



City of Bethel Proclamation Declaring a State of Disaster in the City of Bethel

WHEREAS, commencing on November 3, 2015 the City of Bethel, Alaska sustained severe damage from a fire at Kuskokwim Learning Academy/Ayaprun Elitnaurvik- Yup'ik Immersion School;

WHEREAS, the City of Bethel is a political subdivision that is outside a recognized borough;

WHEREAS, the following conditions exists as a result of the disaster:

- approximately 300 children are without a place of education;
- approximately 40 children were housed in the dorms at Kuskokwim Learning Academy and are now without permanent housing;
- the educational process of 300 children may be seriously hampered;
- the City of Bethel owns the property where the schools are located on;
- the school buildings are damaged beyond repair;
- the City of Bethel sustained damage to its only ladder truck;
- the City of Bethel incurred significant costs and used significant resources fighting the fire;

WHEREAS, the emergency responders were effective in containing the fire under difficult conditions which include no piped water or fire hydrants in the area;

WHEREAS, the severity and magnitude of the emergency is beyond the timely and effective response capability of local resources; and there are insufficient regularly appropriated funds to cover these expenses;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council of Bethel, Alaska does declare a disaster emergency per AS 26.23.140 to exist in the City of Bethel;

FURTHERMORE, it is requested that the governor of the State of Alaska declare a disaster emergency to exist as described in AS 26.23 and provide disaster assistance to the City of Bethel in its response and recovery from this event.

Declared by the Bethel City Council on November 3, 2015.

Attest:

Richard Robb, Mayor

Lori Strickler, City Clerk