

**CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA
RESOLUTION CY24-12**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS
ESTABLISHING A CONSERVATION LANDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, Gustavus has a long history of advocating for conservation of lands important for their natural values; and,

WHEREAS, today the town's settled area is bordered and interwoven with parcels in protected status and others of high conservation value; and,

WHEREAS, the Gustavus Forelands Preserve comprises seven highly-valued tracts, two of which are owned and managed by the State of Alaska, and five of which are owned and managed by The Nature Conservancy (TNC); and,

WHEREAS, the City of Gustavus, on behalf of its residents, has a stewardship responsibility to contribute to monitoring and resource management planning for the Gustavus Forelands Preserve and related tracts, as envisioned in TNC's Board of Governors Real Estate Project Abstract and Resolution of 2004; and,

WHEREAS, there may be opportunities to augment conservation lands at times through transfers of other tracts from willing sellers; and,

WHEREAS, The City has no paid staff assigned to manage City lands generally; and,

WHEREAS, City of Gustavus Code of Ordinances, Section 2.40.150 – Committees provides for the establishment of standing committees, which may advise the City or complete tasks in support of specific authorized City functions; and,

WHEREAS, the City foresees opportunities to influence and strengthen management of community lands through agreements with outside agencies.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Gustavus City Council authorizes establishment of the City of Gustavus Conservation Lands Advisory Committee, a standing committee, comprising up to eight volunteer Gustavus residents nominated by the Mayor and ratified by the City Council. The Mayor shall strive to appoint members with an interest in conserving our resources for their traditional recreational and subsistence purposes, and may include members with ecological, resource management, governmental or non-governmental organization experience suitable for developing and implementing natural resource management plans. The Mayor shall nominate a committee member as chair subject to ratification by the Council. As an official advisory committee, the Conservation Lands Advisory Committee must comply with requirements of the Alaska Open Meetings Act, Gustavus Code of Ordinances Section 2.40.150, and Resolution CY19-20. The committee shall meet at least quarterly, and shall post a meeting schedule, achieve a quorum, record minutes, and report to the Council quarterly as scheduled by the City Clerk. The City Clerk shall support the committee administratively but need not attend meetings.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Gustavus City Council sets forth the following mission, scope, and directives for the Committee:

Mission: Provide recommendations, strategies, and supporting documentation to the City on oversight and stewardship of conservation lands within the City boundaries.

Scope: The committee’s efforts shall be limited to undeveloped lands recognized or formally-identified for their conservation values. Developed properties and City lands with industrial or intensive recreational uses are outside the committee’s scope.

Activities may include:

- Develop a framework for Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs), comment on management plans, joint projects, and land title transfers with owners of conservation lands and the conservation easements on those lands;
- Help to develop formal deed instruments for full protection of all conservation lands;
- Participate in management planning on the City’s behalf;
- Advise private owners in designing protections for the golf course area;
- Advise or facilitate transfer or association of private parcels to larger conservation units.

PASSED and **APPROVED** by the Gustavus City Council this XXth day of ____, 2024, and effective upon adoption.

Shelley K. Owens, Mayor

Attest: Liesl M. Barker, City Clerk