

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on August 31, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., in the Council chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

Mayor Barr called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the Council, the following members were present:
Mayor Perry Barr Council Member Cece Franko (telephonically) Vice-Mayor Haley Hanson (telephonically) City Council Member Alyssa Leary (telephonically) City Council Member Mark Springer (arrived after roll call, in person at 6:20pm) City Council Member Michelle DeWitt (telephonically) City Council Member Hugh Dyment (telephonically)
Members Absent:
Also in attendance were the following:
Acting City Manager Lori Strickler, Deputy City Clerk Kevin Morgan, City Attorney Libby Bakalar (telephonically)

4. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD – Five minutes per person

Ellen Hodges- Thanked Council on supporting the community. Spoke in favor of mandatory testing at the airport and mandatory mask wearing. Since June travel has increased in Alaska, Daily flights to Bethel started in June. Numbers of cases have doubled in July. They doubled again in August. Many people from the area are travelling and returning to the community. Voluntary airport testing has found many cases in the region. Health Mandate 18 has also detected cases that came into this area. Testing at the airport will reduce the risk of community spread and has proven to reduce community spread. Sick patients with COVID-19 from this area will have to be medevac'd to Anchorage.

Jim Sweeney- Thanked council for looking at COVID-19 seriously. Geography is working in our favor. Offers a unique opportunity to this area to reduce spread. Travel will increase in October. There is no vaccine currently. The best defense is aggressive testing. Once COVID-19 arrives into the isolated parts of this area, it will be difficult to deal with. Prevention is the best way; mandatory testing at airport.

Chris Beltzer- Spoke about the history of COVID-19 testing in Bethel. Spoke about the history of COVID-19 travel restrictions by the State.

Elizabeth Bates- 15,182 people have tested in Bethel. About 14,000 have been negative. About a 1000 are pending. Spoke in favor of mandatory airport testing. Comprehensive airport testing and contact tracing in addition to proven guidelines is the best strategy. Willing to work with the city to help the community.

Tiffany Zulkosky- Thanked the Council for their leadership. Spoke in favor of the testing and masking ordinance. Believes that it is reasonable. There is a lack of guidance from the State for this area of Alaska and community organizations are providing the leadership. Early detection, testing, and isolation is the only treatment available right now.

Richard Robb- In support of the testing and mask ordinance. Bethel is in a unique situation with a single point of entry. Recommended that "As long as the test is available", should be written into the language of the testing ordinance incase travelers arrive are presented with no testing opportunities.

Roberta Charles, Emmonak tribal council- Spoke in favor of the testing and mask ordinance. Spoke about how smaller communities in the surrounding area do not have the resources that a larger city has to deal with a problem like COVID-19 and depends on larger communities like Bethel to provide those resources. Asked people to listen to their health leaders on the issue.

Mayor Barr read an email from Jason Brown- Would like to see clearer language when it comes to enforcement and reporting of complaints in regards to these ordinances.

Mayor Barr read and email from AVCP, Thaddeus Tikiun Jr. Vivian Korthious- Supports the Ordinances for airport testing and mask wearing. Would like Bethel to adopt the state guidelines for travel to Bethel. It is important to protect the community and the limited resources of the area.

Council Member Springer joined in person at 6:20 p.m.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Main Motion: Approval Of Agenda.

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Michelle DeWitt
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7. NEW BUSINESS

Item 7.1. - Emergency Ordinance 20-26: An Ordinance Adopting "The City Of Bethel Covid-19 Rules And Procedures," Which Adopt State Of Alaska Travel Protocols For All Interstate And Intrastate Non-Essential Travel To The City (Council Member Dewitt)

Mayor Barr opened the Public Hearing.

No one present to be heard.

Mayor Barr closed the Public Hearing.

Main Motion: Adopt Emergency Ordinance 20-26.

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Hugh Dymont
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer , Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Main Motion: Move into Committee of the Whole.

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Hugh Dymont
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Move out of committee of the whole

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Hugh Dymont
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Primary amendment: insert "Section 4. Enforcement. The City reserves the right to use all available enforcement options to ensure compliance with this mandate. Additionally, a violation of this mandate does not create grounds for residents to harass individuals who do not comply with it." and renumber the following sections accordingly.

Moved by:	Michelle DeWitt
Seconded by:	Mark Springer
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Secondary Amendment: Insert "including Alaska Statutes to ensure compliance to this mandate."

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Michelle DeWitt
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Mayor Barr declares a ten minutes break

Primary Amendments: Under Emergency rule one section one insert after region "by the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Cooperation at the Alaska Airlines terminal in Bethel."

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Alyssa Leary
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont

Opposed: | None
Results: | Motion Carries

Primary Amendment: Under Section 1, create "Emergency Rule 3: no person operating a vehicle for hire or public transportation shall offer to be for hire for any person deplaning into Bethel unless proof of a negative test COVID-19 test from the past 72 hours or proof of COVID-19 test at the Bethel airport is shown or be in violation of chapter 5.30."

Moved by: | Mark Springer
Seconded by: | Alyssa Leary
In favor: | Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed: | None
Results: | Motion Carries

Suspend the rules to hear from YKHC

Moved by: | Alyssa Leary
Seconded by: | Mark Springer
In favor: | Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed: | None
Results: | Motion Carries

Primary Amendment: under Emergency Rule 1, insert before all person, "as long as COVID-19 testing is available at the airport." ~~"as long as YKHC can provide provide Covid 19 testing"~~

Moved by: | Hugh Dymont
Seconded by: | Mark Springer
In favor: | Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed: | None
Results: | Motion Carries

Secondary Amendment: change to "as long as COVID-19 testing is available at the airport."

Moved by: | Hugh Dymont
Seconded by: | Mark Springer
In favor: | Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle

	DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Item 7.2. - Emergency Ordinance 20-27: An Ordinance By The Bethel City Council Establishing A Mandate Within The City Of Bethel That Masks Or Similar Face-Coverings Be Worn In Public In Indoor And Indoor-Adjacent Spaces, And Under Certain Conditions In Outdoor Spaces, During The Covid-19 Public Health Emergency (Council Member Dewitt)

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

Main Motion: Adopt Emergency Ordinance 20-27.

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Hugh Dymont
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer , Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Primary Amendment: strike "prisons and" and insert "and community residential centers"

Moved by:	Hugh Dymont
Seconded by:	Mark Springer
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Primary Amendment : under, Now therefore, be it ordained, strike "should" and insert "shall"

Moved by:	Hugh Dymont
Seconded by:	Mark Springer
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer , Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Item 7.3. - Emergency Ordinance 20-28: Providing an Exemption to Bethel Municipal Code 13.04.290 Shutoff Nonpayment of Charges Water (Council Member Leary)

Mayor Barr opened the Public Hearing.

No one present to be heard.

Mayor Barr closed the Public Hearing.

Main Motion: Adopt Emergency Ordinance 20-28.

Moved by:	Alyssa Leary
Seconded by:	Michelle DeWitt
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Primary Amendment: add whereas statement "City of Bethel is not permitted to use CARES act funding to replace loss government revenues"

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Alyssa Leary
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Item 7.4. - Evaluation And Confirmation Of Job Announcement For City Manager Position (Council Member Dymont)

Move into Committee of the Whole

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Hugh Dymont
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Move out of Committee of the Whole.

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Haley Hanson
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

8. ADJOURNMENT

Main Motion: Adjournment.

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Hugh Dymont
In favor:	Perry Barr, Cece Franko, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Hugh Dymont
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Meeting ended at 9:00 p.m.



Perry Barr, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kevin Morgan,
Deputy City Clerk