

Submitted by: Assembly Members
Kennedy, Allard and Perez-Verdia
Prepared by: Municipal Clerk
Reviewed by: Assembly Counsel
For reading: October 27, 2020

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR No. 2020-386**

1 **A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY DETERMINING**
2 **THAT A VACANCY EXISTS IN THE OFFICE OF MAYOR AND CALLING FOR A**
3 **SPECIAL ELECTION BY MAIL TO BE HELD ON JANUARY 26, 2021, AREAWIDE**
4 **WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY.**
5

6
7 **WHEREAS**, Ethan Berkowitz tendered his resignation as Mayor effective Friday,
8 October 23, 2020;
9

10 **WHEREAS**, Anchorage Municipal Charter § 7.02(a) provides: “An elective office
11 becomes vacant if the incumbent: ... (2) Resigns;”
12

13 **WHEREAS**, Anchorage Municipal Charter § 7.02(c) sets out the process when a vacancy
14 occurs in the Office of Mayor, stating in pertinent part: “A vacancy in the office of mayor
15 shall be filled at a regular or special election held not less than 90 days from the time the
16 vacancy occurs...”;
17

18 **WHEREAS**, 90 days from October 23, 2020 - the time vacancy occurred – is January 21,
19 2021; and the first Tuesday – the typical election day - following that date is January 26,
20 2021;
21

22 **WHEREAS**, the next regular Municipal election is 165 days from the time the vacancy
23 occurred, on April 6, 2021; and
24

25 **WHEREAS**, Anchorage Municipal Code section 28.20.010 allows the Assembly to call a
26 special election for the purpose of electing candidates to fill offices upon at least 45 days’
27 notice; now, therefore,
28

29 **THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:**
30

31 **Section 1.** The Assembly acknowledges and recognizes the resignation of Mayor
32 Ethan Berkowitz effective as of October 23, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. The Assembly hereby
33 determines a vacancy occurred in the Office of Mayor on that date.
34

35 **Section 2.** The Assembly hereby calls a special election by mail to fill the vacancy in
36 the Office of Mayor, in accordance with the Charter and AMC Title 28. Filing for office for
37 the Mayor’s Office shall open at **8:00 a.m. on December 8, 2020**, and close at **5:00 p.m.**
38 **on December 15, 2020**. The Special Election Day is **January 26, 2021**. All ballots must
39 be voted and attested on or before this date. The Municipal Clerk may designate secure

1 drop box locations and vote centers where voters may cast their ballots. Accordingly, the
2 Assembly declares the following:

- 3
- 4 1. The Municipal Clerk shall publish a notice of vacancy on or before
5 **December 3, 2020** and the notice of election on or before **December 27,**
6 **2020.**
 - 7
 - 8 2. The Municipal Clerk will mail ballot packages to the registered voters qualified
9 for this election on or before **January 5, 2021.**
 - 10
 - 11 3. The last date upon which the Municipal Clerk shall mail any ballot packages
12 or accept applications to vote by alternate means from registered voters
13 residing within the Municipality is **January 19, 2021.**
 - 14
 - 15 4. The last date upon which individuals who may not have received a ballot
16 package from the Municipality can request a ballot package to be mailed is
17 **January 19, 2021.** The request must be received by the Municipal Clerk by
18 5:00 p.m. on this date.
 - 19
 - 20 5. All mail-in ballots must be voted on or before Special Election Day,
21 **January 26, 2021,** and either (a) received by the Municipal Clerk at an
22 Anchorage Vote Center or in a Secure Drop Box **by 8:00 p.m.;** or (b)
23 postmarked on or before Special Election Day and received before the Public
24 Session of Canvass to be held no later than **February 5, 2020,** in order to
25 qualify for inclusion in the election tabulation.
 - 26
 - 27 6. The Municipal Clerk shall publish all required notices in accordance with
28 AMC chapter 28.20.
 - 29
 - 30 7. The Municipal Clerk shall produce a Special Election Calendar detailing
31 these dates. (A proposed calendar with Code references is attached.)
32

33 **Section 4.** This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval
34 by the Assembly.

35
36 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this ____ day of
37 _____, 2020.

38
39
40 _____
41 Chair

42 ATTEST:

43
44
45 _____
46 Municipal Clerk