

**Hope Inc.  
Hope Village Council  
P.O. Box 101  
Hope, Alaska 99605**

Mayor Mike Navarre  
Kenai Peninsula Borough

April 17,2017

Mayor Navarre

I'm writing this letter to give you and the Borough Assembly members some information on why the community of Hope is requesting the Kenai Borough transfer the property and buildings where the current library is located to Hope Inc.

Prior to Hope Inc. being incorporated as a non-profit in 1980 the community was recognized by other government entities as the Hope Village Council. We have records dating back to the 1940's. In 1980 we formed Hope Inc. to be recognized as the legal body to represent Hope. By becoming an incorporated non-profit we were then able to establish a mechanism in which the Kenai Borough was able to transfer to Hope Inc. our Cemetery. We currently have title to the Hope Social Hall and the property where the public toilets are, which were both purchased from the University of Alaska Land Trust.

We are asking the Kenai Borough to transfer the current Library property to Hope Inc. in order to have more direct control of the property and its maintenance. The Library entered into a lease with the Borough in 1988 of the property after the new Hope School was built. Since then it has not cost the Borough anything for maintenance or upgrades to the building structures. The Library board and Community have spent an estimated \$200,000 in improvements and maintenance on the property and structures. We have been good stewards to this property for close to 30 years.

It is the intention of Hope Inc. to enter into a similar lease arrangement with the Library board as they currently hold with the Borough. As with the Cemetery property we support a deed restriction that the property can only be used for public purposes and not sold. The community has supported this transfer thru votes at our Hope Inc. Council meetings.

We ask for your support Mayor Navarre and Assembly Members in the transfer of this Property to Hope Inc.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Skogstad". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a stylized "S".

Jim Skogstad  
President, Hope Inc