

Introduced by: Mayor Eberhart  
Council Member Huntington  
Council Member Rogers  
Council Member Gatewood  
Council Member Matherly  
Council Member Cleworth  
Council Member Pruhs  
Finance Committee Review: July 5, 2016  
Introduced: July 11, 2016

**RESOLUTION NO. 4750**

**A RESOLUTION URGING THE BOROUGH ASSEMBLY TO REJECT  
ORDINANCE NO. 2016-36**

**WHEREAS**, the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) introduced Ordinance No. 2016-36, An Ordinance Amending Title 2 Regarding Street Naming, and Title 18 Regarding the Board of Adjustment Including Revoking Delegations of Duties to the City Councils; and

**WHEREAS**, under the current provisions of FNSB Code Sec. 18.52.030, the Fairbanks City Council serves as the Board of Adjustment for decisions regarding land within the City of Fairbanks and hears and decides appeals of Planning Commission determinations on requests for conditional uses and variances and regarding decisions or determinations made by the Department of Community Planning in the enforcement of Title 18 of the FNSB Code; and

**WHEREAS**, under the current provisions of FNSB Code Sec. 17.40.070, the City of Fairbanks has the power to veto actions of the Borough Platting Board on street naming; and

**WHEREAS**, proposed Ord. No. 2016-36 would revoke the power of the Fairbanks and North Pole City Councils to serve as the Board of Adjustment for appeals involving land within their respective jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS**, proposed Ord. No. 2016-36 would revoke the power of the Fairbanks and North Pole City Councils to veto street naming decisions on streets within their respective jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS**, the reason given for its proposed action on the change to the Board of Adjustment is that delegating appeals from land use decisions to the Cities of Fairbanks and North Pole “results in inconsistent determinations”; and

**WHEREAS**, the reason given for its proposed action on street naming is that naming of streets is an important part of platting and E-911 powers exercised by the Fairbanks North Star Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, if “inconsistent determinations” means decisions by the City Councils that do not always agree with the position of the Planning Commission and the Planning Department, that is not in and of itself reason to change the current system; and

**WHEREAS**, in the past decade, the City has considered only seven appeals: four were granted; two were denied; and one was remanded; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Fairbanks has authority over streets located within its boundaries and, generally, that authority includes the power to name (and rename) streets; and

**WHEREAS**, while the City of Fairbanks has the power to name streets within its jurisdiction, input by the Borough to ensure coordination with the platting and E-911 is important; and

**WHEREAS**, while perhaps the proper role for the City Council would be to name and rename its streets with the Borough having a veto if the proposed name raised E-911 concerns, the current system has worked well for the citizens of the Borough and the citizens of the City of Fairbanks; and

**WHEREAS**, the changes proposed in Ordinance No. 2016-36 are unwise and unnecessary.


**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Fairbanks City Council respectfully requests that the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly reject Ordinance No. 2016-36; and


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution shall take effect upon adoption by the Fairbanks City Council and that the City Clerk is hereby directed to send a copy of this resolution to Mayor Kassel and all Borough Assembly Members.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this 11th day of July 2016.

  
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**John Eberhart, City Mayor**

AYES: PASSED and APPROVED on the CONSENT AGENDA  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Gatewood  
APPROVED: July 11, 2016

ATTEST:  
  
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D. Danyelle Snyder, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
  
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Paul Ewers, City Attorney