1. **ROLL CALL**

2. **CITIZENS’ COMMENTS** – Comments limited to items on the agenda only. Each person’s comments limited to 3 minutes.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

4. **CONSIDERATION OF CALENDAR – New Business – Resolutions**

5. **ADJOURNMENT**
WHEREAS, Governor Michael J. Dunleavy vetoed $444 million from the state operating budget adopted by the Alaska Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Many of the vetoes directly and adversely affect the Fairbanks North Star Borough and other municipalities and jeopardize the future of our communities and state, including through the following vetoes:

1. Municipal Programs
   a. Reduction in the appropriation to the community assistance fund, which will reduce the community assistance grant to the Borough by approximately one-third or $500,000;
   b. Reduction of fifty percent of school bond debt reimbursement, which amounts to an approximate $4.5 million impact on Borough taxpayers;

2. Education
   a. A $130 million reduction in state support for the University of Alaska, amounting to a 41% reduction in state support including the $5 million reduction approved by the legislature;
   b. Additional funding for K-12 education ($30 million statewide);
   c. Funding for Head Start ($8.6 million statewide);
d. Forward funding for K-12 in FY21;

e. Elimination of certain library programs;

3. **Health Care and Public Assistance**

a. Elimination of Medicaid dental coverage for adults ($27 million);

b. Elimination of $50 million in Medicaid services, in addition to
   $70 million cut by the Legislature;

c. Reduction of behavioral health treatment grants by $6.1 million;

d. Elimination of senior benefits program ($20.8 million statewide);

e. Cut to adult public assistance ($7.5 million statewide);

f. Substantial cuts to the homeless assistance program ($7.2 million) and special needs housing program ($2 million); and

WHEREAS, While these vetoes balance the budget today, they are at the expense of Alaska’s future because they erode the bedrock principles of our state and our community, including economic opportunity, public education, a state university, and public health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, If enacted, these vetoes will set Alaska back decades, and the state will not recover from their impact for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, The vetoes will directly harm the Fairbanks North Star Borough and its residents in the following ways:

1. The University of Alaska fulfills the state’s constitutional obligation to provide for public higher education and is an economic driver in the Borough and the state. The University proposes to cut an additional

---

1 See, e.g. Article I, Section 1 and Article VIII of the Alaska Constitution.
2 Article VII, Section 1 of the Alaska Constitution.
3 Article VII, Section 2 and 3 of the Alaska Constitution.
4 Article VII, Section 4 of the Alaska Constitution.
5 Article VII, Section 5 of the Alaska Constitution.
1,300 to 2,000 jobs across the state if the veto remains in place. Fewer employees and students means fewer Borough residents, fewer property tax payers, and fewer dollars spent in the Borough economy. The Borough’s Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy recognizes the University of Alaska Fairbanks is a major educational asset in the region, contributing to its low unemployment rate and serving as a critical institution to its residents’ economic and social well-being;

2. As with the University, cuts to Medicaid and other assistance funding will harm the borough by reducing the need for services, thereby reducing the need for professionals, with the same impacts noted above. Residents may go untreated for medical conditions and mental health, may go without housing assistance, and may go without public assistance, resulting in a high societal cost. These cuts are adverse to the Alaska Constitution’s mandate that the state shall provide for public health and welfare;

3. Cuts to education, including Pre-K, K-12, and post-secondary, mortgage the future of the Borough. Since the founding of our country, and then our state, public education has been and should remain one of the highest aspirations of government, for an educated population is necessary to sustain the future of our nation, our state, and our community;

4. Cuts to municipal programs merely shift the burden of State obligations to local taxpayers. This shift increases the local property tax rate, which negatively impacts the ability of Borough residents to spend those dollars instead in the local economy; and

WHEREAS, The severity of the impacts of the Governor’s vetoes on the Fairbanks North Star Borough will materially impact the Borough; and,
WHEREAS, Such impacts may reasonably include: the loss of a substantial number of jobs by Borough residents; Borough residents leaving the Borough and the state; reduced real property ownership and thus property tax base, thereby shifting the property tax burden to fewer residents; reduced spending in the local economy; a reduction in the number of small and large businesses alike conducting business in the Borough; and potential negative impacts on the United States Air Force decision to bed down two squadrons of F-35 aircraft at Eielson Air Force Base; and,

WHEREAS, The time is NOW to put politics aside and take action in the best interests of Alaska and her citizens, even if doing so creates political peril for those willing to stand tall for Alaska and override the vetoes; and,

WHEREAS, Alaska is better served by the development of a long-term fiscal plan that balances appropriate spending reductions with new revenues, maintains an acceptable level of government services, is in alignment with the values of the Alaska Constitution, and does not seek to unilaterally dismantle the state over the course of one year; and

WHEREAS, The Alaska Legislature must fulfill its Constitutional duty to act as a check upon the draconian actions of the Governor;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly opposes the line item vetoes identified in this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Assembly requests that the Alaska Legislature fulfill its duty to act on behalf of all Alaskans as a check on the powers of the Executive Branch and override these line item vetoes as doing so is in the long-term best interests of the State of Alaska; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Assembly further requests that the Legislature and the Governor develop a long-term fiscal plan for the state that includes new revenues without dismantling the state that so many Alaskans have worked hard to pioneer, as this Borough and Alaskans across the state have repeatedly demanded; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Assembly requests the Clerk distribute a copy of this Resolution to each Member of the Alaska Legislature, with a copy to Governor Michael J. Dunleavy and Office of Management and Budget Director Donna Arduin.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 8th DAY OF JULY, 2019.

_____________________________  
Matt Cooper  
Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

________________________________   
April Trickey, CMC  
Borough Clerk