

1 By: Bryce J. Ward, Mayor
2 Introduced: 07/27/2023
3 Advanced: 07/27/2023
4 Amended: 08/10/2023
5 Referred to the Library
6 Commission and Early
7 Childhood Development
8 Commission: 08/10/2023
9 Postponed: 10/26/2023
10 Advanced: 11/09/2023
11 Amended: 12/14/2023
12 Adopted: 12/14/2023

13 FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH

14 ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 43

15
16 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 4.36 FNSBC, EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT
17 COMMISSION, AND AMENDING CHAPTER 4.72 FNSBC, LIBRARY COMMISSION, TO
18 RENAME IT THE LIBRARY AND LITERACY COMMISSION AND ALTER THE DUTIES OF
19 THE COMMISSION
20
21

22
23 WHEREAS, Libraries have a transformative effect on lives of all ages, the
24 communities in which they reside, and the country as a whole; and
25

26 WHEREAS, Libraries are civic institutions that welcome anyone who wishes
27 to become a more informed and independent citizen; and
28

29 WHEREAS, Early childhood experiences from birth to age eight affect the
30 development of the brain's architecture, which provides the foundation for all future
31 learning, behavior and health; and
32

33 WHEREAS, A pivotal component to successful early childhood development
34 is literacy; and
35

36 WHEREAS, Literacy and libraries are indispensably connected with each
37 other; and
38

39 WHEREAS, The Fairbanks North Star Borough (Borough) Assembly
40 acknowledges that literacy and libraries are a foundational cornerstone for a successful
41 community; and
42

AMENDMENTS ARE SHOWN IN LEGISLATIVE FORMAT

Text to be *added* is underlined

Text to be *deleted* is [BRACKETED, CAPITALIZED]

43 WHEREAS, By merging some of the duties of the Early Childhood
44 Development Commission with the Library Commission and expanding the mission to
45 support literacy of our community, we are making a generational investment in our
46 residents; and

47
48 WHEREAS, The Fairbanks community has a strong connection with early
49 childhood development agencies that currently disseminate and share information about
50 early childhood education programs; and

51
52 WHEREAS, Literacy has been shown to help lift individuals out of poverty,
53 reduce infant mortality rates, impact economic growth, and empower minority groups;
54 and

55
56 WHEREAS, The Borough Assembly desires to improve the quality of life of
57 Borough residents through literacy.

58
59 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Assembly of the Fairbanks
60 North Star Borough:

61
62 Section 1. This ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and shall
63 be codified.

64
65 Section 2. Chapter 4.36 FNSBC, Early Childhood Development Commission,
66 is hereby repealed in its entirety and all commission members associated with the
67 commission are gratefully dismissed.

68
69 Section 3. Chapter 4.72 FNSBC, Library Commission, shall be renamed
70 Library and Literacy Commission and is hereby amended as follows:

71 Chapter 4.72
72 LIBRARY AND LITERACY COMMISSION¹

73 Sections:
74 4.72.010 Created.
75 4.72.020 Duties and responsibilities.
76 4.72.030 Ex officio members.

77
78 4.72.010 Created.
79 A. There is created the Fairbanks North Star Borough Library and Literacy
80 Commission.
81 B. The commission shall consist of nine members who shall be residents of the
82 Fairbanks North Star Borough. [THE BOROUGH LIBRARY DIRECTOR, THE BOROUGH
83 ATTORNEY AND THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER SHALL BE NONVOTING MEMBERS.]

84

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85 4.72.020 Duties and responsibilities.
86 [THE LIBRARY COMMISSION SHALL HEAR APPEALS OF THE DECISIONS OF THE
87 LIBRARY'S SELECTION COMMITTEE ON REQUESTS FOR RECONSIDERATION OF
88 MATERIALS. APPEAL TO THE COMMISSION SHALL BE THE FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE
89 REMEDY IN THIS APPEAL PROCESS. THE COMMISSION'S DECISION MAY BE APPEALED
90 TO THE SUPERIOR COURT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ALASKA RULES OF APPELLATE
91 PROCEDURE.]

92
93 The Library and Literacy Commission shall:

94 A. Advise the [MAYOR]Library Director on policies [AND PROCEDURES] desirable for
95 library operation [AND THE USE OF THE LIBRARY FUND];

96 B. Provide input to the Library Director on long-range plans for library facilities and
97 services; [AND]

98 C. Perform all necessary and proper acts, within the organizational framework of the
99 Fairbanks North Star Borough, which will facilitate development of and maintain
100 excellence in library programs;

101 D. Review and provide feedback on the Fairbanks North Star Borough's strategies for
102 emphasizing literacy through the public library and in partnership with local organizations
103 and businesses, the education community and other government entities with a focus on
104 the following areas:

105 1. Early childhood development;

106 2. K-12 education;

107 3. Adults and families;

108 4. Seniors.

109 E. Hear appeals of the decisions of the library's selection committee on requests for
110 reconsideration of materials and appeals regarding use of a display case. Appeals to the
111 commission shall be the final administrative remedy and may be appealed to the superior
112 court in accordance with the Alaska Rules of Appellate Procedure.

113
114 4.72.030 Ex officio members.

115 The following persons may sit as ex officio members of the commission:

116 A. The Borough Mayor or designee;

117 B. The Library Director.

118
119 Section 4. Effective Date. Section 2 of this ordinance is effective on June
120 30, 2025 in order to provide the Early Childhood Development Commission sufficient time
121 to transition the duties it deems essential to the community to other local agencies. The
122 remaining sections of this ordinance are effective at 5:00 p.m. on the first Borough
123 business day following its adoption.

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ADOPTED THE 14TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2023.


Savannah Fletcher
Presiding Officer

ATTEST:


April Trickey, MMC
Borough Clerk

Yeses: LaJiness, Rotermund, Haney, O’Neill, Fletcher
Noes: Kelly, Crass, Guttenberg, Reeves-Ramos

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