


Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brent Hibbert, Assembly President
Members, Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

FROM: Jesse Bjorkman, Assemblyman 

DATE: April 8, 2021

RE: Ordinance 2021-18, Amending Title 4 Regarding Borough Elections and Enacting a New Chapter of Code, KPB 4.60, Election Security and Integrity, to Ensure Borough Elections are Accessible, Reliable and Secure (Bjorkman)

The purpose of this ordinance is to ensure public confidence in the integrity of election results.

Section 1 of this ordinance amends KPB 4.50.110, -Closing of the polls, to state that results will be announced at the polling location and that the signed results tape along with the election equipment and materials will be transported by two members of the election board to the election supervisor (the borough clerk).

Section 2 enacts a new chapter of borough election code to clarify and codify borough election practices by providing code provisions that address:

- security of election equipment (KPB 4.60.020),
- chain of custody procedures for voting equipment (KPB 4.60.020, 4.60.030);
- public testing of ballot tabulators (KPB 4.60.030);
- chain of custody for transportation and receipt of ballots (KPB 4.60.050);
- procedures for questioned or uncounted ballots (KPB 4.60.070); and
- a process for candidates appointing poll watchers (KPB 4.60.080);

Section 3 amends KPB 4.80.070 to provide a list of officials recognized to attest to signature verification on absentee ballots and establishes that at least one of three unique pieces of personal identification data shall be required for absentee ballots. The unique identifiers are a voter's voter identification number, date of birth, and last four digits of the voter's social security number. A new subsection G is added that addresses suspected voter fraud, misconduct and/or plural voting.

Section 4 amends KPB 4.90.020(A) for cross-reference and consistency purposes.

Your consideration is appreciated.