

Adopted: 03/16/21

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 21-019**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY ENDORSING A SEPTAGE TREATMENT FACILITY FEASIBILITY STUDY TO INCLUDE EVALUATION OF THE CITY OF PALMER'S WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FOR SEPTAGE DISPOSAL, SUSPENDING APPLICATION FOR CONSTRUCTION FUNDING OF A SEPTAGE TREATMENT FACILITY UNTIL THE FEASIBILITY STUDY IS COMPLETE AND THE ASSEMBLY DECIDES TO PROCEED.

WHEREAS, in 2011, the Borough Assembly adopted Resolution No. 11-087 establishing the Wastewater and Septage Advisory Board for the purpose of advising the Assembly on issues relating to wastewater and septage issues within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, in February 2012, the Wastewater and Septage Advisory Board passed Resolution No. 12-01 in support of acquiring land for the construction of a regional wastewater and septage treatment facility, which the Assembly provided funding for in August 2014 through Resolution No. 14-084; and

WHEREAS, in May 2012, the Wastewater and Septage Advisory Board passed Resolution No. 12-02 in support of conducting a site feasibility study for a regional wastewater and septage treatment facility, which the Assembly approved in July 2012 through Resolution No. 12-083; and

WHEREAS, in October 2014, the Wastewater and Septage Advisory Board passed Resolution No. 14-04 recommending co-treatment of leachate and septage in a combined facility, which the Assembly approved in December 2014 through Resolution No. 14-117; and

WHEREAS, in October 2014 the Wastewater and Septage Advisory Board recommended the Assembly authorize a loan application to the Alaska State Department of Environmental Conservation, Alaska Clean Water Fund, which the Assembly authorized through Resolution No. 14-110 in the amount of \$22,000,000 for design and construction of a septage and leachate treatment and disposal facility; and

WHEREAS, in April 2015 the Wastewater and Septage Advisory Board recommended the Assembly designate the landfill as the preferred site for the septage and leachate facility through Resolution No. 15-02, which the Assembly approved through Resolution No. 15-060; and

WHEREAS, in August 2017 the Borough received the first loan of the Alaska Clean Water Fund in the amount of \$5,000,000 for preconstruction expenditures (e.g., planning, design, and related tasks) for the leachate and septage treatment facility; and

WHEREAS, in January 2018 Clark Engineering completed a Preliminary Engineering Report evaluating septage and leachate treatment alternatives; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 the Assembly adopted Resolution No. 18-042 endorsing treating leachate separately from septage and exploration of a public/private partnership for septage treatment using a waste-to-energy method in conjunction with solid waste disposal; and

WHEREAS, in February 2020 the Borough solicited for a public/private partnership to treat septage and received no proposals in response; and

WHEREAS, in November 2020 the Assembly adopted Action Memorandum No. 20-125 endorsing application for funding of the proposed septage treatment facility through the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Program; and

WHEREAS, all septage generated in the Borough is currently hauled to Anchorage for disposal at the Turpin Street Station, which Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility has informed the Borough will remain available to receive septage from the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the city of Palmer is open to the possibility of receiving privately hauled septage at its wastewater treatment plant, which requires additional engineering analysis to determine the feasibility and costs; and

WHEREAS, a feasibility study of the city of Palmer's wastewater treatment plant for septage disposal will provide valuable information for consideration by Borough staff and the Assembly to make an informed decision before moving forward with any septage projects; and

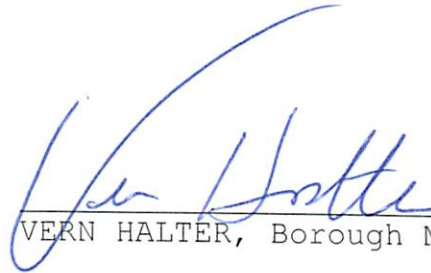
WHEREAS, the feasibility and interagency coordination of improvements to the city of Palmer wastewater treatment plant should be thoroughly considered and established prior to advancing the project to construction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly supports continuing efforts to find the best long-term, cost-effective means to treat septage generated in the Borough.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Assembly endorses a feasibility study of the city of Palmer's wastewater treatment plant for septage disposal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Assembly suspends application for construction funding of a septage treatment facility until the feasibility study is complete and the Assembly decides to proceed.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this 16 day
of March, 2021.


VERN HALTER, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:


LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk
(SEAL)

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: Hale, Nowers, McKee, Yundt, Tew, Sumner, and
Boeve