

**City of Wasilla  
Ordinance Serial No. 14-36**

**An ordinance of the Wasilla City Council amending Wasilla Municipal Code 3.90.085 Collective Bargaining, to allow for negotiations to be conducted in an open forum.**

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**Section 1. Classification.** This ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and shall become part of the city code.

**Section 2. Amendment of section.** WMC 3.90.085, Collective Bargaining, is hereby amended to read as follows:

(A) The city recognizes the right of its public employees to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining, to form or join employee organizations, and to negotiate with and enter into written agreements with the city on matters of wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment.

(B) The terms on which city employees may organize and on which the city and its employees will engage in collective bargaining shall be governed by the Public Employment Relations Act (AS 23.40.070 through 23.40.260) and the regulations promulgated by the Alaska Public Relations Agency pursuant to AS 23.40.380 or other authority granted by the Alaska Legislature. The Alaska Labor Relations Agency is designated the administrative agency having jurisdiction to hear and decide questions affecting the employees of the city of Wasilla arising under the Public Employment Relations Act.

**(C) All substantive collective bargaining negotiations with the administration and a collective bargaining unit shall be conducted as a public meeting with at least 48 hour advance notice. The mayor or his or her designee shall post notice on the city's website. Council members may observe the collective bargaining negotiation process, however, shall not contribute, participate or engage in collective bargaining negotiations.**

**Section 3. Effective date.** This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption by the Wasilla City Council.

Pulled from agenda on August 25, 2014.

Underline, added, Strikethrough, deleted

CITY OF  
**WASILLA**  
 • ALASKA •

**CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATION STAFF REPORT**

**Ordinance Serial No. 14-36: Amending Wasilla Municipal Code 3.90.085 Collective Bargaining, to allow for negotiations to be conducted in an open forum.**

Originator: Council Member Brandon Wall  
 Date: 7/14/2014 Agenda of: 7/28/2014



| Route to: | Department Head                         | Signature     | Date    |
|-----------|---|---------------|---------|
| X         | Human Resources                         |               |         |
| X         | Chief of Police                         |               |         |
| X         | Public Works Director                   |               |         |
| X         | Recreation & Cultural Services Director |               |         |
| X         | Finance Director                        |               |         |
| X         | Deputy Administrator                    |               |         |
| X         | City Clerk                              | <i>Kornit</i> | 7/14/14 |

Reviewed by Mayor Verne E. Rupright: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fiscal Impact:**  yes or  no      **Funds Available:**  yes or  no

**Account name/number:** None

**Attachments:** Ordinance Serial No. 14-36 (1 page)

**Summary Statement:** In the recently adopted Fiscal Year 2015 budget, the personnel costs for the City are sitting at over \$14.1 million dollars or nearly 68% of the City's overall \$20.8 million dollar operating budget. Yet discussion of the largest driver of personnel costs takes place largely out of the public's view.

Currently, the collective bargaining negotiations take place in private meetings behind closed doors between the City Administration and the employee union representatives. Once those negotiations are completed, the City Council discusses those contracts in a closed door executive session. The City Council and the Administration spend weeks discussing a small portion of the budget, taking input from the public. It only makes sense that the public has the same access when it comes to what is by far the largest part of the City's operating budget.

The purpose of this ordinance is so that the spending of this \$14.1 million dollars is done in an open meeting and allow the public to provide input.

**Staff Recommendation:** Introduce and set for public hearing Ordinance Serial No. 14-36.

*This matter needs strict searching & cutting - there are confidential and legal issues to be vetted. Verne Rupright 7/16/14*