City of Bethel Action Memorandum

| Action memorandum No. | 18-32 |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Date action introduced: | April 24, 2018 | Introduced by: | Peter Williams, City Manager |
| Date action taken: | April 24,2018 | X $\quad$ Approved | Denied |
| Confirmed by: | LS |  |  |

Action Title: Direct Administration to prepare and submit a 2018 Application for Planning Project Funding to the State of Alaska, Village Safe Water Program, to request \$75,000 to pay an engineer to prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report to evaluate the replacement of the sewer system in Bethel Heights.

## Attachment(s):

| Department/Individual: |  | Inftials: | Remiarks: |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Administration / Peter Williams |  | $10$ | Necommmend |  |
| Finance / Jim Chevigny |  |  | $\text { for } B A$ |  |
| Public Works / Bill Arnold |  | $5 \$$ |  |  |
|  |  | 1 |  |  |
| Amount of fiscal impact: |  |  |  | Account information: |
| X | No fi | time. |  | NA |
|  | Fund |  |  |  |
|  | Requ | 2019 Bu |  |  |

## Summary Statement

The City of Bethel is eligible to apply for a Planning grant from the State of Alaska, Village Safe Water (VSW) Program. The maximum Planning grant award amount for a new Preliminary Engineering Report and corresponding Environmental Report is $\$ 75,000$. Applications are due April 27, 2018.

The City of Bethel has a continual "frozen pipe" problem each winter with the gravity fed sewer pipe system in Bethel Heights. To unfreeze the pipes, the Utility Maintenance Division must flush the lines, causing wastewater to spill onto the open tundra. Each flushing requires the City to file a Noncompliance notification with the State Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Water, Compliance and Enforcement Program.

Research conducted by the Public Works Director reveals that there is no easy, convenient, costeffective approach to remedy the recurring problem of frozen pipes. Replacement of the sewer pipes may be the only viable option. The Preliminary Engineering Report and Environmental Report will provide the City answers and serve as necessary planning documents for the City to seek funding from VSW and USDA-RD to employ a construction solution. City engineer firm DOWL will also research the easement and right-of-way issues that may exist relative to the City's sewer system in Bethel Heights.

