

**CITY OF KODIAK**  
**RESOLUTION NUMBER 2024-09**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KODIAK TO SUBMIT TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY AT THE OCTOBER 1, 2024, CITY ELECTION THE QUESTION OF AMENDING ARTICLE III, SECTION 1 OF THE CHARTER TO CHANGE THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE MANAGER RESIDE WITHIN THE CITY TO REQUIRING RESIDENCE WITHIN 12 ROAD MILES OF THE CITY BOUNDARIES**

WHEREAS, Article XIII, Section 1 of the Charter of the City of Kodiak provides that the Council by resolution may propose and submit or provide for the submission of charter amendments to the qualified voters of the City of Kodiak at any regular or special election held not less than two months after passage of the resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Charter is to provide for efficient, adequate, and economical governance to the citizens of Kodiak; and

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 1 of the Charter of the City of Kodiak provides that “during tenure of office, the manager shall reside within the City;” and

WHEREAS, the Charter of the City of Kodiak, Alaska was adopted and ratified in 1965; and

WHEREAS, local transportation and telecommunications infrastructure have improved considerably since 1965; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau, the City of Kodiak population was 2,628 in 1960; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau, the City of Kodiak population was 5,422 in 2022; and

WHEREAS, over the intervening sixty years, growth in the City of Kodiak community has extended well beyond City boundaries; and

WHEREAS, residential development north and south of City boundaries has expanded significantly, presenting many options for housing near the City of Kodiak but not within the City of Kodiak that did not exist 1965; and

WHEREAS, working in the City of Kodiak while residing in nearby neighborhoods outside of the City of Kodiak is now a common and practicable option; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kodiak now provides services outside of the City boundaries, including water and sewer utilities, animal control, parks and recreation, EMS services, mutual aid fire services, and library services; and

WHEREAS, Kodiak City Code 2.12.130 establishes a residency requirement for fire department emergency personnel; and

WHEREAS, as a result of road, communications, and housing developments, the area where fire department emergency personnel must reside has expanded from the 1971 requirement of residing within the fire district, then in 1983 to residing within 3.5 road miles of the fire station, then in 1996 to residing within 5.5 road miles of the fire station, and then in 2018, and continuing through the present, to residing within 12 road miles of the fire station; and

WHEREAS, Kodiak and other Alaska communities are experiencing a work force and housing crisis hindering community and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the current requirement that the City Manager reside within City boundaries may eliminate qualified candidates who own a home near, but outside of, the City of Kodiak; and

WHEREAS, the current residency requirement may eliminate qualified City Manager candidates who are willing to relocate but are unable to find satisfactory, affordable housing within the City of Kodiak; and

WHEREAS, a City Manager who resides within the local community and within a reasonable commute from city hall remains important for sound and effective administration of the City of Kodiak's affairs; and

WHEREAS, sixty-years of technological and infrastructure development allow for the goals of a local residency requirement for the City Manager to be accomplished if the City Manager resides within the City of Kodiak or within reasonable commuting distance; and

WHEREAS, the current City Manager residency requirement imposes an unnecessary limitation on City Manager recruitment; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City of Kodiak and its residents to amend Article III, Section 1 of the Kodiak City Charter to expand the pool of available candidates qualified to serve as City Manager;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Kodiak, Alaska:

Section 1. The City of Kodiak shall submit the following proposition to the qualified voters of the City of Kodiak at the regular election to be held in the City of Kodiak on October 1, 2024. The proposition must receive an affirmative vote from a majority of the qualified voters voting on the question to be approved.

PROPOSITION NO. \_\_\_\_  
AMENDMENT OF CHARTER OF THE CITY OF KODIAK ARTICLE III, SECTION  
1 CONCERNING THE CITY MANAGER RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Shall Article III, Section 1 of the Charter of the City of Kodiak be amended to read as follows by inserting the underlined language?

**III-1 City manager—appointment, term, qualifications, removal**

There shall be a city manager. The council shall appoint the manager for an indefinite term by a vote of a majority of all its members. The manager shall be chosen solely on the basis of executive and administrative qualifications. At the time of appointment, the manager need not be a resident of the City or State; but, during the tenure of office, the manager shall reside within the City or within 12 road miles of the City. Neither the mayor nor any councilmember may be appointed city manager during the term for which they shall have been elected. The council may suspend or remove the city manager at any time by a vote of a majority of all its members.

PROPOSITION NO. \_\_\_\_

- YES  
 NO

“YES” means the charter should be amended to allow the manager to reside within 12 road miles of the City of Kodiak boundaries.

“NO” means the charter should NOT be amended and the manager must reside within the City of Kodiak as currently required.

Section 3. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.



ATTEST:

Michelle Shereciff-Helton  
CITY CLERK

CITY OF KODIAK

Pat Moran  
MAYOR

Adopted: March 28, 2024