An action to foreclose the lien created by this section shall be commenced and pursued in the manner provided for the foreclosure of liens in AS [09.45.170](#) through [09.45.220](#), or other applicable state law.

E. The remedy provided in this section is not exclusive and shall be in addition to all other remedies available to the city to collect the fines, fees and other costs due under this chapter.

- F. The failure to record a lien does not constitute a waiver or abrogation of any priorities, rights or interests of the city in law or equity.
- G. Upon full satisfaction of payment of all fines, fees and other costs, the city manager shall file a certificate discharging the lien. [Ord. 02-06 § 2.]

The Bethel Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 24-09, passed August 27, 2024.

Disclaimer: The city clerk's office has the official version of the Bethel Municipal Code. Users should contact the city clerk's office for ordinances passed subsequent to the ordinance cited above.

[City Website: www.cityofbethel.org](http://www.cityofbethel.org)

[Hosted by General Code.](#)

[illegible]

Planning Commission 2023 Attendance

Regular Meetings

Member Name	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Kathy Hanson, Chair	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	P	P			
Lorin Bradbury, Vice Chair	P	T	T	P	P	P	P	E	P			
Alex Wasierski	P	E	P	P	E	E	P	P	P			
Shadi Rabi	P	P	P	T	P	P	T	P	T			
Stanley Hoffman Jr.	P	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Greg Morgan	U	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx	xx
Haley Hanson	P	P	P	P	E	P	U	P	P			
Sundi Scott,	xx	xx	P	P	P	E	P	P	P			
Beth Hessler, Council Rep	P	P	P	E	P	E	P	P	P			

Special Meetings

Member Name	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Kathy Hanson, Chair							P		P			
Lorin Bradbury, Co-Chair							E		P			
Alex Wasierski							P		P			
Shadi Rabi							T		E			
Haley Hanson							P		E			
Sundi Scott,							P		E			
Beth Hessler, Council Rep							E		P			

Vacancy shall be declared by the body when a member:

Fails to attend 3 regular meetings without being excused by the body
 Fails to attend 3 special meetings without being excused by the body
 Fails to attend 65% of regular meetings
 Fails to attend 65% of special meetings.

P=Present
E=Excused
U=Unexcused
T= Tardy

Chair determines excused/unexcused during roll call. If a member disagrees with the the chair, a motion to overule the decision of the chair can be made.

xx: not yet appointed/left commission



College of Indigenous Studies
P.O. Box 368 • Bethel, Alaska 99559-0368 • (907) 543-4500 • 1-800-478-5822 • www.uaf.edu/bethel

Kuskokwim Consortium Library

April 1, 2024-June 30, 2024 Activity Report for the City of Bethel

KCL's mission is to improve the quality of life for all members of the community by meeting the cultural, recreational and informational needs of the University of Alaska's Kuskokwim Campus and the community of Bethel.

Some of our targeted outreach initiatives to improve the quality of life for all people include:

- Sponsoring the Dolly Parton Imagination Library through a partnership with Bethel Community Services Foundation.
- Literacy, research and educational outreach to organizations that serve youth/college students.
- One-on-one support with technology and forms.
- Outreach to the Bethel Housing Coalition, Bethel Winter House, and Food Bank to improve access to resources for marginalized members of the community, and sponsoring Project Homeless Connect events.

The library sponsors many programs and events throughout the year that connect the community and provide informational, recreational and educational opportunities.

Current Staff:

Theresa Quiner, Library Director
Mikayla Miller, Youth Services Librarian
Thomas Daniel, Circulation Technician
Scott Clifford, our new Jesuit Volunteer just shipped from Pennsylvania!



Bethel Friends of Canines stopped by with puppies for a stress relief break with library staff!



Program highlights:

April: We kicked off April with a Brown Bag Lunch called “**Tips and Tricks for iPhone Photography**” with community member and professional photographer Ryan Noeker.

On Saturdays we held more weekly drop in programs that included **Adult Crafting**, **Saturday Storytime**, **Chess Club**, and a **Pokemon Game Day**. We had noticed that many of the kids who use the library love Pokemon and collect the cards, but did not know how to play the game. Local community member Buddy (Alfred) Jackson shared his love of the game by teaching kids how to play. The first weekend in April we hosted a summer reading sign up event at Saturday Market in order to promote our fun reading programs over the summer. Visiting artist Jimmy Riordan joined us for a three day **zine making workshop**, and many adults and children enjoyed creating zines, which are small handcrafted small-batch publications.

In May, we kicked off with another **Summer Reading** sign up at the Southwest Alaska Art Group’s First Friday event. We enjoy bi-monthly **Toddler Times**, which is an opportunity for children to work on developing motor and social skills while parents can socialize and drink coffee. We kicked off our **Summer Reading Program** on May 17 with a teen program in collaboration with TWC’s Teens Acting Against Violence group, and hosted a teen video game night with an **Among Us** tournament. We love taking our programs outside, and hosted two **Community Birding** programs with the local birding community, and another **Finding Fiddleheads** plant walk with community member Carey Atchak.

In June we kicked off with a very fun **Kids Cooking Class**, again in collaboration with TAAV. Kids and teens learned some basic cooking skills like how to chop vegetables, boil water and more as they made spaghetti and meatballs from scratch. We partnered with the Teens Acting Against Violence Group to help organize a community **Pride celebration**, and held an ethnobotany walk showing people where and how to harvest **Wild Rhubarb**. We enjoyed leading kids in a sewing program teaching them how to do basic hand sewing. Community member Lailtrice Graham led a program called **Kitchen to Cosmetics**, and taught people how to make skin care products out of materials that people generally have on hand in their kitchens. Our Jesuit Volunteer led another **Painting program** for adults. Painting programs are always well attended popular programs.



We started off the fiscal year with the last of our summer reading programs in July and August. We had been collaborating with GBH Boston, Alaska Public Media, and tribal representatives for the past year to develop a Molly of Denali two day camp. The theme was **Molly Community Science Salmon Protector Camp**. We held the camp in July, and it was a huge success. We combined cultural and traditional knowledge with Western Science concepts, and brought in community members to lead different activities. Elder Ayaprun Jones and 4-H’s Tina Uta helped lead the camp, and activities

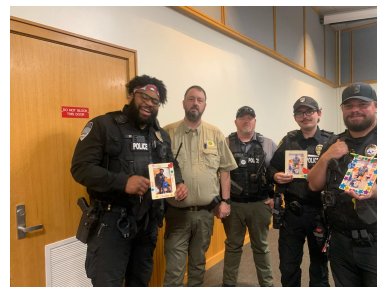
included learning to cut fish, learning to test the fish for age/ sex/ length using scientific tools,

learning a traditional dance about salmon, and learning about the salmon life cycle. If more funding is obtained, the camp curriculum will be developed further and made available to other organizations through PBS kids.

We also worked with Alaska Public Media to do a two day



Family Learn and Grow workshop, which taught parents how to work with their kids to develop their social/ emotional skills. We worked with the Bethel Police Department to do a Crafting with a Cop workshop which was well received by the community, and artist Jimmy Riordan came back out to lead a **week long Artapalooza**



program where kids learned a different art technique every day. We also hosted another Dutch Oven Cooking Class and learned how to amp up our camp cooking techniques.

We wrapped up the summer with our annual summer reading celebration where we give away books and raffle off the prizes from the reading raffle. Because this event aligned with the Olympics, the theme for the celebration this year was “**Silly Olympics**”, and we worked with volunteers and community organizations to lead the kids in a variety of silly competitions like “Blind Tug of War”. Even the Police and Fire departments got in on the fun, and competed against each other in the tug of war competition. We ended the raffle with a dance off for the “Silliest Olympian” trophy. Jeremiah West competed against and was victorious in beating the new Police Chief in a dance off for the “Silliest Olympian Trophy.”



In September, we brought out Cooperative Extension Agent Jasmine Shaw from the Sitka office to do **three days of CES workshops**. She provided pressure gauge testing and time for people to drop in and ask their gardening and food preservation questions. She also led a gardening 101 workshop, a canning workshop, and a workshop on fermenting and pickling. She loved working with the community here, and we plan to bring her out again this winter to lead more workshops.

We also worked with the Southwest Alaska Arts Group and KYUK to do our third annual

Tales on the Tundra storytelling event. 6 storytellers took to the stage to tell a story from their own life, and local band PNKS performed. Almost 100 people attended the show, and it reached an even larger audience when it aired on KYUK and on the library’s YouTube channel. Scan the QR code to watch the full show!



Project updates:

- The library has two outstanding grant applications out to receive funding as a subrecipient for **National Digital Equity/ Literacy grant programs**.
 - One would provide funding for two additional full time staff positions at the library to expand our hours and to expand on our digital literacy services. The



program would also provide funding for people who complete digital literacy workshops and classes to receive a laptop for home use.

- The second application is to receive funding to make the library more user friendly for people working on the public computers. It would allow us to replace some of the furniture in the library. We would replace the current computers carrels with nicer carrels which would include a family workstation like this. We would also replace the existing conference table in the Alaska room with a table that is outfitted with locking drawers that contain laptops so we can expand the number of computer terminals we have available in the library, and have a space where we could have computer workshops during normal library operating hours. We would also replace the soft seating with new seating that has laptop trays and charging stations built into each chair, which is a huge need because we don't have enough outlets in the library.
- We are continuing to work on the Rasmuson Collection Development Grant to replace a lot of the adult non-fiction collection. This is a two year project, and we may ask for an extension.
- We are hoping to seek funding to digitize the Tundra Drums newspaper in the next two years. We have been in discussion with the copyright owner about the project, and he has expressed a willingness for the project. We have drafted a legal document with UA Legal for him to sign, and are pending his signature. We will apply for a Native American Library Services Enhancement Grant this winter to fund the project.



Professional Association/ Conference attendance:

- Theresa and Mikayla were able to attend the American Library Association Annual Conference in San Diego in June for the first time, and learned a lot through the many workshops attended.
- Theresa attended and presented at the Alaska Library Association/ Pacific Northwest Library Association Conference in August. Over 50 people attended the presentation titled "Community Outreach Done Right" and she presented on the library's outreach work with the Bethel Housing and Homelessness Coalition. The discussion included tips for how other communities and libraries can use what the BHHC learned for successful coalition work to tackle community problems.

Statistics April 1, 2024--September 30, 2024

- Active library card users: 2,562
- New library card registrations since April 1: 337
- Visitors to the library:
 - April: 2821
 - May: 2093
 - June: 2208
 - July: 2057
 - August: 1891
 - September: 2005
 - Total: 13,075
- Public computer sessions:
 - April: 489
 - May: 297
 - June: 337
 - July: 291
 - August: 341
 - September: 388
 - Total: 2143
- Alaska Room reservations for meetings or student use:
 - April: 18
 - May: 5
 - June: 4



- July: 2
 - August: 6
 - September: 10
 - Total: 45
- Reference/ research assistance requests:
 - April: 84
 - May: 128
 - June: 80
 - July: 67
 - August: 126
 - September: 136
 - Total: 621
- Family/ Community events (all ages):
 - April: 7
 - May: 4
 - June: 1
 - July: 7
 - August: 1
 - September: 1
 - Total: 21
- Adults only programs:
 - April: 1
 - May: 0
 - June: 3
 - July: 2
 - August: 1
 - September: 3
 - Total: 10
- 12-18 (teen) programs:
 - April: 0
- May: 1
 - June: 5
 - July: 0
 - August: 0
 - September: 0
 - Total: 6
- 6-11 year old programs:
 - April: 2
 - May: 1
 - June: 1
 - July: 2
 - August: 0
 - September: 2
 - Total: 8
- Birth to 5 years old:
 - April: 2
 - May: 0
 - June: 2
 - July: 2
 - August: 0
 - September: 2
 - Total: 8
- Outreach (to schools, etc):
 - April: 3
 - May: 0
 - June: 0
 - July: 0
 - August: 1
 - September: 5
 - Total: 9
- **Total programs/ outreach: 62**
- **Total attendance in programs 1317**

Upcoming fall programs and events

- Indigenous Peoples' Day Community Celebration October 14, 12-8 p.m.
- Toddler Times October 21 & 28, November 11 18, and December 16 at 11 a.m.
- Rocky Horror Picture Show, October 26, 9 p.m.-midnight
- Trunk or Treat, Halloween Carnival, and Haunted House October 31, 5:30
- Project Homeless Connect November 12, 12-2 p.m.
- Winterfest Carnival December 7



MEMORANDUM

Date: September 30, 2024

To: Lori Strickler, Acting City Manager

From: Lee Foley, Planning Director

Subject: Planning Director's August Report

September 2024 Events

- **Property Issues/Public Nuisances:**

- 1. **No new issues or nuisances identified**

- **Site Plan Permits:** Planning received two (2) Residential Site Plan Permits and two (2) Commercial Site Plan Permits. All have been processed.
- **Planning Commission:** During the regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, September 12, 2024. Commission members reviewed and approved Bethel Comprehensive Plan 2045. The members also considered the City's application to rezone Lots 4, 5, & 6, Block 7, USS 3230 AB from Public Lands & Institution (PLI) to General Use (GU). The application was not approved due to administrative errors. Subsequently, the Commission held a Special Meeting on September 19, 2024, and approved the City's application for rezoning. Changes to the Bethel Official Land Use Map were incorporated and promulgated, reflecting the approved rezoning application. A Lot Line Adjustment to reflect one (1) lot instead of three (3) is being processed.
- **Abandoned Vehicles:** Met with the Director of Public Safety on September 10, 2024, and toured the City, identifying abandoned and/or junk vehicles, growing junk yards, areas that potentially contribute to public safety hazards, and speaking with residents and owners. Subsequently, met with the Port Director to review the plan to remove two (2) vehicles from the Dock. The Director of Public Safety, Port Director, Landfill Manager, Public Works Director, and Planning will work

collaboratively to develop a comprehensive plan for dealing with this issue.

- **Vacancies:** There are no vacant positions in the Planning Department.
- **Large Projects:**
 1. **Ptarmigan Street Encroachments** – Initial letters sent to ten (10) entities and/or individuals on June 6, 2024. whose properties encroach on the City's right-of-way A second round of letters with an Agreement Contract was developed collaboratively by Planning, the City Attorney, and the Acting City Manager and will be promulgated before the end of September.
 2. **City of Bethel Professional Housing Project** – Land levelled and filled with pile driving ongoing.
 3. **AC Store Construction** – Belated Commercial Site Plan approved with conditions, but work has not recommenced to date. The site plan fee has been remitted to the City.



William Arnold, Public Works Director
1155 Ridgecrest Drive
PO Box 649 Bethel, AK 99559
P: (907) 543-3110
F: (907) 543-2046
warnold@cityofbethel.net

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 09.30.2024
TO: City Manager
FROM: Bill Arnold, Public Works Director
SUBJECT: Manager's Report – Public Works Department
Programs/Divisions

Hauled Utilities: We have lost two employees will have three newly hired come mid- October. This month we have had two claims filed against the city. Outside of this our team has kept all scheduled and extra service caught up for the month of September 2024. I need to thank V& E and road maintenance for all the support they have given us throughout the month. Building maintenance thank you for replacing the thermostat in the hauled Utility office. I would like to thank Tom from the port for delivering water to almost every barge this season, this was a great benefit to the hauled utilities department. This month we have responded to a few lift stations with utility maintenance.

Utility Maintenance:

Property Maintenance:

Pool Building	9/26/2024 Work on boilers and boiler system controls
Public Works Building	9/3/2024 Repair Hauled Utilities overhead door. Repair Toilet Hauled Utilities.
	9/8/2024 Repair latch on door southside.
	9/11/2024 Lower all city flags to half-mast.
	9/12/2024 Renumber city fuel tanks
	9/13/2024 Renumber city fuel tanks
	9/17/2024 Repair Hauled Utilities toilet
	9/18/2024 Replace Hauled Utilities thermostat
	9/16/2024 Building crate for pole light material
	9/23/2024 Relocate pole light material to public works
	9/27/2024 Make keys for contractors coming for utility maint
City Hall	

	9/04/2024 Make Keys for DMV
	9/11/2024 Check Heat DMV office.
	9/12/2024 Make keys for DMV
	9/16/2024 Work on leak under building
	9/20/2024 Cutoff 3" pipe pushing up floor by rear door
Fire Department	
	9/11/2024 Open Valves for heat.
Police Department	
	9/02/2024 Work on overhead door. Replace ballast in light fixture.
	9/09/2024 Help move new furniture upstairs
	9/25/2024 Work on boiler in shop
	9/26/2024 Work on boiler in shop
	9/27/2024 Work on boiler in shop
Courthouse Building	
	9/10/2024 Escort Long looking at heating system for upcoming contracted work.
	9/17/2024 Repair toilet courtroom 6
	9/19/2024 Adjust boiler
	9/23/2024 Adjust boiler
Transit Bus Building	9/11/2024 Work on new compressor
Port Office Building	9/19/2024 Repair damaged circuits in warehouse
	9/23/2024 Repair damaged circuits in warehouse
Bus Barn	9/3/2024 Work on office for Streets and Roads.
	9/04/2024 Bleed fuel line for furnace.
	9/09/2024 Work on office for Streets and Roads.
	9/11/2024 Work on office for Streets and Roads.
	9/12/2024 Work on office for Streets and Roads.
	9/13/2024 Work on office for Streets and Roads.
	9/17/2024 Work on office for Streets and Roads.
	9/18/2024 Work on office for Streets and Roads.
	9/19/2024 Work on office for Streets and Roads.
	9/23/2024 Work on office for Streets and Roads.
	9/24/2024 Work on office for Streets and Roads.
	9/24/2024 Work on overhead door
	9/25/2024 Work on office for Streets and Roads.
Boardwalk	
	9/9/2024 Replace missing planks
	9/20/2024 Remove bikes from boardwalk
Dog Pound	
	9/05/2024 Repair leaking water line.
	9/23/2024 Check for leaks in kennel troughs and under building
	9/24/2024 Turn on heat pump

Play Parks in General	
x10 Parks	
	9/9/2024 Bolt trash can to rail to prevent tipping over at owl park. Pick up trash at
	Parks.
	9/17/2024 Pickup trash at all parks.
	9/23/2024 Pickup trash at all parks.
Cemetery Airport	
	9/9/2024 Replace broken rope on flagpole.
	9/17/2024 Replace rope on flag pole
	9/24/2024 Level storage building
All City Buildings	9/01/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/02/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/03/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/04/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/05/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/06/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/07/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/08/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/09/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/10/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/11/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/12/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/13/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/14/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/15/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/16/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/17/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/18/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/19/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/20/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/21/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/22/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/23/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/24/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/25/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/26/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/27/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/28/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/29/2024 Building checks and rounds
	9/30/2024 Building checks and rounds

Road Maintenance: Business as usual maintained lots of roads. Built a large pad on 5th Ave for professional housing.

Vehicles and Equipment: As usual V&E has been servicing and repairing vehicle and equipment as needed

Transit System:

September was another busy month with steady ridership. The riders consisted of 871 Seniors, 20 Youth, 103 Adults, 154 Disabled, and 1,140 Pass riders. 82 Day Passes along with 500 Day Passes were purchased by TWC and 15 Month Passes along with ONC buying 11-3 Month Passes for their clients. Bus 440 logged 2,292 miles and purchased 270.302 gallons of fuel. Total fares came to \$5,289.00.

At the middle of this month I went to a workshop in Montana which RTAP and TSI sponsored for Transit Substance Abuse Management and Program Compliance to which I received my certification. Also, this month the Transit department paid for 2 new transit buses with 5339 grant funds. The new buses will be arriving on the last barge of the season.

Landfill & Hauled Refuse: The landfill and hauled refuse had another busy month in September. The dumpster truck hauled 72 loads of trash into the landfill, other misc. city trucks hauled 32 loads into the landfill, Private citizens hauled 365 loads into the landfill, there was 3444 yards of commercial trash delivered to the landfill, we received 18 unit with freon in them to be drained and disposed of, we received 2 cars durn the month of September, and 69 load of dirt for covering the trash. I am still waiting for the final report on the inspection that was done in July. We are also receiving on the last barge 22 new dumpster. I am still looking for a permanent Landfill Tech with a CDL License.

Staffing Issues/Concerns/Training:

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 26, 2024
TO: Lori Strickler, Acting City Manager
FROM: John Sargent, Grant Manager



SUBJECT: Grant Manager's Report for October 8, 2024 Bethel City Council Meeting

Grant Awards

The City was awarded \$75,000 from the Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management to pay a consulting firm to develop a cybersecurity plan. The City may pursue capital funding next year for the recommended capital expenditures that appear in the plan.

Grant Applications in Preparation

Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

Police Chief Harris chose to use the \$11,116 formula JAG grant to be part of the funds used to purchase new security cameras and door card reader program for the police station. In the grant application, I said the City would pay the remaining project amount of \$60,326.36.

Jesuit Volunteer Application

The Acting City Manager approached me with the idea of preparing a grant application to Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest to request a part-time Jesuit Volunteer for one year to serve as Community Parks and Recreation Coordinator. This staff position would assist the City in its effort to reestablish the Parks and Recreation Department.

VSW State Revolving Loan

I will complete the Questionnaire required for the City to be able to apply for a State Revolving Loan for the City's water treatment plant upgrades and hopefully qualify for a forgiveness portion. The project cost is \$2,787,000. I

EPA Grant for Removal of Derelict Vessels

The City must apply for a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency in order to secure the \$5.018 million appropriation from Senator Murkowski's Office.

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program

The City of Bethel has a chance to secure \$75,220 in formula grant funding from Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant Program. City Administration is planning to purchase a solar power project for use at the YK Fitness Center.

Grant Administration

Homeland Security Grant - Fencing

I prepared and issued a Request for Proposals to hire a fence company to purchase and install 1,050 feet of chain-link security fencing around the new Vehicle & Equipment Shop. Although late in the season, the City will see if it is possible for a company to install the fence in October. If not, the successful bidder will be contracted for spring barge delivery and June 2026 fence installation.

COPS Hiring Grant

I completed the Final Progress Report to close the City's COPS Hiring Grant that provided \$125,000 to cover salaries and benefits of a new police officer position over three years. The City received \$125,000. The City met its requirement to fund the position in Year 4, which ended June 30, 2024.

Current Grants

See list on following pages.

#	Grant	Amount	Expiration
1	Coronavirus Capital Project Fund	\$ 9,000,000	12/31/2026
	The State of Alaska, Dept. of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, Division of Community and Regional Affairs, is expected to produce the Grant Agreement for the City of Bethel by October 27, 2024. The City met all the NEPA and Section 106 requirements requested by the grantor.		
2	Denali Commission Grant	\$ 500,000	9/30/2026
	Grant awarded for construction of Bethel Multiuse Community Center (new gymnasium).		
3	CSP - DHSS FY 2024	\$ 323,081	6/30/2025
	A review of a Detail Ledger report on the first quarter of CSP spending shows that the City has charges for gasoline, cell phone usage, and insurance, which has not always been the case. The first quarter progress and financial reports are due October 30, 2024.		
4	23SHSP-GY23 – Virtual Simulator & Fencing	\$ 268,000	9/30/2025
	The City prepared and issued a Request for Proposals to hire a contractor to purchase and install the fencing around the City's new V&E Shop. Two addendums have been issued based on questions from prospective proposers. Hopefully, the City can get the fence installed in October 2024. The City was denied its reallocation request to purchase a keyless door entry system and building security cameras in lieu of the approved virtual shooting simulator purchase. The City will complete the Environmental, Historical and Preservation documents necessary for the simulator purchase.		
5	COPS Hiring Program - School Resource Officer (SRO)	\$ 125,000	6/30/2023
	City completed final progress report and final financial report to close the grant. City Finance Dept. collected the full \$125,000 grant amount after it completed the finance reports.		
6	Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation Diabetes Prevention & Control Program	\$ 4,738	None
	To do: Complete Final Report and close grant.		
7	Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (ARPA)	\$ 3,361,604	12/31/2024
	The City must spend the remaining grant funds by December 31, 2024. The construction of the Chemical Storage Building and engineer fees are expected to consume the grant balance.		
8	Designated Legislative Grant > YK Fitness Center Gym/Track Design	\$ 500,000	6/30/2026
	DOWL, LLC estimates that it has incurred about half of the grant funds in its work designing the new Bethel Multituse Community Center (gym).		
9	Designated Legislative Grant Public Safety Communication Tower	\$ 500,000	6/30/2028
	STG, Inc. hired to purchase and install the Public Safety Communications Tower.		
10	Designated Legislative Grant > Dust Control	\$ 1,200,000	6/30/2029
	City ready to respond to State with Scope of Work, Budget, and Timeline, which are needed for the State to draw up a grant agreement.		

11	State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP)	\$ 75,000	9/30/2026
The City of Bethel will hire a consultant or use DOWL, LLC to conduct a cybersecurity review of the City's IT network, equipment, software, and physical layout. The City may use recommendations in the plan as grant requests next year.			
12	Healthy & Equitable Funding	\$ 242,057	12/31/2024
The contractor installed two sets of playground equipment in June 2024. The City will seek reimbursement as soon as the last bills are paid.			
13	VSW Capital Improvement Project Grant	\$ 13,860,000	
City hired an electrical firm to complete the water treatment plant improvements. These improvements are necessary to make the plant ready to connect water pipes to the new school and the Martina Oscar Subdivision.			
14	APEI Safety Grant	\$ 5,000	9/30/2025
The City's Streets and Roads Division will purchase orange cones and barricades to keep workers and the public safe during road work.			

Total \$ 29,964,480



CITY OF BETHEL

Post Office Box 1388

Bethel, Alaska 99559

Phone: 907- 543- 2047

TO: City Manager
FROM: Human Resources
SUBJECT: Monthly Manager Report

DATE: September 30, 2024

The following identifies significant projects that were in addition to general personnel action-based activities (hiring, terminations, benefits review, employee support, etc):

Recruitment and Hiring

Department	Budgeted Positions	Applications Received	Vacancies	<u>Change Since Last Report</u>		
				Pending Offers	Hired	Separated
Administration	4	9*	2			
City Clerk	2		0			
Finance	9	1	3			-1
Planning	2		0			
Attorney	1		0			
Public Safety						
<i>Admin</i>	3	9*	0		+1	
<i>Fire</i>	10	1	1		+1	
<i>Police</i>	31	7	6		+4	
Public Works						
<i>Admin</i>	2	9*	1			
<i>Streets/Roads</i>	6	1	2			
<i>Prop Maintenance</i>	5	1	1			
<i>Refuse/Landfill</i>	3		0			
<i>Hauled Services</i>	19	6	14	+1		-1
<i>Piped Water/Plants</i>	9	2	3			
<i>Vehicles & Equip</i>	7		3			-1
Transit	2.5		.5			
Port and Harbor	3		0			
Parks and Rec	1	3	1			
Total	118.5	31	37.5	*Applications for Admin Asst.- General		

The new City website seems to have expanded the City's exposure on both Indeed and Google searches, as identified by applicants noting "how they heard about the job".

A total of 31 applications were received by HR during September for advertised vacancies. Of these, the City received 9 applications for administrative assistant positions, which were reviewed for vacancies in Administration, Public Safety/Fire and Public Works.

Current vacancies at the Management Team level include City Manager, Finance Director, and the newly-posted Community Parks and Recreation Director.

While Hauled Services has 14 vacancies (one permanent hire has a pending offer for October 7th), the City has 9 temporary drivers available on staff to fulfill the community's water and sewer utility needs.

NeoGOV Transition

Offboarding is still in development, with fewer instances to test forms and checklists.

The E-forms component is complete, with the majority of September's Personnel Action Requests (PARs) completed electronically. In addition, Policy Acknowledgements have begun through the system. Because the system requires an employee to download a policy before acknowledging it, the process results in multiple copies of the policy stored in the City's network, in addition to superseded policies being retained. HR is obtaining a quote from NeoGov to add the Policy management component to the City's HR suite to help streamline policy management.

Online Timekeeping

HR continues to work with Caselle on requirements to transition to online timekeeping.

Workplace Safety, Injuries and OSHA Notifications

There were no reported workplace injuries during the month.

Ongoing and Future Projects

- Attendance at the October Alaska Society of Human Resource Management (ASHRM) annual conference.
- Updating classification and compensation data.
- Job Description review and updates.
- Presentation and acknowledgment of City Drug and Alcohol Policies.
- Updating the Employee Handbook, last adopted by City Council in 2015.



CITY OF BETHEL
OFFICE OF
JAMES C. HARRIS
CHIEF OF PUBLIC SAFETY
harrisjc@cityofbethel.net



September 2024 Monthly Report
Police Department

Personnel:

Current Staffing			
Position	Allocated	Staffed	Vacant
Safety Patrol (three grant funded)	3	3	0
Community Service Officer	2	2	0
Evidence and Record Custodian	1	1	0
Administrative Assistant/Taxi Inspector	1	1	0
Public Safety Dispatcher (one E911 funded)	5	2	3
Public Safety Dispatch Supervisor	1	0	0
Peace Officers (one grant funded/reimbursed SRO)	20	16	4

Operations:

Operations Tempo				
	September 2024	August 2024	September 2023	2024 Total
Calls Total	833	922	1027	15510
Reports Total	113	168	92	1259
Intoxicated Pedestrian Calls	129	129	114	1323
Driving Under Influence Calls	11	9	12	126
Domestic Violence Reports	16	14	12	248
Disturbance Calls	73	61	78	795
Subject Removal Calls	30	64	66	586
Animal Calls	30	30	19	314
Animal Bite Reports	1	0	0	9
Sexual Assault Reports	1	1	1	30
Death Investigation Reports	0	2	2	10

Dispatch: (907) 543-3781 FAX: (907) 543-5086



**CITY OF BETHEL
OFFICE OF
JAMES C. HARRIS
CHIEF OF PUBLIC SAFETY
harrisjc@cityofbethel.net**



PERSONAL:

Daneila Cordoba from LAPD was hired as a police Officer start date of 09/25/2024

Adam Rivers was hired And has begun work

Sophie Poe was hired as admin assistant for police and fire

We are currently working on two background investigation for potential new hires .

Chief Harris, Officer Charles and Sgt Roberson attended a symposium for Alaska Safe Roads, Officer Charles was present an award as was Officer Parkin for their contribution to safe roads initiative. Chief Harris excepted the award for Officer Parkin due to him being on leave.

Evidence Custodian Patricia Watson Started Work .

TRAINING:

Lt. Wigner attended an Evidence training

Other:

(*) calls for service security checks removed from this number. Officers conducted 107 security checks.

Bethel Fire Department September Report

Total calls 87

Fire Calls: 13

EMS Calls: 74

Most fire calls were lockouts both car and house and false alarms made up most fire calls.

One Notable Fire Call

On 9-19-24 at 1:29 a.m. Firefighters responded to the report of something on fire in the pit. Firefighters found a vehicle on fire as well as a front-end loader equipment on fire. Firefighters extinguished both fires. The cause of the fires is under investigation.

Dispatch: (907) 543-3781 FAX: (907) 543-5086



**CITY OF BETHEL
OFFICE OF
JAMES C. HARRIS
CHIEF OF PUBLIC SAFETY
harrisjc@cityofbethel.net**



Notable EMS Calls

On 9-7-24 at 12:57 a.m. medics responded to the report of a person that was stabbed in the thigh. Patient was assessed and transported to the hospital. Patient medevac'd to Anchorage.

On 9-9-24 at 8:52 a.m. medics responded to the report of a person with a cut on their abdomen. Patient was assessed and transported to the hospital.

On 9-16-24 at 1:26 p.m. a medic responded with the National Guard Blackhawk for a search and rescue. Medic and Blackhawk crew located the individuals and transported them back to Bethel. They were reported to have no injuries.

Staffing

Career Staffing. 10 out of 12 positions added one firefighter trainee and one administration assistant to be shared with the police department.

Volunteering staffing. 26 volunteers

City of Bethel, Alaska

Acting City Manager's Office

September 18, 2024- October 1, 2024

Ongoing Projects

Community Center Expansion

There will be a mandatory pre bid meeting on October 18th to discuss with the potential bidders the details and scope of the project.

Animal Control Center

A meeting is being coordinated between DOWL, Architects Alaska, and Bethel Friends of Canines to determine if there are construction modifications that can be made to reduce the construction costs. We anticipate meeting the first week of October.

Boardwalk Lighting/Park Lighting

The contractor performed a drop in of the electrical line for the light posts. The contractor is awaiting additional supplies prior to scheduling the next phase of the project.

Bethel Heights/Martina Oscar Water/Sewer Project

Our water facility team members, DOWL, and two contractors met to identify an action plan for the near future shutdowns of the water distribution system to allow for the instillation of the high-power pump. This installation will need to occur before freeze-up and will help ensure the Bethel Heights Water Treatment Plant, has enough water pressure to supply Ayaprun. The City team will be coordinating with DEC for the shutdown. During these shutdowns the team plans to address a few other areas where there are major leaks.

Piped Utility Audit

The piped utility team completed an audit of piped services which is being compared the current account lists to ensure customers have accounts with the City. This cross reference will take a bit more time than expected because of unexpected staff shortages.

Professional Housing Development

The Planning Commission approved the re-zone on September 19th. Since, the contractor has completed driving the piles on the property.

Ptarmigan Encouragements DOT STIP Project

The Planning Department has sent out a second notice of municipal property encroachment, request to cure. This time the notice included an agreement for the violators to cure the encroachment by June 30, 2025. DOWL, and the State of Alaska DOT will be meeting late October to discuss the project. We should have an update in November.

Bethel Police Department Server Replacement

On September 17th Alaska Communications completed the server transfer of information. The new system is up and running.

Tundra Ridge Road State of Alaska Department of Transportation Project

The City performed a final walkthrough of the Tundra Ridge Road on October 1. Public access to the roadway is delayed one week because the signs are not yet installed.

Community Parks and Recreation Director Recruitment

The City has received three applications for the position. We will organize a hiring committee to evaluate the applicants at the end of the month.

Piped Water Audit

The piped utility team completed their walking audit of the piped services. On or shortly after October 1, we will run a report of utility account holders and compare that list with the audit list to identify who has not yet complied. Once that list is created, we will send a letter to the property owners providing notice of violation.

Request for Proposals, Bids, Qualifications

Fencing at V&E Shop Request for Proposal

The construction of a fence around the new location of the Vehicle and Equipment Shop Request for Proposal will close October 7th.

Yukon Kuskokwim Community Center Expansion Request for Qualifications

Expected to open October 7th, and Close on October 28

General

- Updating our property damage claims against the City processes.
- Updating some personnel policies to include Vehicle Use Policy and Union leave bank Use Procedures.
- Through the walkthroughs of the Tundra Ridge Road, we were able to make some connections with the State DOT. They will be working on designs for the Chief Eddie Hoffman project which we asked to be updated on regularly.
- We have engaged in a partnership with the Alaska Municipal League in their grant application to the U.S. Economic Development Administration for disaster response and mitigation training on a statewide level. Partnership coordination and resource sharing is a necessity in everyday life but becomes more impactful during a disaster.
- AML is also working on applications for the Digital Equity Coalition funding. We confirmed with AML our interest in obtaining their help in the application process to assist in funding internet and computer equipment at the Community Center.
- The City has a number of trucks and large equipment items that came in on the last barge. The Team is working to ensure the items are registered, paid for, and working.



City of Bethel

Finance Department

Manager's Report for September 2024

Date: September 1-30, 2025

To: Lori Strickler, Acting City Manager

From: Cynthia Sharp, Deputy Finance Director

Subject: Management Report, September 2024

Current Events within the Finance Department

Sales tax: is currently working on reviewing all accounts to make sure they are current on their sales tax filings. Making contact with clients to get updated information. And continues to study and learn more about the BMC-Sales Tax/business license portion.

Utility Billing: is currently in training learning how the monthly processes work, making sure the procedures are followed and on schedule.

Accounts payable/Payroll: is working on cleaning up old accounts in the system. Merging vendors, making sure there are W-9's on file for vendors, etc. The payroll portion she is in training and doing very well.

General Ledger: Keeps us all in balance

Finance Committee

Finance Committee meeting worked on business license modifications to send to Council

Personnel

Open positions: Finance Director /Front Desk

City of Bethel, Alaska

City Clerk's Office

Council Meetings

October 8, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting
October 14 2024 Special City Council Meeting
October 22, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting

City Clerk's Office

-City Hall hosted early voting for the City's Regular Election and for the State's REAA Election. Mon-Fri. 8:30-5pm, with extended hours on the 17th and 24th until 6:00pm.

-GovHR has reopened the search process for hiring a City Manager.

- Continuing to troubleshoot wrinkles with the City's Website and Archiving Software.

- Wrapping up the City's October 1st Regular Election. The event was run successfully and professionally. I would like to thank all the election workers and chairs for helping to make the election process easy and streamlined for the voters. Also, a big thank you to Lori for walking me through the election season and being a resource to draw from to help me figure out all the processes and deadlines which had to be met.

Task	Period Total	Year to Date Total
Passport Appointments	5	57
Burial Permits/Reservations	4	34
Notary Services	2	26
Meeting Minutes Drafted	3	20
Resolutions Drafted	1	7
Ordinances Drafted	-	2
AM/IM Drafted	-	4

Committee/Commission Vacancies	Regular	Alternate
Community Parks and Recreation Committee	full	1
Planning Commission	full	2
Port Commission	1	2
Public Safety and Transportation Commission	full	2
Community Action Grant Technical Review Board	full	full
Public Works Committee	3	2
Finance Committee	1	2
Ethics Board	full	1