

ORDINANCE NO. 6116, AS AMENDED

**AN ORDINANCE TO PLACE BEFORE CITY VOTERS THE QUESTION
OF AMENDING THE FAIRBANKS CHARTER BY REPEALING
SECTION 11.8. ELECTIONS: RUN-OFF**

WHEREAS, the Home Rule Charter of the City of Fairbanks, Section 11.8, provides for a runoff election for the office of mayor between the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes if no candidate receives over forty percent of the votes cast; and

WHEREAS, runoff elections are expensive, and electing the candidate with the largest plurality without a runoff serves the democratic process; and

WHEREAS, the decline in federal and state funding necessitates that the city cut costs wherever possible; and

WHEREAS, a proposal by the City Council to amend the Charter requires the vote of each council member, plus voter approval at an election to be held not less than sixty days after its proposal by the Council.

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

Section 1. The City Clerk is directed to place the following question on the ballot for the voters of the City of Fairbanks at the regular City election in 2020.

Proposition A:

INFORMATION: Current Fairbanks Home Rule Charter Section 11.8 provides for a runoff election if no candidate running for the office of mayor receives over 40% of the votes cast. Approval of Proposition A would amend the City Charter by repealing Section 11.8, eliminating the runoff election requirement in mayoral elections. **The current, estimated cost of a runoff election is \$40,000.** Charter Section 11.8 is set out below:

Section 11.8. Elections: Run-Off

A runoff election for the office of mayor shall be held if no candidate receives over forty percent (40%) of the votes cast.

A run-off election shall be held within three (3) weeks after the date of certification of the election for which a run-off is required. Notice of the run-off election shall be published at least five (5) days before the election date. The run-off election shall be between the two (2) candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for mayor.

Should the Fairbanks Home Rule Charter be amended by repealing Section 11.8?

YES _____

NO _____

A "YES" vote amends the City Charter by repealing Section 11.8.

A "NO" vote does not allow the amendment.

Section 2. This ordinance, passed by the Fairbanks City Council on the ____ day of _____ 2019, shall not become effective unless and until the question is approved by the voters of the City of Fairbanks.

Jim Matherly, City Mayor

AYES: Therrien, Kun, Cleworth
NAYS: Rogers, Pruhs, Gibson
ABSENT: None
FAILED: November 4, 2019

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk

Paul J. Ewers, City Attorney