

Introduced by: Mayor
Date: 02/25/20
Hearing: 03/17/20
Action: Enacted
Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

**KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH
ORDINANCE 2019-19-29**

**AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THREE NEW BOROUGH E911
DISPATCHER POSITIONS TO REPLACE THREE VACANT STATE E911
DISPATCHER POSITIONS**

WHEREAS, the Alaska Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the Kenai Peninsula Borough (Borough) entered into the current agreement for the operation of the Soldotna Public Safety Communications Center (“Communications Center”) on December 13, 2013; and

WHEREAS, among other things the agreement requires DPS to provide nine personnel, including seven dispatchers, one shift supervisor, and one office assistant to work with thirteen Borough personnel to manage and operate the Communications Center; and

WHEREAS, the thirteen Borough employees include seven dispatchers, three shift supervisors, one 911 IT specialist, one 911 Quality Specialist/Admin Assistant and one dispatch center manager; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement also provides that both parties are responsible for timely filling their respective personnel vacancies, and that any failure to fill a vacant position within 90 days shall require the party in arrears to pay all overtime and related costs incurred by the other party due to the personnel deficiency; and

WHEREAS, in addition to leaving one position vacant from July 30, 2019 through September 5, 2019, three more of the state’s eight dispatcher positions have been vacant since September 2019 equaling 2,080 vacant hours through December 31, 2019, the equivalent of one full-time employee for one year; and

WHEREAS, these vacancies include one position that the state recently relocated to the Municipality of Anchorage emergency communications center without providing the borough any advance notice; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has issued a number of announcements stating its intention to centralize E911 call-taking for Alaska State Troopers and has alerted the Borough of its intention to ultimately remove all state positions from the Borough’s emergency Communications Center in Soldotna; and

WHEREAS, representatives from both the DPS and the Borough have discussed this matter numerous times and met personally at least three times in the last six months to discuss the state’s plans to reimburse the Borough for its costs related to the unfilled state positions and to address other changes to the Communications Center that will be necessitated by their decision to remove all state positions from the Communications Center when it opens a centralized emergency dispatch center in Anchorage; and

WHEREAS, as the Borough has not yet seen any forward progress in recovering costs or reaching a transition agreement with the state despite repeated attempts by the Borough, and the Borough is incurring additional costs for overtime to cover for the state’s vacant positions, the Borough’s best interests would be served by approving via resolution three new Borough dispatch positions to replace those positions and appropriating funds for these positions to avoid incurring more overtime; and

WHEREAS, the cost of funding three new borough dispatch positions will cost the borough approximately \$345,000 on an annual basis;

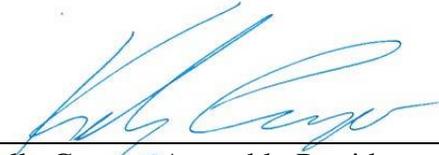
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

SECTION 1. That \$152,251 is appropriated from the general fund fund balance to be transferred to the following accounts in the 911 Communications Special Revenue Fund for costs associated to fund three new Borough emergency center dispatch positions and to replenish the overtime budget for the remaining portion of FY20:

264.11255.40110 Regular Wages	\$60,771
264.11255.40130 Overtime	\$31,081
264.11255.40210 FICA	\$7,642
264.11255.40221 PERS	\$20,742
264.11255.40321 Healthcare	\$26,250
264.11255.40322 Life insurance	\$154
264.11255.40410 Leave	\$5,596
264.11255.40511 Other	\$15

SECTION 2. That this ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its enactment.

ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 17TH DAY OF MARCH, 2020.

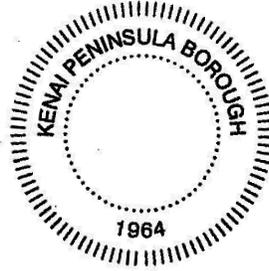


Kelly Cooper, Assembly President

ATTEST:



Johni Blankenship, MMC, Borough Clerk



Yes: Bjorkman, Blakeley, Carpenter, Cox, Dunne, Hibbert, Johnson, Smalley, Cooper
No: None
Absent: None