

**ORDINANCE NO. 5890**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FAIRBANKS GENERAL CODE SECTIONS  
2-471 THROUGH 2-474 REGARDING THE PUBLIC SAFETY  
COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS**, the Public Safety Commission was created by Ordinance No. 5553 in 2003;  
and

**WHEREAS**, after considerable review with input from Department Heads, the Commission and City staff, substantial revisions have been recommended,

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

**Section 1.** That Fairbanks General Code Sections 2-471 through 2-474 are amended as follows [new text in **bold/underline** font; deleted text in ~~striketrough~~ font]:

**Sec. 2-471. Public safety commission.**

A public safety commission is hereby established to advise the city mayor and council on matters relating to public safety in the **Fairbanks** community.

**Sec. 2-472. Duties and Powers.**

The public safety commission shall:

- (1) **Research issues that are delegated to the commission by the mayor and/or city council and provide advice to the mayor or city council on the referred issues.** Advise the council and mayor regarding police, fire suppression and prevention, emergency medical services, and operation of emergency services dispatch services.
- (2) **Receive and analyze public comments and any complaints that may come before the commission and make recommendations to the mayor and city council.** ~~Review and provide recommendations on public safety policy, including proposed grants.~~
- (3) **Meetings of the commission shall be held quarterly or on an "as needed" basis. All meetings shall be held in public after adequate notice of the date, time, and location. The commission does not have the power to meet privately in executive session.** ~~Review the annual reports of the police and fire departments and provide recommendations to the council as to future goals.~~

- ~~(4) Provide advice on optimal organization, equipment and procedures of the police and fire departments, including the police department manual of directives and the fire department standard operating procedures.~~
- ~~(5) Conduct regular public meetings, including public hearings required as a condition of receipt of grants.~~
- ~~(6) If authorized by the city council, convene into executive session in accordance with state law.~~
- ~~(7) Provide input after research on particular issues as requested by the mayor and/or city council.~~

The jurisdiction of the public safety commission does not extend to issues or subjects that have been referred to the city fact finding commission, disciplinary matters, evaluation of employees for promotion, or as otherwise limited by law or terms of labor contracts.

**Sec. 2-473. Composition.**

**(a) The membership of the public safety commission shall be appointed by the city mayor and shall be confirmed by the city council. The seven voting members shall be selected as follows:**

- (1) One member with current or past experience in law enforcement or criminal law.**
- (2) One member with current or past experience in fire suppression, prevention, or emergency medical services.**
- (3) Five at-large public members.**

~~Five voting members, residents of the city, appointed by the city mayor and confirmed by the city council.~~

- ~~(a) One member of the city council.~~
- ~~(b) One member with current or past experience in law enforcement or criminal law.~~
- ~~(c) One member with experience in fire suppression, prevention, or emergency medical services.~~
- ~~(d) One member with experience in management, logistics, or operations.~~

~~(e) One at large public member.~~

**(b2) One city council member shall be a Non-voting member of the commission.**

~~a. One current fire department employee, chosen by the employees.~~

~~b. One current police department employee, chosen by the employees.~~

**(c) The chairperson of the public safety commission shall be selected from among the voting members by the voting members.**

**(d) The City shall ensure the following staff are available to attend meetings:**

**(1) The chief of police or his/her designee;**

**(2) One current police department employee chosen by the employees.**

**(3) The fire chief or his/her designee.**

**(4) One current fire department employee chosen by the employees.**

**(5) The director of emergency services dispatch or his/her designee.**

**(6) One current dispatch employee chosen by the employees.**

~~(e3) The city attorney, or his/her designee, shall be made available upon request to provide information to the public safety commission, not to act as legal council.~~

**(f) The chief of staff, or his/her designee, shall be made available upon request to provide information to the public safety commission.**

~~(4) Officers. The chairperson of the public safety commission shall be selected from among the voting members.~~

#### **Sec. 2-474. Terms of office.**

(a) The term of commission members shall be for a period of three years. ~~One of the first~~ **For the initial term of the** voting members, **two** shall be appointed for a term of one year, two for two years and **three** for three years.

**(b) The city council member shall be nominated by the mayor, confirmed by the city council, and shall serve at the pleasure of the city council.**

**(c) Voting members of the commission shall endeavor to attend all meetings of the commission. If a member is unable to attend, they must notify the city contact person stating the reason for the absence. If a commission member has two unexcused absences in a calendar year, their continued membership on the commission shall be reviewed by the mayor and city council.**

**(d) In the event of vacancies, the mayor, subject to confirmation by the city council, may make an appointment, at any time, to fill out the unexpired term of the absent member. Members may be removed by the city council at any time.**

**Section 2.** Transitional Provisions. Upon adoption of this ordinance, the commission will be reconstituted and reappointed to comply with the newly amended Sections 2-473 and 2-474.

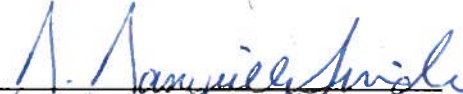
**Section 3.** That the effective date of this Ordinance shall be August 25, 2012.

  
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Jerry Cleworth, City Mayor

AYES: Roberts, Matherly, Gatewood, Eberhart, Stiver  
NAYS: None  
ABSENT: Hilling  
ADOPTED: August 20, 2012

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

for   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janey Hovenden, City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Ewers, City Attorney