1. ROLL CALL

2. WELCOME BY MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY PRESIDING OFFICER

3. ATTENDEES
   - FNSB Administration
   - Chena Goldstream Fire Service Area – Chief Frank Bracken, President Anna Sorensen, Vice President Kathryn Pyne, FSA Chair Designee Gregory Bean
   - Ester Volunteer Fire Service Area – Chief Tori Clyde, President Jenny Brown, FSA Chair Bob Grove
   - University Fire Service Area – Chief Doug Schrage, FSA Chair Designee John George
   - Steese Volunteer Fire Service Area – Chief Mitch Flynn, President Ray Hollinrake, FSA Chair Dave Nebert
   - North Star Fire Service Area – Chief designee Doug Fournier, President Shannon Wyman, FSA Chair Ken Anderson
   - Salcha Fire and Rescue – Chief Ernie Misewicz
   - City of Fairbanks Fire Department – Chief Jim Styers
   - City of North Pole Fire Department – Chief Geoff Coon, Mayor Welch

4. REFERRED ORDINANCES
   a. Staff Report by Borough Administration
      - Overview of Ordinance No. 2018-24. An Ordinance Amending FNSBC Title 4 And FNSBC Title 14 To Eliminate Fire Service Area Commissions And Establish A New Fire And Emergency Medical Services Advisory Commission. (Sponsor: Mayor Kassel) (Page 2)
   b. Board Representative’s and Chief’s Comments – limited to 3 minutes each and to 1 Board Representative and 1 Chief per Contractor.
   c. Assembly and Commissioner Questions and Comments.
   d. Mayor’s Comments and Proposed Direction.

5. ADJOURNMENT

THE AGENDA ITEMS AS LISTED MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED IN SEQUENCE. THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE TO INCLUDE THE DELETION OF ITEMS; OR EXECUTIVE SESSIONS, IF NEEDED.
MEMORANDUM

To: The Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly
Thru: Karl Kassel, Borough Mayor
From: David Gibbs, Emergency Operations Director
Date: July 26, 2018
Subject: Ordinance 2018-24

Ordinance 2018-24 eliminates the five fire service area commissions and replaces them with a single advisory commission that will advise the Mayor on issues related to fire and emergency medical services.

There are currently five fire service areas in the borough. Each fire service area is overseen by an advisory commission whose members are appointed by the mayor and who presently advise the mayor on the affairs of the service area including budgets. The Borough contracts with an outside entity, generally a nonprofit corporation-operated fire departments (with the exception of the University of Alaska), to provide fire protection services on behalf of the service area.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is a nonareawide service provided by the Borough through a separate agreement with each area fire department (with the exception of fire departments serving the military bases and the Alaska Division of Natural Resources). Borough staff develop the agreements and ensure that each contracted fire department adheres to the terms. There is presently no advisory board or commission for emergency medical services.

The Fire/EMS Advisory Commission will be made up of representatives of each of the existing fire service areas and community members, all with expertise in emergency services. This structure ensures greater independence of the commission from the influence of individual non-profit boards of directors and fire chiefs, allowing the commission to function in a more impartial manner than is practiced currently.

As a result of a number of formal arrangements, such as mutual aid and automatic-aid agreements; and informal arrangements, such as cooperative grant applications to replace equipment, fire departments have become highly interdependent. For example, all serious fire calls will have three
or more fire departments dispatched, because no single fire department has sufficient human or other resources immediately available to manage a fire in accordance with national response standards.

There are many opportunities for improving Fire /EMS in the Borough if a more centralized approach is followed: the ability to dispatch of the closest ambulance, regardless of the fire response area in which the call occurs; regional standardization of apparatus and suppression equipment allowing for economies of scale for purchases, plus simplifying maintenance; adoption of regional training standards and sharing training opportunities; and finally, regional recruitment of personnel, particularly volunteers.

For these reasons, the Administration believes that fire and emergency medical services should be viewed from a regional perspective and that a single commission could better advise the mayor about issues related to emergency services.
FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

ORDINANCE NO. 2018 - 24

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FNSBC TITLE 4 AND FNSBC TITLE 14 TO ELIMINATE FIRE SERVICE AREA COMMISSIONS AND ESTABLISH A NEW FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION

WHEREAS, The Borough has five fire service areas created in accordance with AS 29.35.450, to provide fire service that was not otherwise provided on an areawide or nonareawide basis; and

WHEREAS, The Borough provides nonareawide Emergency Medical Services (EMS) which means the service is provided to all areas of the borough outside the cities; and

WHEREAS, Each fire service area has its own commission and, with the exception of the University Fire Service Area, the Borough contracts with an independent non-profit fire department governed by a board of directors to provide fire protection on behalf of the service area; and

WHEREAS, Each fire department also has a contract with the Borough to provide EMS, generally within its fire response area; and

WHEREAS, The Borough contracts with the City of Fairbanks to provide emergency medical services to Lakeview Terrace and the Secluded Acres Subdivision; and the City of North Pole to provide emergency medical services to areas of the North Star Fire Service Area generally located south of the Chena River; and

AMENDMENTS ARE SHOWN IN LEGISLATIVE FORMAT
Text to be added is underlined
Text to be deleted is [BRACKETED, CAPITALIZE]
WHEREAS, Borough fire service and EMS providers, through a series of formal and informal operational arrangements, have evolved into a regional service delivery system; and

WHEREAS, An interdependent network of fire protection service providers has evolved because all area fire departments require outside assistance in order to field sufficient resources to meet national response standards and ensure adequate staffing and water supply to respond to a fire emergency; and

WHEREAS, This requirement causes the initial dispatch of as many as five fire departments, including from adjacent fire service areas, whenever a call for a confirmed fire is received by the dispatch center; and

WHEREAS, Some fire departments require that an ambulance respond from an adjacent fire department to transport patients that are sick or injured because they are contracted to provide first responder level EMS only; and

WHEREAS, This interdependence of emergency services providers creates an opportunity for an advisory commission to recommend standards for equipment, training, fire station locations and staffing, as well as evaluating opportunities for improving efficiencies through cooperative purchasing, sharing of staff and facilities; and

WHEREAS, The Assembly conducted a series of work sessions in 2014 and 2015 to discuss the complexity of the current service delivery model and consider opportunities for improvement of our current system of providing fire service and EMS; and
WHEREAS, The Borough administration believes there exists a lack of independence between the current fire service area commissions and the non-profit boards of directors and fire chiefs that provide contractual fire protection services to the fire service areas, making it difficult for the commissions to objectively advise the mayor about issues concerning fire service agreements; and

WHEREAS, It is advantageous to have an advisory commission to consider the provision of fire services from a regional perspective to recommend ways to leverage borough resources in such way as to provide a uniform level of fire protection services to all residents of fire service areas, replacing the current five fire service area commissions that view fire protection from a perspective that is limited to their individual fire service areas; and

WHEREAS, There are opportunities to improve EMS provided to borough residents, including ensuring that the closest ambulance is dispatched when a call for medical assistance is received, and

WHEREAS, The current structure of having five separate fire service area commissions inhibits the development of long-range plans including those that are best developed regionally, including: capital plans, standards of response coverage, future fire station locations and construction, staffing, recruitment and retention strategies, deferred maintenance priorities, and annexations; and

WHEREAS, One of the duties of a fire service area commission is to encourage participation and communication with residents and property owners within a service area; and

WHEREAS, Currently, fire service area commissions have inconsistent public participation and involvement in decision making in service area business, as

AMENDMENTS ARE SHOWN IN LEGISLATIVE FORMAT
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demonstrated by the lack of attendance by residents and property owners at fire service
area commission meetings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Assembly of the Fairbanks
North Star Borough:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is of a general and permanent
nature and shall be codified.

Section 2. FNSBC Title 4 is amended to add a new Chapter 4.108, Fire
and Emergency Medical Services Advisory Commission, as follows:

Chapter 4.108 FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ADVISORY
COMMISSION

Sections:

4.108.010 Established.
4.108.020 Composition.
4.108.030 Purpose.
4.108.040 Responsibilities.
4.108.050 Organization.

4.108.010 Established.
There is established the Fairbanks North Star Borough Fire and Emergency Medical
Services Advisory Commission.

4.108.020 Composition.
A. The commission shall consist of nine regular members to be appointed by the mayor
and confirmed by the Assembly.
B. Members shall be appointed for a term of three years. Initial appointments shall be three members for one year, three members for two years, and three members for three years.

C. In addition to any other qualifications required by this code, commissioners shall be knowledgeable about, or have a demonstrated interest in, fire and emergency medical services, and be apportioned as follows:

1. Five residents, one from each of the borough fire service areas;
2. Two residents with a background in public safety planning or administration;
3. One resident who owns and occupies residential property in the borough outside the cities of Fairbanks and North Pole;
4. One resident who owns and operates a business in the borough outside the cities of Fairbanks and North Pole.

D. The emergency operations director or designee shall be an ex officio member of the commission.

E. Representatives from other governmental agencies in the borough may be appointed as ex officio members of the commission, provided that such representatives may not participate in any matter in which their organization is a current or potential borough contractor for fire or emergency medical services.

4.108.030 Purpose.

A. The purpose of the Fire and Emergency Medical Services Advisory Commission is to review and monitor the provision of fire and emergency medical services and make recommendations to the mayor concerning budgeting, capital and other long-term planning, and on policies that guide efficient and economical delivery of quality fire and emergency medical services in the borough. The commission shall encourage participation and communication with residents and property owners concerning the operation of fire and emergency medical services in the borough.
4.108.040 Responsibilities.
The commission, or subcommittees designated by the commission, shall:
A. Review risk and service demand, revenue and expenses, and make recommendations for the implementation of service levels and delivery provided by the borough, to include assisting with the development of a Standards of Response Coverage document for all borough fire and emergency medical services, recommending location of fire stations and the distribution of apparatus and personnel, and providing recommendations on proposed differential tax zones;
B. Review the facilities, capital equipment, human and financial resources, response data, and any plans for the delivery of fire and emergency medical services by the Fairbanks North Star Borough;
C. Conduct public meetings to elicit input from residents concerning desired levels of service and cost of providing services;
D. Review areas proposed for annexation into fire service areas to evaluate impacts on existing services;
E. Review the proposed annual operating and capital budget for each of the fire service areas and emergency medical services.

4.108.050 Organization.
The commission shall meet quarterly or at the call of the chair. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms as chair of the commission.

Section 3. Subsection A of FNSBC 14.04.090 is hereby amended as follows:
A. A commission shall be appointed to supervise the furnishing of special services within a service area, other than a fire service area, in accordance with this chapter. The commission shall consist of at least three but not more than seven commissioners plus one additional alternate commissioner. The assembly shall establish the number of commissioners for each service area at the time the service area is proposed for

AMENDMENTS ARE SHOWN IN LEGISLATIVE FORMAT
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formation, and if the assembly fails to so act, the number of commissioners shall be
three plus one alternate. The assembly may alter the number of commissioners
constituting a given service area commission at any time by resolution. The enactment
of this section shall not affect the composition of any borough service area commission,
as it exists on the date of said enactment, unless the composition of said commission is
subsequently altered in accordance with the terms of this section.

Section 4. Chapter 14.20, Fire Protection, is amended to read as follows:

Chapter 14.20

FIRE PROTECTION

Sections:

14.20.010 North Star Fire Service Area – Creation and powers.
14.20.020 University Fire Service Area – Creation and powers[ – COMMISSION].
14.20.030 Ester Volunteer Fire Service Area – Creation and powers.
14.20.040 Steese Volunteer Fire Service Area – Creation and powers[ – COMMISSION].
14.20.050 Chena Goldstream Fire Service Area – Creation and powers.

14.20.010 North Star Fire Service Area – Creation and powers.
A. There is established a service area within the borough designated the “North Star
Fire Service Area,” including that portion of the borough as shown on the corresponding
map in the clerk’s office.
B. The North Star Fire Service Area shall have fire protection power.

14.20.020 University Fire Service Area – Creation and powers[ – COMMISSION].
A. There is established a service area within the borough designated the “University
Fire Service Area,” including that portion of the borough shown on the corresponding
map in the clerk’s office.
B. The University Fire Service Area shall have fire protection powers.

AMENDMENTS ARE SHOWN IN LEGISLATIVE FORMAT

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THE UNIVERSITY FIRE SERVICE AREA COMMISSION SHALL CONSIST OF FIVE MEMBERS AND ONE ALTERNATE COMMISSIONER.]

14.20.030 Ester Volunteer Fire Service Area – Creation and powers.

A. There is established a service area within the borough designated as the "Ester Volunteer Fire Service Area," including that portion of the borough as shown on the corresponding map in the clerk's office.

B. The Ester Volunteer Fire Service Area shall have fire protection power.

14.20.040 Steese Volunteer Fire Service Area – Creation and powers. [COMMISSION].

A. There is established a service area within the borough designated the "Steese Volunteer Fire Service Area," including that portion of the borough shown on the corresponding map in the clerk's office.

B. The Steese Volunteer Fire Service Area shall have fire protection powers.

[C. THE STEESE VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE AREA COMMISSION SHALL CONSIST OF FIVE REGULAR MEMBERS AND TWO ALTERNATE MEMBERS. THE ALTERNATE MEMBERS SHALL SERVE IN THE ABSENCE OR DISABILITY OF REGULAR MEMBERS.]

14.20.050 Chena Goldstream Fire Service Area – Creation and powers.

A. There is established a service area within the borough designated the "Chena Goldstream Fire Service Area," as shown on the corresponding map in the clerk's office.

B. The Chena Goldstream Fire Service Area shall have fire protection powers.

Section 5. Effective date. This ordinance shall be effective at 5:00 p.m. on the first borough business day following its adoption.
Section 6. Implementation. The Mayor's office shall implement the provisions of this ordinance within 90-days of adoption by the Assembly.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF __________, 2018.

Kathryn Dodge
Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

April Trickey, CMC
Borough Clerk

APPROVED:

Jill S. Dolan
Borough Attorney
MEMORANDUM

To: Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly
From: Bryce Ward, Mayor
Date: February 28, 2019
Subject: Ordinance No. 2019-12
Establishing Regional Emergency Services Advisory Committee

Attached is an ordinance establishing a regional emergency services advisory committee. This proposal is being introduced as an alternative to Mayor Kassel's August 9, 2018 Ordinance 2018-24 which proposed to eliminate Fire Service Commissions and establish a new Fire and Emergency Medical Services Advisory Commission. No final action has been taken by the Assembly on Ordinance 2018-24.

This ordinance and 2018-24 both recognize that our current system of fire service and EMS has evolved into a regional service delivery system where service providers are dependent on each other and where service delivery standards are sometimes blurry. Both ordinances recognize opportunities to improve service delivery provisioning standards, to include operational efficiencies.

My intention is for the Assembly, Fire Service Commissioners and staff to discuss the merits of both ordinances at the Saturday March 2, 2019 Fire/EMS work session, then refer this ordinance to Fire Service Commissions for comments. Please consider bringing this ordinance back to the Assembly for a public hearing and action on not earlier than April 11th, 2019.

Attachment: Ordinance

/jw
FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

ORDINANCE NO. 2019 -12

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 3.24 FNSBC TO ESTABLISH A NEW REGIONAL EMERGENCY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, The Borough has five fire service areas created in accordance with AS 29.35.450, to provide fire service that was not otherwise provided on an areawide or nonareawide basis; and

WHEREAS, The Borough provides nonareawide Emergency Medical Services (EMS) which means the service is provided to all areas of the borough outside the cities; and

WHEREAS, Each fire service area has its own commission and, with the exception of the University Fire Service Area, the Borough contracts with an independent non-profit fire department governed by a board of directors to provide fire protection on behalf of the service area; and

WHEREAS, Each fire department also has a contract with the Borough to provide EMS, generally within its fire response area; and

WHEREAS, The Borough contracts with the City of Fairbanks to provide EMS to Lakeview Terrace and the Secluded Acres Subdivision; and the City of North Pole to provide EMS to areas of the North Star Fire Service Area generally located south of the Chena River; and

AMENDMENTS ARE SHOWN IN LEGISLATIVE FORMAT
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WHEREAS, Borough fire service and EMS providers, through a series of formal and informal operational arrangements, have evolved into a regional service delivery system; and

WHEREAS, An interdependent network of fire protection service providers has evolved because all area fire departments require outside assistance in order to field sufficient resources to meet national response standards and ensure adequate staffing and water supply to respond to a fire emergency; and

WHEREAS, This requirement causes the initial dispatch of as many as five fire departments, including from adjacent fire service areas, whenever a call for a confirmed fire is received by the dispatch center; and

WHEREAS, Some fire departments require that an ambulance respond from an adjacent fire department to transport patients that are sick or injured because they are contracted to provide first responder level EMS only; and

WHEREAS, This interdependence of emergency services providers creates an opportunity for a regional advisory committee to recommend standards for equipment, training, fire station locations and staffing, as well as evaluating opportunities for improving efficiencies through cooperative purchasing, sharing of staff and facilities; and

WHEREAS, The Assembly conducted a series of work sessions in 2014 and 2015 to discuss the complexity of the current service delivery model and consider opportunities for improvement of our current system of providing fire service and EMS; and

AMENDMENTS ARE SHOWN IN LEGISLATIVE FORMAT
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WHEREAS, It is advantageous to have an advisory committee to consider the provision of fire services from a regional perspective to recommend ways to leverage borough resources in such way as to provide a uniform level of fire protection services to all residents of fire service areas; and

WHEREAS, There are opportunities to improve EMS provided to borough residents, including ensuring that the closest ambulance is dispatched when a call for medical assistance is received, and

WHEREAS, The current structure of having five separate fire service area commissions without a regional advisory body inhibits the development of long-range plans including those that are best developed regionally, including: capital plans, standards of response coverage, future fire station locations and construction, staffing, recruitment and retention strategies, deferred maintenance priorities, and annexations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Assembly of the Fairbanks North Star Borough:

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and shall be codified.

Section 2. Chapter 3.24 FNSBC is amended to add a new Section 3.24.070, Regional Emergency Services Advisory Committee, as follows:

Section 3.24.070 Regional Emergency Services Advisory Committee

A. A regional emergency services advisory committee is created with the chair and one member to be appointed from the membership of the assembly by the presiding officer. The chair shall preside over all meetings of the regional emergency services advisory committee, setting its agenda, and organizing such procedures as are

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necessary to meet annual goals. Goals shall be set annually by the chair and the
administration.

1. Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, additional members of the
regional emergency services advisory committee shall include: two representatives
designated annually in January by the five fire service area commission chairs to
represent their collective interests; two residents appointed by the mayor that have a
demonstrated knowledge in fire and emergency medical services; and, one property
owner appointed by the borough mayor that can adequately represent the interests of
rural residents. No member shall be appointed who is a current fire or emergency
medical services contractor for the borough. Members appointed by the mayor shall
serve at the pleasure of the mayor. The borough mayor and emergency operations
director shall be ex-officio members of the committee, but are not entitled to vote and
are not members for purposes of establishing a quorum.

2. The committee shall meet quarterly or at the call of the chair. A majority of
the committee members shall constitute a quorum.

B. The purpose of the regional emergency services advisory committee shall be to
review and monitor the provision of fire, emergency medical, and other emergency
services in the borough, and make recommendations to the assembly. The committee
shall have the following powers and duties:

1. Review risk and service demand, revenue and expenses, and make
recommendations for the implementation of service levels and delivery provided by the
borough, to include assisting with the development of a Standards of Response
Coverage document for all borough fire and emergency medical services and
recommending location of fire stations and the distribution of apparatus and personnel;

2. Review the facilities, capital equipment, human and financial resources,
response data, and any plans for the delivery of fire and emergency medical services in
the borough;
3. Conduct public meetings to elicit input from residents concerning desired levels of service and cost of providing services;

4. Make recommendations for long term solutions that ensure equitable delivery of services in the borough, including consideration of annexations, differential tax zones, or other legally available options.

Section 3. Effective date. This ordinance shall be effective at 5:00 p.m. on the first borough business day following its adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF __________, 2019.

Matt Cooper
Presiding Officer

ATTEST:        APPROVED:

April Trickey, CMC  Jill S. Dolan
Borough Clerk  Borough Attorney
February 22, 2019

Dear Fire Commissioner Chairs / Fire Chiefs / Board Presidents,

You are cordially invited to the March 2nd Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly work session to discuss Ordinance # 2018-24 which proposes to create a new Fire and Emergency Medical Services Advisory Commission. This is the ordinance that was introduced on July 26, 2018 and postponed for further discussion with Fire/EMS provider group by the Assembly during public hearing in August, 2018.

The group work session is now scheduled for Saturday March 2nd from 9am - 3pm at the Carlson Center. There will be a light lunch provided.

At this meeting, I will present a new ordinance scheduled for introduction to the Assembly at their meeting on February 28, 2019. The new ordinance proposes to create a Regional Emergency Services Advisory Committee (RESAC) as a subcommittee of the Assembly, to analyze and make recommendations for the provision of Emergency Services within the Fairbanks North Star Borough, while keeping the current Fire Service Area commissions intact. A copy of this ordinance is included in your packet of information.

The (RESAC) ordinance is scheduled for an Assembly work session on March 21st and public hearing on April 11th. This should allow sufficient time for Commissioners and Board members to discuss the ordinance and provide us with your feedback.

The agenda for this work session is also included with this letter. You will be given opportunities to discuss both ordinances during the work session.

The Assembly and Administration look forward to your participation in this work session on March 2nd. Working together, we can continue to provide the most effective and cost efficient emergency services to our residents in their time of need.

Sincerely,

Bryce Ward
Mayor