



## **KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH**

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**DAVID R. CAREY**  
**BOROUGH MAYOR**

### **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Gary Knopp, Assembly President  
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

**FROM:** David R. Carey, Borough Mayor *DR Carey*  
Sue McClure, Assembly Member *SB For Sue McClure*

**DATE:** June 23, 2011

**SUBJECT:** Ordinance 2011-27, authorizing the abolishment of the Lowell Point Emergency Service Area subject to voter approval

This ordinance is presented at the request of the Lowell Point Emergency Service Area (LPESA) Board which believes that the best interests of the Lowell Point community would be served by dissolving the service area and continuing to provide fire services through the volunteer fire department and potentially with the assistance of state grants. The LPESA was established on March 11, 2003, to provide emergency services to the Lowell Point community. Following formation of the service area the community has had difficulty recruiting and training enough volunteers to meet its needs due to the small population. The taxes raised by the mill levy on this small community were approximately \$20,000 in FY 2011, which is insufficient to adequately fund the service area in the opinion of the service area board members. Additionally, the increased cost of worker's compensation to \$7,345 will use more than one-third of the tax revenues. The Board members adopted a resolution indicating its belief that emergency services can be better provided without the service area. This ordinance is subject to voter approval as Alaska statutes require the voters to approve the abolishment of a service area providing fire services. A community meeting is scheduled to be held June 27, 2011, after the packet deadline for the July 5, 2011, meeting. We intend to provide the assembly with more information regarding that community meeting and the community plans prior to the final hearing of the ordinance.