

# CITY OF BETHEL

## City Council Meeting Agenda, May 6, 2020 – 6:30 PM

**Website:** <https://www.cityofbethel.org/council>

**Location:** Council Chambers, City Hall, 300 Chief Eddie Hoffman Highway, Bethel

**Council Members:** Mayor Perry Barr, Vice-Mayor Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Cece Franko, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont



### Join Zoom Meeting

#### Connect by Video Conference

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86090090153?pwd=MUpLSE5HZVd3NXJoMjVCdHhnWGdoZz09>

#### Connect by Telephone

888 475 4499 US Toll-free

877 853 5257 US Toll-free

**Meeting ID: 860 9009 0153**

**Password: 275268**

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### 3. ROLL CALL

### 4. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD – FIVE MINUTES PER PERSON

### 5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

### 6. NEW BUSINESS

- 6.1. Introduction of Budget Modification 19-11 (p) Amending the FY 20 Budget COVID-19 Expenses (Council Member Franko)
- 6.2. Action Memorandum 20-13: Authorize and Confirm the Allocation of \$140,000 in the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget for the Chief of Police Salary (Council Member DeWitt)

### 7. ADJOURNMENT

Posted May 2, 2020 at City Hall, AC Co., Swanson's, and the Post Office.

Kevin Morgan, Asst. City Clerk

**City Clerk's Office Contact Information:** Email [cityclerk@cityofbethel.net](mailto:cityclerk@cityofbethel.net) Phone 907-543-1384

Items noted with an asterisk (\*) are consent agenda items, unless removed from the consent agenda they are approved upon the approval of the agenda. Ordinances introduced at this meeting may be set for public hearing at the next regular meeting.

The Council may by unanimous consent, after 12:00 AM Fix the Time to Which To Adjourn until the following day at 6:30 PM

Introduced by: Council Member Franko  
Introduction Date: May 6, 2020  
Public Hearing Date: May 12, 2020  
Action:  
Vote:

# CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

## Ordinance 19-11 (p)

### AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF BETHEL FISCAL YEAR 2020 BUDGET

**THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of Bethel, Alaska, as follows:

**SECTION 1. Classification.** This is a non-codified Ordinance and shall not become part of the Bethel Municipal Code.

**SECTION 2. Fiscal Year Budget Amendments.** The following estimated revenues and expenditures are hereby appropriated for the corporate purposes and objects of the City of Bethel for Fiscal Year 2020.

- WHEREAS,** on Friday, March 13, 2020 the President of the United States of America declared a national emergency due to COVID-19;
- WHEREAS,** on March 11, 2020, the State of Alaska declared a statewide public health emergency under AS 26.23 in response to COVID-19;
- WHEREAS,** on March 25, 2020 the Bethel City Council declared an emergency through Ordinance 20-09;
- WHEREAS,** the Bethel City Council finds it is in the interest to protect public health and welfare to allocate funds specific to homelessness in our community to include but not be limited to funding of a homelessness shelter, food programs and restroom accessibility;
- WHEREAS,** the goal of this special appropriation is to help prevent an outbreak of the virus among people experiencing homelessness;
- WHEREAS,** it is the understanding but not the guarantee that this appropriation falls under the qualifications of a reimbursable expense through the CARES ACT, if the appropriate is not reimbursed by the CARES ACT the Council will be expending non reimbursable funds out of the designated fund balance;
- WHEREAS,** the Bethel City Council directs Administration to working with local homeless shelter to identify what is needed and what appropriates can be made while working within the framework and guidance of the CARES ACT reimbursable expenses;

Introduced by: Council Member Franko  
Introduction Date: May 6, 2020  
Public Hearing Date: May 12, 2020  
Action:  
Vote:

| P-1       |                           |                         |                    |                               |
|-----------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Line Item | Description               | Approved Appropriations | Proposed Amendment | Proposed Total Appropriations |
|           | COVID-19 Homelessness     | 0                       | <u>\$60,000</u>    | \$60,000                      |
| 50-71-699 | Undesignated Fund Balance |                         | (60,000)           |                               |

**SECTION 3. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become effective upon the passage by the Bethel City Council.

**ENACTED THIS 12TH DAY OF MAY 2020 BY A VOTE OF 0 IN FAVOR AND 0 OPPOSED.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Perry Barr, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lori Strickler, City Clerk

## City of Bethel Action Memorandum

|                         |             |                |                       |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Action memorandum No.   | 20-13       |                |                       |
| Date action introduced: | May 6, 2020 | Introduced by: | Council Member DeWitt |
| Date action taken:      |             | Approved       | Denied                |
| Confirmed by:           |             |                |                       |

**Action Title:** Authorize and confirm the allocation of \$140,000 in the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget for the Chief of Police Salary line item.

**Attachment(s):** None

| Amount of fiscal impact:           |                                     | Account information: |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
|                                    | No fiscal impact at this time.      |                      |
|                                    | Funds in City Budget.               |                      |
| \$140,000 for salary plus benefits | Requires funding in FY 2021 Budget. | 10-61-501            |

### Summary Statement

The prior Bethel Chief of Police resigned in June of 2019. The City of Bethel has been actively recruiting for the position but has struggled to find candidates that are both qualified and willing to take the position. Administration presented a recommendation to the City Council to increase to the chief of police salary from the current budgeted rate of \$114,275 to \$140,000 as there is a candidate interested in the position however feels the proposed salary is too low for his level of experience and the City Administration agrees.

The candidate has over two decades of police services, with experience as an inclusive, and multi-faceted municipal police leader who is familiar with building relationships with stakeholders and the community. The candidate is a retired First sergeant from the Marine Corp. with a BA in Political Science and a Masters of Science in Criminal Justice Leadership Management as well as being a graduate from the FBI National Academy. With this background we are sure to have someone that is able to integrate into our community and work with our staff in a meaningful and professional way.

Administration polled similar communities in Alaska to identify salary comparable:

Sitka PD – 175k

Whittier PD – 145k plus an apartment

Nome PD – 125k

Kotzebue PD – 115,500

It is necessary for the City of Bethel to provide competitive wages for qualified and experienced candidates. If we are not willing to pay people what they are worth then the organization will continue to face consistent turn over in our positions and a continued breakdown of our municipal structure.