By: Planning

Public Hearing: 10/13/09

Adopted: 10/13/09

WASILLA PLANNING COMMISSION RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 09-17

A RESOLUTION OF THE WASILLA PLANNING COMMISSION REQUESTING THAT THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH REMOVE THE CITY OF WASILLA FROM THE DRAFT MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH EARTH MATERIAL EXTRACTION ORDINANCE SERIAL NO. 09-110.

WHEREAS, the City was previously granted planning powers with the exception of platting powers by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and the City has the authority to review and issue permits in the City;

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough proposes to revoke Wasilla's planning powers for the regulation of gravel mining within the City Limits and then impose the Matanuska-Susitna Borough's Earth Material Extraction Ordinance Serial No. 09 -110 within the cities of Houston, Palmer and Wasilla per 28.30.020(B);

WHEREAS, the City has an adopted Comprehensive Plan which sets the context for the implementing ordinances and zoning districts which specify how land is to be developed within the City limits;

WHEREAS, WMC defines "resource extraction' in WMC 16.04.070; identifies the zones in which resource extraction is a permitted or excluded use within the City, and the type of permit required, all per WMC 16.20.020; and provides general and specific approval criteria in WMC 16.16.050, General Approval Criteria, (A)1-21; and WMC 16.16.060 Specific Approval Criteria, (F)1-10; all of which must be addressed before resource extraction can be permitted within the City Limits;

City of Wasilla Page 1 of 3 WHEREAS, the City has a Planning Department to administer the Land Development Code;

WHEREAS, the City has a Planning Commission, a quasi-judicial body, comprised of seven citizens of the City which conduct public hearings and make quasi-judicial decisions on applications for resource extraction;

WHEREAS, the City has a Public Works Department with a Professional Civil Engineer on staff;

WHEREAS, the City is largely developed;

WHEREAS, the property in the City has a high per square foot price;

WHEREAS, the City is the most familiar with land use and trends in the city;

WHEREAS, the City is incorporated in the State of Alaska as a First Class City;

WHEREAS, the City has and operates a Class-A water system with multiple wells and well head protection sites;

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission is not comprised entirely of citizens of Wasilla and is primarily involved with making quasi-judicial decisions and legislative recommendations regarding rural property outside incorporated urban areas;

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough does not own or operate any public utilities;

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough does not have an urban fully functional Public Works Department with in house street, water and sewer maintenance responsibilities;

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission does not have experience with Urban Class-A Cities; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Planning Commission is not familiar with Wasilla's Comprehensive plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wasilla Planning Commission hereby respectfully requests that the Matanuska-Susitna Borough recognize our Class-A City status, our right to protect our public utilities and our urban expertise by removing the City of Wasilla from the proposed Matanuska-Susitna Earth Material Extraction Ordinance Serial No. 09-110.

APPROVED by the Wasilla Planning Commission on October 13, 2009.

APPROVED:

Stan Tucker, Chairman

ATTEST:

Jim Holycross, City Planner

VOTE:

Passed Unanimously