

Introduced by: Lee Foley, City Manager
Date: December 10, 2013
Action:
Vote:

CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA

Resolution # 13-21

SUPPORT FOR THREE RESOLUTIONS SPONSORED AND APPROVED BY THE ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF HARBORMASTERS AND PORT ADMINISTRATORS

WHEREAS, the Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA) sponsored and approved three resolutions at their annual meeting on October 21-25, 2013 in Valdez, Alaska;

WHEREAS, each of the three resolutions is a request to the state legislature for actions that will benefit ports and harbors all over the State of Alaska;

WHEREAS, AAHPA Resolution No. 2013-01 supports full State funding of the Alaska Harbor Facility Grant Program in the FY 2015 State of Alaska Capital Budget;

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska constructed most of the public boat harbors in the state during the 1960s and 1970s and then transferred most of them to municipalities;

Whereas, the Harbor Facility Grant Program is a mechanism sponsored by the State and supported by AAHPA that allows State grant funding for boat harbors as a way to compensate municipalities for the State's failure to keep up with years of deferred maintenance;

Whereas, AAHPA Resolution No. 2013-02 supports the addition of port and harbor employees to the list of employees covered by AS 12.55.135;

Whereas, Alaska Statute 12.55.135 establishes minimum sentences for individuals who assault and harass emergency responders, medical professionals, and correctional center employees;

Whereas, port and harbor employees in Alaska routinely perform enforcement and emergency response duties commensurate with those in professions listed in AS 12.55.135 and as a result, should be recognized and listed in AS 12.55.135;

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Whereas, AAHPA Resolution No. 2013-03 supports the formation of an ad-hoc task force to deal with abandoned and derelict vessels;

Whereas, House Bill 131, passed by the State of Alaska in 2013, acknowledges the threat that abandoned and derelict vessels pose to communities throughout Alaska and strengthened State and Local power to handle such vessels;

Whereas, a statewide program must be developed to address abandoned and derelict vessels and the formation of a task force comprised of state and federal agencies and stakeholders is an ideal vehicle to accomplish that objective;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bethel City Council supports and recommends State approval of Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators Resolution No. 2013-01, Resolution No. 2013-02, and Resolution No. 2013--03.

ENACTED THIS 10th DAY OF DECEMBER 2013 BY A VOTE OF ___ IN FAVOR AND ___ OPPOSED.

Joseph Klejka, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lori Strickler, City Clerk