



City of Bethel Proclamation

Recognizing Janet Athanas for her Outstanding Dedication to the Community of Bethel

WHEREAS, Janet Athanas relocated from Sonoma County, California to Bethel in 1992 with her husband Larry and their two boys;

WHEREAS, Janet took the job as the Director of the Bethel Youth Center, a collaborative position between the City and the University of Alaska in April 1996;

WHEREAS, in 1997, the City Manager reinstated the Parks & Recreation Department and made Janet the Director;

WHEREAS, in her tenure, Janet developed new parks throughout the community, including the Skate Park, Space Net, 4-H Youth Center Park, and Tundra Ridge and upgraded Dillon, Pinky's Park and Wally's Park;

WHEREAS, Janet was instrumental in constructing trails and boardwalks in Pinky's Park and installing snowmachine crossings where needed to accommodate multiple recreational users;

WHEREAS, Janet and her staff initiated the following youth programs: National Guard 4-H Youth Camp, 4-H Softball, 4-H Soccer and Archery, Garden Club, Teen Focus, 4-H Afterschool: Arts and Crafts, sewing and cooking, and 4-H Art Camp;

WHEREAS, a sample of community projects supported by Janet and her staff include: Adopt-A-Dumpster program, Fourth of July Event, Bike Rodeo, Mink Festival, Statewide 4-H Shooting Sports Program, National Trails Day, Bethel Fair, Revival of the Recreation Facility 2005, Beautify Bethel Program, Clean up-Green Up, City Employee Christmas Party, and City Employee Appreciation Barbeques;

WHEREAS, Janet's leadership helped the City earn an Alaska Municipal League Community of Excellence Award in 2004 for the outstanding programs offered through the Youth Center and she was presented with the Distinguished Service Award in 2011 by the Alaska Recreation and Parks Association for all her achievements;

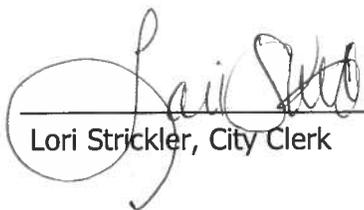
WHEREAS, Janet has been actively involved in the following organizations: Bethel Lion's Club, Boy Scouts of America, Friends of the National Rifle Association, Bethel

Chamber of Commerce, Bethel Art Guild founding member, Alaska Recreation Parks Association, Tobacco Control Alliance;

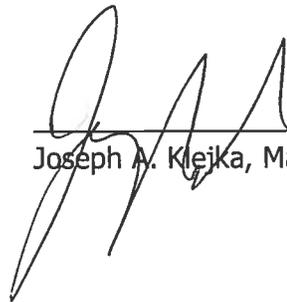
WHEREAS, Janet Athanas' altruistic nature and drive has improved the quality of life for many children, teens and adults, within this community.

THEREFORE, on behalf of the City of Bethel, the Bethel City Council, does hereby recognize, applaud, and thank Janet Athanas for her service to the community and the City of Bethel. Onward and upward Janet, you will be missed.

Signed this 25th day in September, 2012.



Lori Strickler, City Clerk



Joseph A. Klejka, Mayor