32	WHEREAS, a notice of the continuation of the Commission public hearing for this
33	resolution was published in the Frontiersman on April 2, 2023; and
34	WHEREAS, on April 11, 2023, the Commission held a public hearing on the
35	proposed amendments; and
36	WHEREAS, the Commission deliberated on this request taking into account the
37	current provisions of the Wasilla Municipal Code; and
38	WHEREAS, after due consideration, the Commission determines that the
39	proposed amendments are appropriate and are consistent with the goals and objectives
40	of the Wasilla Municipal Code and the 2011 City of Wasilla Comprehensive Plan.
41	NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby approves
42	this resolution recommending that the City Council adopt the following amendments:
43	Amendment of section. WMC 16.04.070, Definitions, is hereby amended to add
44	the following definitions:
45	16.04.070 Definitions.
46	When used in this title, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings
47	set forth in this section:
48	"Day, business" means any calendar day, Monday through Friday, exclusive of city
49	holidays. A day commences at the time of receipt of an application or notice and ends
50	after 24 hours in a day.
51	Amendment of section. WMC 16.12.010, Approvals by planner, is hereby amended
52	as follows:

53 16.12.010 Approvals by pl	olanner.
-------------------------------------	----------

54	A. WMC 16.20.020 includes a <u>district</u> use chart describing the type of permit needed
55	before initiating a use of land. There are three types of permits: (1) administrative
56	approval ("AA"); (2) use permit ("UP"); and (3) conditional use ("CU"). This chapter
57	describes the procedures that apply to administrative approvals and use permits : WMC
58	16.16.010 through 16.16.040 describe the procedures that apply to the elevation of
59	administrative approvals and use permit decisions to the commission, pursuant to WMC
60	16.12.040, and to conditional uses. Applications are also required for rezonings (WMC
61	16.16.070), for subdivisions (WMC-16.28.030), for signs (WMC-16.32.060) and for
62	variances (WMC 16.28.110) Other applications are required as identified elsewhere in
63	this title (e.g., signs, variance, rezoning, subdivision, amnesty, landscape waiver, etc.).
64	B. The planner may approve uses that are listed as administratively approved
65	administrative approval (-AA-) or as-a use permit (-UP-) in the district use chart of in
66	WMC 16.20.020. Approvals by the planner are intended to provide assistance to
67	developers in locating and designing uses to be in conformance with the neighborhood
68	character and city adopted policies and standards. The application and approval
69	process is also intended to ensure that uses comply with other laws that may apply
70	such as state fire codes and Matanuska-Susitna Borough programs including: coastal
71	management, shoreline protection program and flood damage prevention.

Amendment of section. WMC 16.12.020, Administrative approval and use -73 - permits, is hereby amended as follows:

74	16.12 <i>.</i> 020	Administrative approval and use permits approvals	<u>š</u> .
----	--------------------	---	------------

An administrative approval ("AA") or a use permit ("UP"), as defined in WMC 75 16.04.070 or listed on the district use chart in WMC 16.20.020, is within the authority of 76 the planner to approve. Developers must file an application with the planner and receive 77 a permit or approval prior to commencement of the use. Approval of an administrative 78 or use permit is required prior to commencement of a use or any site work except 79 surveying on the lot. For purposes of this chapter, site work includes, but is not limited 80 to, clearing, grading, excavation, or fill activities on the lot. In all applications for an 81 approval, the burden of proof shall be on the developer to prove, by a preponderance of 82 the evidence, that the proposed use is consistent with the general approval criteria in 83 WMC 16.33.050 and applicable requirements in WMC Title 16 and the 2011 City of 84 Wasilla Comprehensive Plan (as amended). 85 1. Application. A completed application on a form supplied by the city and 86 appropriate fee shall be submitted to the planner. If a site plan is required under 87 WMC 16.08.015, a site plan conforming to the requirements of that section shall be 88

appropriate fee shall be submitted to the planner. If a site plan is required under WMC 16.08.015, a site plan conforming to the requirements of that section shall be submitted as part of the application. Within one day of receipt of the application, the planner shall determine if the application, including any required site plan, is complete and the submission requirements are met. If the requirements are not met, the planner shall return the application to the applicant for modification or correction. If the planner fails to act on the application within one day, the application shall be considered complete and accepted for review.

2. Administrative Approval (AA). If the accepted application is for an administratively approved use (see WMC 16.20.020), the planner may issue an

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

approval. The planner may place reasonable conditions on the permit to ensure that the use will comply with the general approval criteria in WMC 16.16.050. The planner will act on an application for an administratively approved use within two days after acceptance. Prior to the expiration of the two-day review, the planner may elevate (see WMC 16.12.040) the review upon written notice to the developer or the developer may request an extension of the administrative review in writing. The elevation shall be in compliance with WMC 16.20.020. For good cause, the planner may extend the time for issuance of the decision on the permit, not to exceed an additional five days.

B. Procedure for City Planner Approvals.

Administrative Approval (AA). The following application procedures apply:

a. Application. A completed application and appropriate fee shall be submitted to the planner. If a site plan and/or landscape plan is required under WMC 16.08.015 or WMC 16.33, a site plan and/or landscape plan conforming to those requirements shall be submitted as part of the application. Within three business days of receipt of the application, the planner shall determine if the application, including any required site plan and/or landscape plan, is complete and the submission requirements are met. If the submission requirements are not met, the planner shall notify the applicant of the deficiencies and the need for modification or correction. If the planner fails to act on the application within three business days of application submittal, the application shall be considered complete and accepted for review.

20	b. Initial Review. Initial comments from the planner and other applicable city
21	reviewers shall be provided to the applicant no later than 10 business days
22	after acceptance for review.
23	c. Subsequent Reviews. Comments from the planner and other applicable
24	city reviewers addressing subsequent submittal of revised plans by the
25	applicant shall be provided within five business days after resubmittal.
26	d. Decision. The planner shall make a decision within five business days
27	after receipt of the developer's final revised plans. The planner may approve,
28	approve with modifications and/or conditions of approval, or deny the
29	application. The planner's decision shall be based upon compliance with the
30	general approval criteria in WMC 16.16.050 and other applicable
31	requirements in WMC Title 16 and the 2011 City of Wasilla Comprehensive
32	Plan (as amended). For good cause, the planner may extend the time for
33	issuance of the decision on the permit, not to exceed an additional five
34	business days.
35	e. Conditions of Approval. The planner may place reasonable conditions on
36	the permit to ensure that the use will comply with all applicable requirements
37	in WMC Title 16 and the 2011 City of Wasilla Comprehensive Plan (as
38	amended).
39	f. Notification of decision. Written notice of the planner's decision shall be
40	provided to the applicant via mail or electronic communication within one
41	business day of the decision. The notification shall advise the applicant of the
42	right to appeal the planner's decision pursuant to WMC 16.34.

application is for a use permit, the planner shall, within three days of acceptance of
the application, issue a public notice for review and comment based upon the
general approval criteria in WMC 16.16.050.
a. Application. A completed application and appropriate fee shall be
submitted to the planner. If a site plan and/or landscape plan is required under
WMC 16.08.015 or WMC 16.33, a site plan and/or landscape plan conforming
to those requirements shall be submitted as part of the application. Within three
business days of receipt of the application, the planner shall determine if the
application, including any required site plan and/or landscape plan, is complete
and the submission requirements are met. If the requirements are not met, the
planner shall notify the applicant of the deficiencies and the need for
modification or correction. If the planner fails to act on the application within
three business days of application submittal, the application shall be considered
complete and accepted for review.
a. Public Notice. The planner shall mail or electronically transmit the draft use
permit to the applicant, reviewing parties, commission members, and to the
owners of property, as listed on the Matanuska-Susitna Borough property tax

before making a decision to issue a use permit.

165	b. Initial Review. Initial comments from the planner and other applicable city
166	reviewers shall be provided to the applicant no later than 10 business days after
167	acceptance for review.
168	c. Subsequent Reviews. Comments from the planner and other applicable city
169	reviewers addressing subsequent submittal of revised plans by the applicant
170	shall be provided within five business days after resubmittal.
171	d. Public Notice. Within three business days after a use permit has been
172	accepted for review, the planner shall:
173	i. Mail or electronically transmit a public hearing notice that includes the
174	name of the applicant, the address or general location of the subject
175	property, and the subject or nature of the requested action to the
176	applicant, commission members, the neighborhood association (if the
177	neighborhood has an approved neighborhood plan), appropriate reviewing
178	parties, and to the property owners located within a minimum of 1,200 feet
179	of the lot lines of the development, as listed on the Matanuska-Susitna
180	Borough property tax rolls.
181	ii. Post the public notice in city hall.
182	iii. Provide the applicant with a public notice to be posted on site. The
183	applicant is responsible for posting and maintaining the notice until a
184	decision is made by the planner. The notice shall be posted so that it may
185	be easily seen from the public right-of-way. The planner will allow a
186	minimum of 10 business days from the date of public notice mailing before
187	making a decision.

.88	be. Comment Period. Comments on the draft-use permit application must be
.89	received within five-10 business days following the date of public notice.
.90	c. Decision. The planner's decision to approve the draft use permit, approve a
91	revision of the draft use permit, deny approval or elevate the decision shall be
.92	issued within one day of the close of the comment period. The decision shall be
.93	sent to all who submitted comments, the planning commission, and the
.94	applicant. For good cause, the planner may extend the time for issuance of the
.95	decision, not to exceed an additional five business days. The planner's decision
.96	shall be based upon compliance with the general approval criteria in WMC
.97	16.16.050 and comments received from the public notice.
.98	f. Decision. The planner shall make a decision within five business days after
.99	the close of the comment period or receipt of the developer's final revised plans,
00	whichever occurs later. The planner may approve, approve with modifications
01	and/or conditions of approval, or deny the permit application. The planner may
:02	also elevate the decision to the commission pursuant to WMC 16.12.040 and
:03	WMC 16.16.020. The planner's decision shall be based upon compliance with
:04	the general approval criteria in WMC 16.16.050 and other applicable
:05	requirements in WMC Title 16 and the 2011 City of Wasilla Comprehensive Plan
:06	(as amended). For good cause, the planner may extend the time for issuance
.07	of the decision on the permit, not to exceed an additional five business days.
.08	g. Conditions of Approval. The planner may place reasonable conditions on
.09	the permit to ensure that the use will comply with all applicable requirements in
10	WMC Title 16 and the 2011 City of Wasilla Comprehensive Plan (as amended).

211	h. Notification of decision. Written notice of the planner's decision shall be
212	provided via mail or electronic communication to all who submitted written
213	comments, the commission, and the applicant within one business day of the
214	date of the decision. The notification shall advise interested parties, as defined
215	in WMC 16.34.005, of the right to appeal the planner's decision pursuant to
216	WMC 16.34.
217	4 <u>3</u> . Appeal. A-Any decision of the planner may be appealed pursuant to WMC
218	Chapter 16.34., and the decision shall notify interested persons, as defined in WMC
219	16.34.005, of the right to appeal.
220	Amendment of section. WMC 16.12.040, Elevation, is hereby amended as
221	follows:
	40.40.040 Flourier
222	16.12.040 Elevation.
222	The planner may elevate any use permit decision to the planning commission at any
223	The planner may elevate any use permit decision to the planning commission at any
223 224	The planner may elevate any use permit decision to the planning commission at any time between the acceptance of the application and the close of the decision period.
223 224 225	The planner may elevate any use permit decision to the planning commission at any time between the acceptance of the application and the close of the decision period. The elevation must be based on a written finding that the permit decision satisfies one
223 224 225 226	The planner may elevate any use permit decision to the planning commission at any time between the acceptance of the application and the close of the decision period. The elevation must be based on a written finding that the permit decision satisfies one or more of the following criteria:
223 224 225 226 227	The planner may elevate any use permit decision to the planning commission at any time between the acceptance of the application and the close of the decision period. The elevation must be based on a written finding that the permit decision satisfies one or more of the following criteria: The planner may elevate any administrative approval or use permit decision to the
223 224 225 226 227	The planner may elevate any use permit decision to the planning commission at any time between the acceptance of the application and the close of the decision period. The elevation must be based on a written finding that the permit decision satisfies one or more of the following criteria: The planner may elevate any administrative approval or use permit decision to the commission, within three business days of the close of the comment period. The
223 224 225 226 227 228	The planner may elevate any use permit decision to the planning commission at any time between the acceptance of the application and the close of the decision period. The elevation must be based on a written finding that the permit decision satisfies one or more of the following criteria: The planner may elevate any administrative approval or use permit decision to the commission, within three business days of the close of the comment period. The planner shall provide written notice to the developer advising them of the elevated

233	A. The proposed use could have significant negative effects on or conflict with existing
234	land uses adjoining the site in a manner or to a degree that warrants consideration by
235	the commission;
236	B. The proposed use could have significant negative impacts on the utility system,
237	traffic flow or city-provided services;
238	C. The proposed use could conflict with adopted city policies or raises a particular
239	issue or set of issues in a manner or to a degree that warrants consideration by the
240	commission;
241	D. A written request for elevation has been received from an official reviewing party.
242	To be valid an objection from a reviewing party must cite conflict(s) with city policy or
243	unusual negative impacts from the proposed use;
244	E. A request to elevate has been received from two or more members of the
245	commission. The planner must determine that the request from the commission member
246	satisfies one or more of the criteria above.
247	Amendment of section. WMC 16.16.020, Procedure for elevations, is hereby
248	amended as follows:
249	16.16.020 Procedure for elevations.
250	Once a permit approval has been elevated for review (see WMC 16.12.040), the
251	following procedures apply: Once a permit approval has been elevated by the planner
252	for review by the commission pursuant to WMC 16.12.040, the public notice, comment

A. Public Notice. If the planner's approval is elevated the planner shall:

period, public hearing, decision, and notification shall follow the procedures set forth for

a conditional use in WMC 16.16.040.

253

254

256	1. Place the application on the agenda of the next available meeting of the
.57	commission;
.58	2. Publish the agenda item in a newspaper of general circulation or place a public
259	service announcement on radio or television. The published notice must set out the
:60	time, date and place of the hearing, the name of the applicant, the address or
:61	general location of the property and subject or nature of the action;
162	3. Within five days of elevation issue a public hearing notice;
263	4. Mail or electronically transfer a copy of the public hearing notice to the
.64	applicant, the commission members, the neighborhood association if the
165	neighborhood has an approved neighborhood plan and to appropriate reviewing
166	parties;
.67	5. The public hearing notice shall be sent to the owners of property, as listed on the
868	Matanuska-Susitna Borough property tax rolls, located within a minimum of 1,200
269	feet of the lot lines of the development. The public notice shall be posted in city hall
270	and on the site. Staff will allow a minimum of 10 days (14 calendar days) from the
271	date of public notice mailing before scheduling a public hearing on the request
272	before the planning commission.
273	B. Decision. The commission shall review the planner's draft recommendation, and
274	may hear comment(s) from reviewing parties, the applicant and the public. The
275	commission shall decide either to deny, approve or approve with conditions, or the
276	commission may with concurrence of the applicant return the approval to the planner for
277	further review as a new use permit application.

278	Amendment of section. WMC 16.16.030, Approval required, is hereby amended
279	as follows:
280	16.16.030 Approval required.
281	All conditional uses and elevated administrative and use permit approvals must receive
282	approval by the commission prior to commencement of a use or any site work, except
283	surveying on the lot. For purposes of this section, site work includes, but is not limited
284	to, clearing, grading, excavation, or fill activities on the lot. In all applications for an
285	approval, the burden of proof shall be on the developer to prove, by a preponderance of
286	the evidence, that the criteria set forth in this title are met that the proposed use is
287	consistent with the general approval criteria in WMC 16.33.050 and applicable
288	requirements in WMC Title 16 and the 2011 City of Wasilla Comprehensive Plan (as
289	amended). The uses eligible for approval by the commission as a conditional use are
290	listed in the district use chart in WMC 16.20.020. Hearings held by the commission use
291	the following procedures outlined in this chapter.
292	Amendment of section. WMC 16.16.040, Procedure for commission approvals,
293	is hereby amended as follows:
294	16.16.040 Procedure for commission approvals.
295	A. The following procedures apply to approvals by the commission-including
296	conditional uses, rezonings and variances:
297	1. Application. A completed application on a form supplied by the city and
298	appropriate fee shall be submitted to the planner. If a site plan <u>and/or landscape</u>
299	plan is required under WMC 16.08.015 or WMC 16.33.020, a site plan and/or
300	landscape plan conforming to the requirements of that section those sections shall

301	be submitted as part of the application. Within two days three business days of
302	receipt of the application, the planner shall determine if the application, including
303	any required site plan and/or landscape plan, is complete and the submission
304	requirements are met. If the requirements are not met, the planner shall-return the
305	application to notify the applicant of the deficiencies and the need for modification or
306	correction. If the planner fails to act on the application within two three business
307	days, the application shall be considered complete and accepted for review.
308	2. Initial Review. Initial comments from the planner and other applicable city
309	reviewers shall be provided to the applicant no later than 10 business days after
310	acceptance for review.
311	3. Subsequent Reviews. Comments from the planner and other applicable city
312	reviewers addressing subsequent submittal of revised plans by the applicant shall be
313	provided within five business days after resubmittal.
314	24. Public Notice. If the application is accepted, the planner shall: Within three
315	business days after the application review process is complete, unless otherwise
316	noted below, the planner shall:
317	a. Place the application on the agenda of the next available meeting of the
318	commission that provides sufficient time to meet the minimum public notice and
319	review requirements in this chapter.
320	b. Publish the agenda item in a newspaper of general circulation or place a
321	public service announcement on radio or television a minimum of three calendar
322	days prior to the public hearing. The published notice must set out the time,

323	date and place of the hearing, the name of the applicant, the address or general
324	location of the property, and subject or nature of the action;
325	c. Within five days of acceptance, issue a public hearing notice;
326	dc. Mail or electronically transfer transmit a copy of a public hearing notice
327	that includes the name of the applicant, the address or general location of the
328	subject property, and the subject or nature of the requested action the public
329	hearing-notice-to the applicant, the commission members, the neighborhood
330	association (if the neighborhood has an approved neighborhood plan), and to
331	appropriate reviewing parties; and property owners located within a minimum of
332	1,200 feet of the lot lines of the development, as listed on the Matanuska-
333	Susitna Borough property tax rolls.
334	e. The public hearing notice shall be sent to the owners of property, as listed
335	on the Matanuska-Susitna Borough property tax rolls, located within a minimum
336	of 1,200 feet of the lot-lines of the development. The public notice shall be
337	posted in City Hall and on the site. Staff will allow a minimum of 10 days (14
338	calendar days) from the date of public notice mailing before scheduling a public
339	hearing on the request before the planning commission;
340	d. Post the public notice in city hall.
341	f. The applicant will post the notice on the site at least 10 days prior to the
342	hearing. The notice shall be posted so that it may be easily seen from the public
343	right-of-way. The applicant is responsible for maintaining the notice.
344	e. Provide the applicant with a public notice to be posted on site. The
345	applicant is responsible for posting and maintaining the notice until a decision is

346	made by the commission. The notice shall be posted so that it may be easily
347	seen from the public right-of-way.
348	35. Comment Period. Written comments on the proposal and public hearing notice
349	must be received prior to the start of the public hearing. The commission may
350	extend the written comment period to another date and time after completion of
351	public testimony.
352	46. Public Hearing. The public hearing shall be held no later than two regular
353	meetings of the commission after the acceptance of the application by the planner
354	review process is complete. The hearing date may be postponed to a later date only
355	with agreement by the applicant.
356	57. Hearing Format. At the hearing before the commission, any interested person
357	party may present oral argument. Failure to observe the procedures in a hearing
358	shall not affect the validity of the decision so long as the appellant has all interested
359	parties have had a reasonable opportunity to be heard. Oral argument shall be
360	subject to the following order and time limitations, unless the commission, for good
361	cause shown, permits a change in the order or an enlargement of increase in time:
362	a. City staff, five-10 minutes each to present the city position and to set forth
363	the evidence and reasons relied upon for the decision recommendation;
364	b. Applicant or representative, five 10 minutes;
365	c. Private person supporting or opposing the proposal, five minutes each;
366	d. City staff, for closing comments, 10 minutes; and
367	e. Applicant, for rebuttal, five 10 minutes.

368	68. Decision. The commission shall review the planner's recommendation and
369	hear comments from reviewing parties, the applicant, and the public. The
370	commission shall decide to deny, approve, or approve with modifications and/or
371	conditions. the proposal or appeal. The burden of proof shall be on the applicant.
372	The commission shall set forth the facts it finds relevant to its decision and the
373	reasons for its decision. The decision shall be based upon compliance with the
374	general approval criteria in WMC 16.16.050 and other applicable requirements in
375	WMC Title 16 and the 2011 City of Wasilla Comprehensive Plan (as amended).
I 376	The commission's decision may be made immediately following the public hearing
377	portion of the commission meeting. The decision of the commission shall set forth
378	the facts it finds relevant to its decision and the reasons for its decision, and notify
379	interested persons, as defined in WMC-16.36.010, of the right to appeal under WMC
380	16.36.060. The effective date of the decision is the date the findings and the
381	reasons are set out in writing and signed by the commission chairperson or the
382	chairperson's designee.
383	9. Effective date of decision. The effective date of the commission's decision shall
384	be the date the findings and the reasons are set out in writing and signed by the
385	commission chair or the chair's designee.
386	10. Notification of decision. Written notice of the commission's decision shall be
387	provided via mail or electronic communication to all who submitted written
388	comments, the commission, and the applicant within one business day of the
389	effective date of the decision. The notification shall advise interested parties, as

defined in WMC 16.36.010, of the right to appeal the commission's decision
pursuant to WMC 16.36.
711. Super Majority. If written objections are timely-received from more than 50
percent of the property owners of record notified in subsection $\frac{(A)(2)(e)}{(A)(4)(c)}$ of
this section or are presented in writing by the same by the close of the written
testimony_comment period, the commission may only act if four members of the
commission vote in agreement.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Wasilla Planning Commission
approves of these code amendments and hereby forwards their recommendation for
adoption by the Wasilla City Council and to take effect upon adoption by the Wasilla City
Council.
APPROVED by the Wasilla Planning Commission on April 11, 2023.
ATTEST: David Seals, Chair Date Tina Crawford, AICP, City Planner

Strikethrough indicates deleted language and Underline indicates new language

Wasilla Resolution Serial No. 23-04

Passed Unanimously

VOTE: