

RESOLUTION

Relating to community councils.

WHEREAS, community councils were organized in Anchorage before the unification of the City of Anchorage and the Greater Anchorage Area Borough as the Municipality of Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Municipal Charter prescribed the creation of a system of community councils to ensure the broadest possible public participation in local government; a municipal ordinance establishing the organizational framework for community councils was enacted in 1977; until 2003, the government municipal ordinance (AMC 2.40) had not been updated; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2005, Assembly Ordinance (AO) 2005-1 was introduced by Assembly Members Allan Tesche and Dick Traini to update the provisions of the Anchorage Municipal Code relating to the definition and recognition of community councils; and

WHEREAS, under AO 2005-1, community councils would be permitted to charge membership dues up to \$25 a year, and the dollar limitation on gifts, grants, contributions or in-kind donations a community council may receive would be repealed; in addition, as a pre-condition to recognition as a community council, by-laws governing the organization, operation and proceedings of the community council must be adopted and submitted to the Assembly; the proposed ordinance also outlines the framework for, and the basic elements to be included in, community council by-laws; and

WHEREAS, under AO 2005-1, existing community councils would be

GHCC, Resolution
Relating to community councils


required to bring their by-laws into compliance with the provisions of AO 2005-1 within 120 days of the passage and approval of the ordinance; now, therefore be it hereby

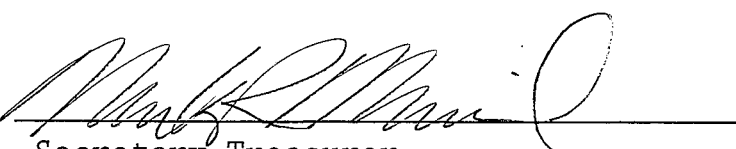
RESOLVED, that the Government Hill Community Council, at its regular meeting, February 17, 2005, endorses the enactment of AO 2005-1, and urges other community councils in Anchorage to support this ordinance's passage and approval; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Secretary-Treasurer of the Government Hill Community Council is requested to send copies of this Resolution to Hon. Dick Traini, Chair, Anchorage Municipal Assembly; Hon. Allan Tesche, Member, Anchorage Municipal Assembly; Hon. Mark Begich, Mayor, Municipality of Anchorage; and, to: Merten Bangemann-Johnson, Chair, Board of Delegates, Federation of Community Councils; and, to each of the community councils in Anchorage.

Resolution read and adopted this 17th day of February 2005.

ATTEST:


Vice President - acting president


Secretary-Treasurer

Submitted by: Assemblymembers TESCHE
and TRAINI
Prepared by: Department of Assembly
For reading: January 11, 2005

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AO NO. 2005-1

1 AN ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY AMENDING
2 ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.40.030 RELATING TO THE
3 DEFINITION AND RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS.
4

5
6 THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:
7

8 Section 1: That Anchorage Municipal Code Section 2.40.030 is
9 amended as follows (other sections are not affected and therefore not set out):
10

11 **2.40.030 Definition and recognition of community councils.**
12

13 A. *Community councils defined.* Community councils are nonprofit,
14 voluntary, self-governing associations composed of residents,
15 property owners, business owners and representatives from
16 nonprofit associations and other entities located within geographical
17 areas designated as districts by the A[a]ssembly. Residents, for the
18 purpose of this chapter, are defined as homeowners, tenants, or
19 others dwelling within the council boundaries [RESIDENTS],
20 property owners and representatives from nonprofit associations
21 and other entities located within geographical areas designated as
22 districts by the assembly.
23

24 B. *Recognition of community councils.* Upon request of one or more
25 voluntary associations and after public notice and hearing, the
26 A[a]ssembly may recognize by ordinance any one voluntary
27 association as the community council for a given district. To qualify
28 for and maintain recognition, an association must establish that it:
29

30 1. m[M]eets the definition of a community council as set forth in
31 subsection A of this section;[.]

32
33 2. h[H]as a policy and practice of open membership and meetings
34 which encourages participation of persons from all segments of
35 the community;[.]
36

37 3. d[D]oes not charge dues, or require other financial contribution
38 as a condition of membership or participation, in excess of
39 \$25.00 [\$5.00] per member per year; however, such

organization may receive gifts, grants, contributions, or in-kind donations [OF NO MORE THAN \$250.00 PER MEMBER PER YEAR] from members or others to meet the costs of its operations;[.]

4. i[l]s, in the opinion of the A[a]ssembly, representative of the residents in the district;[.]

5. h[H]as held at least two meetings in the district which resulted in a determination to seek recognition as a community council. Such meetings must have been subsequent to public notice through newspaper publication, school distribution and other means adequate to inform most, if not all, district residents of the meeting;[.] and

6. has adopted by-laws governing the organization, operation, and proceedings of the community council. These by-laws shall be presented to the Assembly prior to recognition and shall provide for:

a) Definition of the boundaries of the community council as set forth in AMC 2.40.040 D.

b) Definition of membership consistent with A of this section.

c) Regular meetings of the council at periodic intervals, but at least once each quarter in a calendar year.

d) The election of officers and, if desired, an executive committee or like body to conduct the business of the council between meetings; however, actions of such a body are subject to council ratification and all council members must have an equal voice in policy decisions.

e) The duties and responsibilities of officers, their removal or replacement when a vacancy occurs, and criteria for eligibility to hold an office with the council.

f) An annual report on all council business conducted in the preceding twelve months.

g) The management of the council's finances including regular status reports to the members and an annual report on the council's finances.

- h) The dissolution of the council, and for the disposition of the council's property upon dissolution.
- i) That Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, shall apply in all instances, matters, and proceedings not covered by the by-laws.
- j) Procedures for amending the by-laws.

Section 2: All community councils previously established under this section shall bring their bylaws into compliance and present those bylaws to the Assembly within 120 days of passage and approval of this ordinance.

Section 3: This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this _____ day of _____, 2005.

Chair

ATTEST:

Municipal Clerk