

Kenai Peninsula Borough
Office of the Borough Clerk

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly
FROM: Johni Blankenship, Borough Clerk (JB)
DATE: September 20, 2022
RE: Special Election to Fill the Vacancy in the Office of Borough Mayor

Mayor Pierce's resignation from the Office of Borough Mayor effective September 30, 2022, was accepted by the Assembly at the September 6, 2022 regular Assembly meeting.

Per KPB 4.10.050, which states in part, "The election supervisor shall call a special election when required by law..." I am proposing the election schedule below for your consideration:

October 11, 2022 – Introduce an Ordinance Appropriating Funds and Calling for a Special Election

October 25, 2022 – Enact Ordinance Appropriating Funds and Calling for a Special Election

October 31, 2022 – November 14, 2022 Candidate Filing Period

January 9, 2022 – Special Election (This is the first date that a special election can be held per KPB 4.10.050(B)), if the ordinance calling for the special election is enacted on October 25, 2022. The last date that a special election can be held is April 2, 2023 per AS 29.20.280(b).

January 17, 2022 – Assembly Meeting Certifying the Results of the Special Election

January 30, 2002 – Special Mayoral Runoff Election
[If no candidate receives 50%+1 of the votes cast at the Special Mayoral Election, a Special Mayoral Runoff Election will have to be conducted no

later than 2 weeks after the Special Mayoral Election is certified (in this case Monday, January 30, 2022) unless the assembly by ordinance waives that requirement.]

February 7, 2022 – Assembly Meeting Certifying the Results of the Special Mayoral Election

Funds to be Appropriated: \$250,000 minimum to cover both the Special Election and a Runoff Election if required.

Relevant KPB Code and Alaska State Statute:

KPB 4.10.050(B) Time of Special Elections. The assembly, by motion, resolution, or adoption of an ordinance, may call a special election at any time at least 75 days prior to the date of the election. Unless the assembly has set a date for a required special election, the election supervisor shall call a special election when required by law or ordinance to place an initiative, referendum, recall or other question before the voters.

KPB 4.10.050(C) Time of Run-off Election. When a run-off election is required by law, the election shall be held on the third Tuesday following the regular election or within 2 weeks after certification of the results of the regular election. The run-off election shall not be considered a special election within the meaning of AS 29.71.800(21).

AS 29.20.280 (b) A vacancy in the office of mayor occurring six months before a regular election shall be filled by the governing body. The person appointed serves until the next regular election when a successor is elected to serve the balance of the term. If a member of the governing body is appointed mayor, the member shall resign the seat on the governing body. If a vacancy occurs more than six months before a regular election, the governing body shall call a special election to fill the unexpired term.