Introduced by: Mayor
Date: 06/07/22
Hearing: 06/21/22
Action: Enacted
Vote: 9 Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ORDINANCE 2021-19-58

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE COSTS OF DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION ABOUT THE BALLOT PROPOSITION SEEKING VOTER APPROVAL FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO PAY FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR BOROUGH SCHOOLS, TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH LEGAL RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF BOROUGH FUNDS AND ASSETS RELATED TO BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

- WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough (Borough) administration request an appropriation of \$25,000 by the assembly to cover the costs informing the public of the needs and impacts associated with the proposition seeking voter approval for the issuance of bonds to pay for capital improvements to Borough schools; and
- WHEREAS, AS 15.13.145 prohibits municipalities from influencing the outcome of an election concerning a ballot proposition unless funds have been specifically appropriated for that purpose by municipal ordinance; and
- WHEREAS, KPB 4.10.100 prohibits the use of public funds, facilities, equipment or supplies purchased with public funds, and services of public employees in-kind to promote the passage of a ballot proposition; and
- WHEREAS, the determination of what explicitly constitutes influencing or supporting passage of a ballot proposition is an undefined, subjective area; and
- WHEREAS, to avoid potential expenses should a complaint be filed alleging that the Borough's material and presentations were intended to promote or influence the outcome of the election, an appropriation of sufficient funds to pay costs of preparing and disseminating the material and acknowledging that they may be seen as intended to influence the outcome of the election is in the best interest of the borough;

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

- **SECTION 1.** The sum of \$25,000 is hereby appropriated from the General Fund, fund balance account 100.00000.00000.27910, to account number 100.94910.23BND.49999, which may be used to influence the outcome of the election on October 4, 2022, on the ballot proposition concerning the proposed issuance of general obligation bonds to pay for the cost of educational capital improvements in the borough.
- **SECTION 2.** Notwithstanding KPB 4.10.100, the mayor and his staff are authorized to publicly distribute information related to the issuance of general obligation bonds to pay for the cost of educational capital improvements in the borough with costs not to exceed the appropriated funds.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its enactment.

ENACTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH THIS 21ST DAY OF JUNE, 2022.

ATTEST:

Johni Blankenshin, MMC, Borough Clerk

Brent Johnson, Assembly President

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Yes: Bjorkman, Chesley, Cox, Derkevorkian, Ecklund, Elam, Hibbert, Tupper, Johnson

No: None

Absent: None