FROM: MAYOR

SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 10.75.010 TO REDUCE THE FEE FOR PROGRESS INSPECTIONS AND TO ADD FEES FOR SPECIAL OCCUPANCY INSPECTONS, FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS REPORT REVIEW, AND STANDBY FIRE SERVICE OPERATIONS.

It is necessary to document progress towards completion of deficiencies identified in buildings and systems using fire inspection notices (FIN’s). Currently, there is no provision in code to allow inspectors to make site inspections verifying progress, and no charge for associated inspection fees, as outlined in title 10.75 – Fees for Fire Inspections. This ordinance incorporates these fees into the Anchorage Municipal Code.

Home daycares are now inspected by the Anchorage Fire Department, Fire Prevention Division. The inspection of these facilities, with the most vulnerable of populations, is critical but is not easily categorized in code, since services are provide in private homes; and, typically, private homes are not subject to inspection. This ordinance codifies a reduced fee, recognizing the limited area of inspection for home daycare occupancies, as well as the lower associated documentation and follow up required.

Lastly, building owners and operators are required under State law to have fire suppression and notification systems inspected annually to verify compliance and operability. When those reports recognize necessary corrections potentially rendering the systems inoperative or diminished, the systems contractor is required to provide reports to the local Fire Marshal’s office. This ordinance authorizes an inspection process with no initial fee, and corresponding follow up fees, if compliance is not achieved in the initial inspection period.

THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 10.75.010 TO REDUCE THE FEE FOR PROGRESS INSPECTIONS AND TO ADD FEES FOR SPECIAL OCCUPANCY INSPECTONS, FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS REPORT REVIEW, AND STANDBY FIRE SERVICE OPERATIONS.

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Concur: Michael K. Abbott, Municipal Manager
Respectfully Submitted: Mark Begich, Mayor