



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

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MIKE NAVARRE
BOROUGH MAYOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dale Bagley, Assembly President
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

FROM: Mike Navarre, Mayor *MN*

DATE: December 23, 2014

SUBJECT: Ordinance 2014-19- 40, An Ordinance Approving a New Position Entitled Special Assistant to the Mayor - Oil, Gas and Mining, and Appropriating \$67,500 for the Position

The oil, gas and mining industries have become increasingly active in the Kenai Peninsula Borough. Most recently the decision to locate the liquid natural gas pipeline terminus in Nikiski is already having significant economic impacts and expected to have a major long-term effect upon the Kenai Peninsula Borough infrastructure and economy. I believe the best interests of the borough would be served by establishing a new position in the office of the mayor that would focus on oil, gas and mining issues.

The position would evaluate oil, gas and mining industry related issues, legislation and projects affecting the Kenai Peninsula Borough, develop responsive policy positions and initiatives, and implement and advocate for those positions and initiatives that are approved by the mayor and the assembly. This would require a highly knowledgeable individual with a strong background in the legislative process, policy development, public relations, knowledge of oil, gas and mining industries, and the ability to facilitate projects and initiatives as necessary to bring plans and projects to fruition in the borough. For this reason this position is proposed to be a level 6 position. The mid-range salary for that level is \$98,171. With benefits and other required expenses the cost of that position is estimated to be approximately \$161,800. Prorated funding for this position from February 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014 is \$67,500. It is my belief that adding this person to the staff will position the borough to monitor and support ongoing development in these industries, and to develop long term strategic plans to prepare for the impacts and opportunities that will result from expected economic expansion.

Shortened hearing is requested in order that we may begin recruiting for this position as soon as possible as developments are rapidly occurring in this industry. Your support of this ordinance would be appreciated.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT ACCOUNT / FUNDS VERIFIED	
Acct. No. <u>100. 27910</u>	
Amount <u>\$67,500</u>	
By: <u><i>pp</i></u>	Date: <u>12/23/14</u>
<i>C. Chapman</i>	