

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Bethel City Council was held on January 12, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers, Bethel, Alaska.

Mayor DeWitt called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Comprising a quorum of the Council, the following members were present:
City Council Member Perry Barr (telephonically) Vice-Mayor Haley Hanson (telephonically) City Council Member Alyssa Leary (telephonically) City Council Member Mark Springer (telephonically) Mayor Michelle DeWitt (telephonically) City Council Member Rose Henderson (telephonically) City Council Member Conrad McCormick (telephonically)
Members Absent:
Also in attendance were the following:
Interim City Manager Peter Williams (telephonically), City Clerk Lori Strickler (telephonically), City Attorney Libby Bakalar (telephonically)

4. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD – Five minutes per person

Ana Hoffman- Spoke in favor of hiring of Peter Williams as City Manager. Stated she has the utmost respect for his integrity and his dedication to our community. Over the last four months, he has provided strong leadership through the global pandemic. Peter Williams has already proven himself and will be able to move our community forward in his modest and humble way.

Item 4.1. - Notice: Public Testimony By Email Will Be Accepted.

Too Qualify, It Must:

1) Be Emailed To cityclerk@cityofbethel.net By 4pm The Day Of The Meeting.

- 2) Specifically Request That It Is To Be Read At People To Be Heard.
3) Contain The Full, Real Name Of The Person Sending It.
Note: Depending On The Amount Of Emails Received, The Mayor May Summarize The Content Of The Email.

No emails submitted.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND REGULAR AGENDA

Main Motion: Approval of Consent Agenda and Regular Agenda.

Moved by:	Haley Hanson
Seconded by:	Alyssa Leary
In favor:	Perry Barr, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

6. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Item 6.1. - *12-22-2020 Regular City Council Meeting
Passed on the consent agenda.

7. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

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

Port Commission, Council Member Springer- A meeting has not been held. Nothing to report.

Planning Commission, Vice-Mayor Hanson- A meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 14th. Will discuss limiting the number of retail marijuana store licenses in the community and the City of Bethel junk vehicle removal program.

Community Action Grant Technical Review Board, Council Member Barr-Provided an update on the schedule.

Parks, Recreation, Aquatic Health and Safety Center Committee, Mayor DeWitt- Review of Phase II feasibility and obtaining an update on the status of the funded

study. Review of possible growth of the recreational opportunities in the community of Bethel.

Finance Committee, Council Member McCormick- A meeting of the body was not held due to a lack of a quorum.

Public Works Committee, Council Member Leary- A meeting has not been held since the last city council meeting. Next meeting will be January 13th. Encouraged the public to participate. Will discuss landfill salvage, the road commonly known as "Polk" road, the avenues water/sewer, 2021 committee goals, and the Public Works Facility.

Public Safety and Transportation Commission, Council Member Henderson- Held the election of Chair and Vice-Chair. Elected Doug Boyer as the Chair for the body. Discussed goals with the Police Chief.

8. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item 9.1. - Public Hearing Of Ordinance 20-41: Designating Municipal Reserve Property, U.S. Survey 3230 A And B, Block 7, Lot 1 And 2, As Public Utility Land Location (Interim City Manager Williams)

Mayor DeWitt opened the Public Hearing.

No one present to be heard.

Mayor Dewitt closed the Public Hearing.

Main Motion: Adopt Ordinance 20-41.

Moved by:	Alyssa Leary
Seconded by:	Haley Hanson
In favor:	Perry Barr, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Item 9.2. - Public Hearing Of Ordinance 20-42: Authorizing The Disposal Of Property By Demolition – Log Cabin Building, Located At 326 Akiachak Avenue, Pinky's Park And Claiming Ownership Of Such Structure Through Adverse Possession

(Interim City Manager Williams)

Mayor DeWitt opened the Public Hearing.

No one present to be heard.

Mayor Dewitt closed the Public Hearing.

Main Motion: Adopt Ordinance 20-42.

Moved by:	Rose Henderson
Seconded by:	Conrad McCormick
In favor:	Perry Barr, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Item 9.3. - Public Hearing Of Budget Ordinance 20-12(f): Amending The City Of Bethel Fiscal Year 2021 Budget-Slide Back Conversion (Interim City Manager Williams)

Mayor DeWitt opened the Public Hearing.

No one present to be heard.

Mayor Dewitt closed the Public Hearing.

Main Motion: Adopt Budget Ordinance 20-12(f).

Moved by:	Rose Henderson
Seconded by:	Alyssa Leary
In favor:	Perry Barr, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Item 9.4. - Public Hearing Of Budget Ordinance 20-12(g): Amending The City Of Bethel Fiscal Year 2021 Budget-Airport Incentive Program- Quarantine Food Distribution (Interim City Manager Williams)

Mayor DeWitt declared a conflict of interest as she is the Executive Director of the Bethel Community Services Foundation which is involved in the Food Distribution Program.

Motion to declare Mayor DeWitt has a conflict of interest on this item.

Moved by:	Haley Hanson
Seconded by:	Mark Springer

In favor:	Perry Barr, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Mayor DeWitt did not take part in discussion or voting on this item and Vice-Mayor Hanson presided over this Item of Business.

Vice-Mayor Hanson opened the Public Hearing.

No one present to be heard.

Vice-Mayor Hanson closed the Public Hearing.

Main Motion: Adopt Budget Ordinance 20-12(g).

Moved by:	Alyssa Leary
Seconded by:	Rose Henderson
In favor:	Perry Barr, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Mayor DeWitt returned to the meeting.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Item 10.1. - *Introduction Of Ordinance 21-01: To Enter Into A Subdivision Agreement With Tumak Enterprises, LLC For Providing Required Subdivision Public Improvements-Tanqik Subdivision (Planning Commission)

Passed on the consent agenda.

Item 10.2. - *Introduction Of Budget Ordinance 20-12(h): Amending The City Of Bethel Fiscal Year 2021 Budget- Public Works Admin-Streets And Roads-Property Maintenance-Landfill-Bethel Heights Water Treatment Plant-Short Lived Assets-Hauled Water And Sewer-Community Services-Information Technology Services-Administration-Police Department (Interim City Manager Williams)

Passed on the consent agenda.

Item 10.3. - *Resolution 21-01: City Of Bethel Priorities For The SFY 2022 State Of Alaska Capital Budget (Interim City Manager Williams)

Passed on the consent agenda.

Item 10.4. - *AM 21-01: Re-Appointment Of Committee/Commission/Board Member For A Term Of Three Years. Lorin Bradbury-Planning Commission (Mayor DeWitt)

Passed on the consent agenda.

Item 10.5. - *Personal Leave-City Attorney- 12/24/2020, 12/30/2020, and 12/31/2020 (Mayor DeWitt)

Passed on the consent agenda.

11. REPORTS

Item 11.1. - Mayor's Report

Item 11.2. - City Manager's Report

Item 11.3. - Clerk's Report

12. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Mayor DeWitt- Thanked the Kuskokwim Campus UAF for use of a specialized freezer to store the vaccine. Thanked the members of the Council for leadership they have provided in other aspects of the community in addition to serving on Council.

Vice-Mayor Hanson- Wished everyone a Happy New Year. Encouraged everyone to get vaccinated. Please sign up. It is a very smooth process. Praised the fantastic job of YKHC in providing the service.

Council Member Barr-There are still many open holes on the Kuskokwim River, Be careful when on the river. Bethel Search and Rescue (BSAR) does their best to mark the holes but people still need to be careful.

Council Member Leary- Reiterated a statement from the State of Alaska Medical Director stating the goal would be to have 70-80% of the population vaccinated. At that time, we will be able to get back to what we know as normal. We would need all of the adults to get the vaccine as it is not available to the youth at this time. It is important to get everyone vaccinated.

Council Member Springer- Echoed the statement of Council Member Leary on the vaccination process. The process is easy and fast.

Council Member Henderson- Encouraged people to continue to stay positive through this pandemic; we have to stick together.

Council Member McCormick-Thanked YKHC for their hard work on the roll out of the vaccination process for our region. Encouraged everyone to get the vaccine and shared some of his experience with the vaccine process. Asked the public to weigh the risks between having COVID-19 with the risks with taking the vaccine.

Motion to take a five minute break.

Moved By:	Rose Henderson
Seconded By:	Alyssa Leary
In Favor:	Perry Barr, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle Dewitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad Mccormick
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item 13.1. - In Accordance With AS 44.62.310(C)(1): Matters, The Immediate Knowledge Of Which Would Clearly Have An Adverse Effect Upon The Finances Of The Public Entity; (4) Matters Involving Consideration Of Government Records That By Law Are Not Subject To Public Disclosure- YK Fitness Center, Construction Issues Pending Litigation Bethel Services Inc. And Bethel Native Corporation (Mayor DeWitt) *Council Member Henderson declared a conflict of interest as she is a Bethel Native Corporation shareholder. Mayor DeWitt declared Council Member Henderson does have a conflict of interest.*

Main Motion: Move Into Executive Session-In Accordance With AS 44.62.310(C)(1): Matters, The Immediate Knowledge Of Which Would Clearly Have An Adverse Effect Upon The Finances Of The Public Entity; (4) Matters Involving Consideration Of Government Records That By Law Are Not Subject To Public Disclosure- YK Fitness Center, Construction Issues Pending Litigation Bethel Services Inc. And Bethel Native Corporation.

Those attending are Council Members except for Council Member Henderson, Interim City Manager Williams, City Attorney Bakalar, City Clerk Strickler, and DOWL Contractor Chase Nelson.

Moved by:	Perry Barr
Seconded by:	Mark Springer
In favor:	Perry Barr, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Conrad McCormick
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

*Council moved into Executive Session at 8:10 p.m.
Council moved back on the record at 8:44 p.m.*

Council Member Henderson returned to the council meeting.

Item 13.2. - In Accordance With AS 44.62.310(C)(2) Subjects That Tend To Prejudice The Reputation And Character Of Any Person, Provided The Person May Request A Public Discussion; (3) Matters Which By Law, Municipal Charter, Or Ordinance Are Required To Be Confidential; (4) Matters Involving Consideration Of Government Records That By Law Are Not Subject To Public Disclosure. Filling The Vacancy Of City Manager, Review Of Applications, Discussion Of Qualifications, And Interview Questions (Mayor DeWitt)

Main Motion: Move into Executive Session-In accordance With AS 44.62.310(C)(2) Subjects That Tend To Prejudice The Reputation And Character Of Any Person, Provided The Person May Request A Public Discussion; (3) Matters Which By Law, Municipal Charter, Or Ordinance Are Required To Be Confidential; (4) Matters Involving Consideration Of Government Records That By Law Are Not Subject To Public Disclosure. Filling The Vacancy Of City Manager, Review Of Applications, Discussion Of Qualifications, And Interview Questions. Those attending were Council, City Clerk Strickler, and City Attorney Bakalar.

Moved by:	Alyssa Leary
Seconded by:	Rose Henderson
In favor:	Perry Barr, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

*Council entered into Executive Session at 8:50 p.m.
Council moved back on the record at 9:59 p.m.*

Main Motion: Direct GovHR and the City Clerk's Office to negotiate an employment agreement with Peter Williams.

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Perry Barr
In favor:	Perry Barr, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

14. ADJOURNMENT

Main Motion: Adjournment.

Moved by:	Mark Springer
Seconded by:	Rose Henderson
In favor:	Perry Barr, Haley Hanson, Alyssa Leary, Mark Springer, Michelle DeWitt, Rose Henderson, Conrad McCormick
Opposed:	None
Results:	Motion Carries

Meeting ended at 10:05 p.m.

Michelle DeWitt

[Michelle DeWitt \(Jan 28, 2021 11:06 AKST\)](#)

Michelle DeWitt, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lori Strickler, City Clerk