

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

Office of the Borough Clerk

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Johni Blankenship, MMC
Borough Clerk

MEMORANDUM

To: Gary Knopp, Assembly President
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

Thru: Johni Blankenship, Borough Clerk 

From: Michele Turner, Borough Clerk Assistant 

Date: April 3, 2011

RE: Ordinance 2012-07: Amending KPB Titles 2—Administration, 4—Elections and 16—Service Areas to Provide that All Kenai Peninsula Borough Service Area Boards are Appointed Instead of Elected

This serves to provide the following service area board recommendations as of the April 3, 2012 public hearing.

- The Central Kenai Peninsula Hospital Service Area Board reviewed the referenced ordinance at its March 12, 2012 meeting and recommended approval by unanimous consent.
- The Nikiski Fire Service Area Board reviewed the referenced ordinance at its March 14, 2012 meeting and unanimously opposed enactment of this ordinance. (Memo attached)
- The Seldovia Recreational Service Area Board reviewed the referenced ordinance at its March 22, 2012 meeting and recommended approval by unanimous consent.
- The North Peninsula Recreation Service Area Board reviewed the reference ordinance at its March 26, 2012 meeting and unanimously opposed enactment of this ordinance. (Memo attached)
- The Anchor Point Fire and Emergency Medical Service Area Board reviewed the referenced ordinance at its March 28, 2012 meeting and recommended approval without objection.

Thank you.





KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

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**MIKE NAVARRE
BOROUGH MAYOR**

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Rachel M. Parra, NPRSA Recreation Director 
Paul Lorenzo, NPRSA Board of Directors, Chair 

CC: Mike Navarre, KPB Mayor
Johni Blankenship, KPB Clerk

DATE: March 27, 2012

SUBJECT: Ordinance 2012-07 amending KPB Titles 2-Administration, 4-Elections and 16-Service Areas to provide that all Kenai Peninsula Borough Service Area Boards are Appointed instead of Elected.

During the regular monthly meeting of the North Peninsula Recreation Service Area Board of Directors on Monday March 26, 2012, the board unanimously voted to oppose Ordinance 2012-07.

The NPRSA Board of Directors oppose this ordinance based on the following:

- Service areas were voted in by the people and for the people of each specific area. There is tremendous value in community control and input, and essentially this ordinance would remove that control and shift it entirely to the administration.
- This ordinance would dilute the service area board's authority and voice. Under current code, service area board members have the authority to fill vacant seats of the board. This ordinance would remove that authority and shift it to the administration.
- This ordinance would create a biased process, which could potentially lead to a change out of service area board members every year during a three year term by the administration.
- An elected board holds more credibility with the community and voters of the service area. Appointed boards tend to be disconnected from the community they serve.

Although we value and encourage efficiency and costs savings for the borough, this ordinance is not the right option for providing such. It devalues the voice of the people and is not a wise option.

The North Peninsula Recreation Service Area Board of Directors would encourage the KPB Assembly to oppose Ordinance 2012-07.

Nikiski Fire Department
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March 29, 2012

Mr. Gary Knopp
President
Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly
144 N Binkley Street
Soldotna, AK 99669

Dear President Knopp:

The Nikiski Fire Service Area Board of Director met on March 14, 2012 for our monthly board meeting. During this meeting Assembly Member Linda Murphy presented Ordinance 2012-07, Amending KPB Titles 2-Administration, 4-Elections and 16-Service Areas to provide that all Kenai Peninsula Borough Service Area Boards are appointed instead of elected. Board members appreciated her presentation on this ordinance.

After discussion with Ms. Murphy, board members voted unanimously against this ordinance. The Nikiski Fire Service Area Board of Directors strongly recommends maintaining the voting rights of the citizens of the fire service area. Voting enhances the borough's open government policy and gives the citizens a positive opinion of local government.

The Nikiski Fire Board members know they were given a huge responsibility being voted in. The board members weigh all issues regarding budget and operational needs. Our goal as a board has been to assess these issues, prepare and address these concerns and bring a viable solution to both the Mayor and Assembly. This input is meant to support both the Borough and citizens of the area. We feel an appointed board negates this positive approach and produces apathy for those living in our service area.

It is our intent to represent the Kenai Peninsula Borough and the citizens of the Nikiski Fire Service Area in a positive, professional way. Thank you for your time and the opportunity to express the board's opinions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Cialek".

Mark Cialek
Chairman
Nikiski Fire Service Area Board

April 24, 2012

President Gary Knopp
Kenai Borough Assembly
144 N. Binkley St
Soldotna, AK. 99669

Dear Mr. Knopp,

The Nikiski Senior Service Area Board, NSSA, discussed the Kenai Peninsula Borough Ordinance 2012-07 during their regularly scheduled board meeting on April 10, 2012.

The NSSA Board feels that this ordinance will strip away our community's right to freely elect the board members who will oversee the duties and responsibilities of our service area. Our Nikiski community voted to tax themselves in order to support the programs and services that we felt were important to our community.

Along with that decision, the stipulation was that these same community members have a vote in deciding who oversees how their tax dollars are being administered. This method has served us well over the past years.

The vote was unanimous in opposing KPB Ordinance 2012-07. The NSSA board encourages the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly not to pass this ordinance.

On behalf of the Nikiski Senior Service Area Board,



Leigh Hagstrom-Sanger

Chair

Nikiski Senior Service Area Board