

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on December 19, 2024 at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska.
Mayor Henderson called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the Council, the following members were present:
City Council Member Mark Springer (telephonically) Mayor Rose Henderson Vice-Mayor Teresa Keller City Council Member Mikayla Miller City Council Member Pamela Conrad
Members Absent:
City Council Member WG Anaruk City Council Member Alicia Miner
Also in attendance were the following:
City Manager Lori Strickler, Acting City Clerk Kevin Morgan, City Attorney Libby Bakalar (telephonically)

4. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD – Five minutes per person

Beverly Hoffman- Resident of Bethel- Vice-Chair of the Community Parks and Recreation Committee. In favor of AM 24--39, Option 1. In favor of Uncommon pizza license renewal.

Alex Wasierski- Resident of Bethel- In support of the gym. As shareholder of Uncommon Pizza, would like a chance to get the business into compliance.

Jaela Milford- Resident of Bethel- In support of the Community Action Grant being available again. Spoke about the positive impact of Uncommon Pizza's donations and fundraising to the Bethel Winter House and local non-profits.

Andy Angstman- Resident of Anchorage- In support of the gym. As shareholder of Uncommon Pizza, would like to correct the situation.

Teresa Quiner- Resident of Bethel- In favor of Community Action Grant funding for the Library's arts program. In support of Uncommon Pizza. In Support of expanding the gym.

Eileen Arnold- Resident of Bethel- In Support of the gym.

Warren Nicolai- In support of a community gym.

Brian Lefferts- Chair of the Community Parks and Recreation Committee, in Support of expanding the gym, option 1 for AM 24-39.

Shane Iverson- In support of the larger gym, option 1 for AM 24-39.

Taylor Feightner-Resident of Bethel- In support of the larger gym, option 1 for AM 24-39.

Item 4.1. - Written Public Comments

No Written Comments submitted.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND REGULAR AGENDA

Main Motion: Approval of the Consent and Regular Agenda.

Moved by:	Teresa Keller
Seconded by:	Mikayla Miller
In favor:	Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Teresa Keller, Mikayla Miller, Pamela Conrad
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

-Remove from the consent agenda Item 10.5 Resolution 24-14- Council Member Miller.

6. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Item 6.1. - *11-26-2024 Regular City Council Meeting

Passed on the consent agenda.

7. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Port Commission- No one to report.

Planning Commission, Mayor Henderson- Nothing to report

Community Action Grant Committee, Council Member Conrad- They met and reviewed 6 applications and 2 applications were incomplete.

Community Parks and Recreation Committee, Council Member Miller- They were in favor of option 1 for AM 24-39. Also discussed land designation, , and tabled discussing a shredder for trees.

Finance Committee, No one to report.

Public Works Committee, Council Member Springer- No quorum at the last meeting.

Public Safety and Transportation Commission, Vice-Mayor Keller- Nothing to report.

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

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10. NEW BUSINESS

Item 10.1. - *Introduction Of Ordinance 24-04(c): Amending The Adoption Annual Operating Budget For Fiscal Year 2025, July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025 (Acting City Manager Strickler)

Passed on the consent agenda.

Item 10.2. - *Introduction Of Ordinance 24-05(e): Amending The Capital Improvement, Budget For Fiscal Year 2025, July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025 (City Manager Strickler)

Passed on the consent agenda.

Item 10.3. - *Introduction Of Ordinance 24-16: Amending Bethel Municipal Code 4.04.080, Budget Control, To Eliminate The \$12,500 Intradepartmental Line-Item Transfer Threshold (City Manager Strickler)

Passed on the consent agenda.

Item 10.4. - *Introduction Of Ordinance 24-17: Establishing A Pay Grade, Job Titles, And Compensation Plan For Non-Union-Represented City Employees (City Manager Strickler)

Passed on the consent agenda.

Item 10.5. - *Resolution 24-14: Conditionally Protesting The Renewal Of A Restaurant Or Eating Place License For UCP49 LLC, Doing Business As Uncommon Pizza, License No. 6027, 401 Chief Eddie Hoffman Highway, Bethel, Alaska (Mayor Henderson)

Main Motion: Adopt Resolution 24-14.

Moved by:	Mikayla Miller
Seconded by:	Teresa Keller
In favor:	None
Opposed:	Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Teresa Keller, Mikayla Miller, Pamela Conrad
Results:	Does not Carry

Item - 10.5.i Opportunity For The Applicant To Defend Their Application

Aaron Hostetter, General Manager of Uncommon Pizza, addressed the council.

Item 10.6. - *AM 24-35: Appointment And Re-Appointment Of Committee And Commission Members For A Term Of Three Years (Mayor Henderson)

Passed on the consent agenda.

Item 10.7. - AM 24-36: Approving The Regular City Council Meeting Dates For 2025 (Mayor Henderson)

Main Motion: Approve AM 24-36.

Moved by:	Mikayla Miller
Seconded by:	Teresa Keller
In favor:	Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Teresa Keller, Mikayla Miller, Pamela Conrad
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Item 10.8. - AM 24-37: On Behalf Of The Board Of Ethics, And In Accordance With Bethel Municipal Code 2.60.030, Accept The Resignation Of Board Of Ethics Member, Alicia Miner (Council Member Miner)

Main Motion: Approve AM 24-37.

Moved by:	Mikayla Miller
Seconded by:	Teresa Keller
In favor:	Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Teresa Keller, Mikayla Miller, Pamela Conrad
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Item 10.9. - AM 24-38: Direct City Administration To Issue Checks Totaling \$31,883 To Year 7, Quarter 4 Community Action Grant (CAG) Awardees Based On The Recommendation Of The Community Action Grant Committee (City Manager Strickler)

Council Member Miller declares a Conflict of Interest due to being an employee of the Library. Mayor Henderson rules that Council Member Miller does not have a Conflict of Interest as the Community Action Grant (CAG) funding for the Library is not used to fund her position so there is no substantial financial interest.

Mayor Henderson declares a Conflict of Interest due to being an employee of Southwest Alaska Arts Group (SWAAG). Vice-Mayor Keller rules that Mayor Henderson does not have a Conflict of Interest as the CAG funding is for the Camaii Festival and is not used to fund her position so there is no substantial financial interest.

Council Member Conrad declares a Conflict of Interest due to being a board member of the Bethel Winter House (BWH). Mayor Henderson rules that Council Member Conrad does not have a Conflict of Interest as BWH board members are not compensated so there is no substantial financial interest.

Main Motion: Approve AM 24-38.

Moved by:	Pamela Conrad
Seconded by:	Mikayla Miller
In favor:	Mark Springer, Teresa Keller, Mikayla Miller
Opposed:	Rose Henderson, Pamela Conrad
Results:	Does not Carry

Motion to Amend to raise the SWAAG funding to \$18,000 and draw those additional funds from the BRHS wrestling mat replacement.

Mayor Henderson declares a Conflict of Interest as the proposed amount to SWAAG has increased. Vice-Mayor Keller rules that there is still not a conflict of interest with the proposed increase.

Moved by:	Pamela Conrad
Seconded by:	Mikayla Miller
In favor:	Rose Henderson, Pamela Conrad, Mikayla Miller
Opposed:	Mark Springer, Teresa Keller
Results:	Does not Carry

Motion to Reconsider the Approval of AM 24-38.

Moved by:	Pamela Conrad
Seconded by:	Mikayla Miller,
In favor:	Rose Henderson, Pamela Conrad, Mikayla Miller, Teresa Keller
Opposed:	Mark Springer
Results:	Motion Carries

Main Motion: Approve AM 24-38.

Moved by:	Pamela Conrad
Seconded by:	Mikayla Miller
In favor:	Mark Springer, Pamela Conrad, Mikayla Miller, Teresa Keller
Opposed:	Rose Henderson
Results:	Motion Carries

Item 10.10. - AM 24-39: Authorize Administration To Proceed With The Construction Of The Community Center Expansion Project With A Budget Not To Exceed \$14,000,000 As Explained In Option A And Commit Up To \$4 Million In Funding If Additional Grant Appropriations Are Not Obtained (City Manager Strickler)

Main Motion: Approve AM 24-39.

Moved by:	Mikayla Miller
Seconded by:	Teresa Keller
In favor:	Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Teresa Keller, Mikayla Miller, Pamela Conrad
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Motion to Amend the AM to strike "14,000,000" and to insert "16,000,000" and to strike "4 Million" and to insert "6 million".

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Teresa Keller
In favor:	Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Teresa Keller, Mikayla Miller, Pamela Conrad
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Item 10.11. - Administrative Review Of Alaskabuds LLC, Retail Marijuana Store License Renewal #18735, Located At 660 Third Ave, Suite B Bethel Alaska 99559 (City Manager Strickler)

Council reviewed this item.

Item 10.12. - *IM 24-12: Documentation That The Bethel City Council Received And Reviewed The Full Financial Budget Report And Water & Wastewater Activity Report For The Month Of November 2024 (City Manager Strickler)

Passed on the consent agenda.

11. REPORTS

Item 11.1. - Mayor's Report

Council Member Miller left chambers at 8:37 p.m

Council Member Miller returned at 8:39 p.m.

Item 11.2. - City Manager's Report

Item 11.3. - Clerk's Report

12. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Mayor Henderson- Thanked the volunteers who applied for reappointment to the

committees and commissions. Congratulations to Sergeant Watson, Sergeant Robertson, and Detective Saulters for graduating the Police Academy. Appreciates all the work and sacrifice that the Police and Fire Dept. do for our community. During the Alaska Municipal League(AML) Annual Conference attended a session on Artificial Intelligence and how it can make work easier for the City Administration. Pay attention to the Bethel Search and Rescue recommendations; stay away from the open holes. Merry Christmas everybody! The children are on Christmas break, so be vigilant when driving.

Vice-Mayor Keller- Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy New Years!

Council Member Conrad- Thanked the City for sending her to the AML Annual Conference. Wanted to share that at the conference, she received many compliments about the City Manager and City Clerk. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

Council Member Miller- Happy Holidays! Recognized and congratulated Theresa Quiner for receiving the American Library Association's "I Love My Librarian" award.

Council Member Springer- At AML, thanked the communities of Sitka, Nenana, and Galena for taking care of our students who travel there for high school. Asked the public to listen to KYUK for Bethel Search and Rescue updates to prevent accidents. Merry Christmas and Happy Hannukah!

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

14. ADJOURNMENT

Main Motion: Adjournment.

Moved by:	Mikayla Miller
Seconded by:	Teresa Keller
In favor:	Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Teresa Keller, Mikayla Miller, Pamela Conrad
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Meeting ended at 9:01 p.m.

ATTEST:


Kevin Morgan,
Acting City Clerk


Rose Henderson, Mayor

