

**ORDINANCE NO. 6048, AS AMENDED**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING RETENTION OF  
THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE POLARIS BUILDING FOR PUBLIC  
PURPOSE UPON TAX FORECLOSURE**

**WHEREAS**, the Polaris Building, located at 123 Lacey Street, has become a blight on the downtown Fairbanks area, being uninhabitable for over fifteen years; and

**WHEREAS**, in August of 2012, the City Building Official issued a Notice and Order to repair or demolish the Polaris Building, to which the owner has not responded; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has the legal right to demolish the Polaris Building and intends to do so when funds are available; and

**WHEREAS**, City ownership of the property is a requirement for obtaining grant funds for demolition of the building; and

**WHEREAS**, property taxes for the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 have not been paid; and

**WHEREAS**, if the 2014 taxes remain unpaid by end of business day May 26, 2017~~May 27-2017~~, the Fairbanks North Star Borough will receive title to the property by tax foreclosure; and

**WHEREAS**, Alaska Statutes Title 29 provides that a tax-foreclosed property may be retained by a municipality for public purpose by adoption of a retention ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, the demolition of the Polaris Building is key to future plans for urban renewal of this area of downtown Fairbanks; and

**WHEREAS**, The Fairbanks North Star Borough has agreed to waive landfill tipping fees at time of demolition, contributing significantly to the project cost; and

**WHEREAS**, the Polaris Building is identified for these purposes as Parcel Account Number 0418111, located within Block 12, Fairbanks Townsite.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, as follows:**

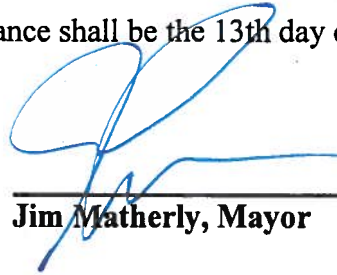
**SECTION 1.** That the City hereby exercises its right to retain the Polaris Building property for public purpose, as provided under Alaska Statutes Title 29.

**SECTION 2.** That funds shall be appropriated to pay the Borough its portion of property taxes due and owing, together with applicable fees, estimated at \$46,031.20 by amending the 2017 operating budget.

**SECTION 3.** That the City Administration shall request written confirmation of waiver of tipping fees from the Borough.

**SECTION 4.** That a signed copy of this ordinance shall be furnished to the Borough Clerk.

**SECTION 5.** That the effective date of this Ordinance shall be the 13th day of May 2017.



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**Jim Matherly, Mayor**

AYES: Pruhs, Therrien, Huntington, Norum, Rogers  
NAYS: Cleworth  
ABSENT: None  
ADOPTED: May 8, 2017

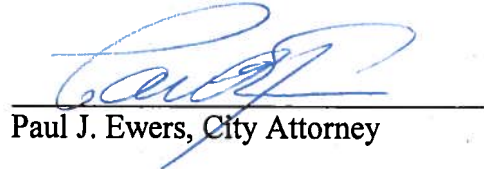
ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



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D. Danyielle Snider, CMC, City Clerk



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Paul J. Ewers, City Attorney

## **City of Fairbanks**

### **Fiscal Note**

#### **Ordinance 6048 Authorizing and Directing Retention of the Property Known as the Polaris Building for Public Purpose Upon Tax Foreclosure**

The funds to acquire the tax foreclosed Polaris Building for public purposes were approved in Ordinance 6046. In the capital appropriation section, \$100,000 was budgeted to be spent under the Mayor contingency line item. Of this amount, \$46,031.20 may be used to pay the Fairbanks North Star Borough its portion of property taxes due and owing, together with applicable fees.