

**CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA
RESOLUTION CY24-21**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS DIRECTING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION
TO FILE FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THE LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION'S DECISION
TO APPROVE THE XUNAA BOROUGH PETITION**

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2019, the Gustavus City Council, passed Resolution CY19-19 opposing formation of a borough by the City of Hoonah that would include the City of Gustavus and the adjoining areas in the vicinity of Glacier Bay National Park; and,

WHEREAS, on July 14, 2022, after discussion with the City Council and citing the policy set forth in Resolution CY19-19, then Gustavus Mayor Mike Taylor respectfully declined Hoonah City Administrator Dennis Gray's invitation of June 23, 2022, to be included within a Xunaa Borough; and,

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2023, the City of Hoonah filed a petition with the Alaska Local Boundary Commission (LBC) to form a Xunaa Borough comprising a wide region of Icy Strait, Glacier Bay, Chichagof Island, and lands and waters far beyond, but isolating as enclaves the cities of Gustavus, Pelican, and Tenakee Springs, all of which had declined to join a Xunaa Borough; and,

WHEREAS, on February 20, 2024, the City Council passed resolution CY24-05 disputing the qualifications of the petition submitted by the City of Hoonah for incorporation of the Xunaa Borough, and submitted the resolution with detailed comments critical of the petition for the LBC's public record; and,

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2024, the City Council passed resolution CY24-13, supporting the LBC's preliminary staff report; and,

WHEREAS, on November 12, 2024, the LBC held a public decisional meeting, monitored by City of Gustavus officials, at which the LBC approved the Xunaa Borough petition despite acknowledging in discussion significant shortcomings or failures to meet statutory standards for incorporation; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Gustavus Mayor, two council members, and administrative staff have reviewed the records of the decisional meeting with legal counsel, have documented the LBC's process failures and disregard of essential state statutory requirements, and have outlined a request for reconsideration by the LBC of their decision; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Gustavus City Council directs the Mayor and administrative staff to proceed with legal counsel to file a formal request for reconsideration by the LBC of their November 12 decision approving the Xunaa Borough incorporation petition;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council authorizes the Mayor to pay legal expenses from the operating budget professional services appropriation as needed to support the effort and the asks the Mayor to report developments to the council at least monthly.

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

Sally A. McLaughlin, Mayor

Attest: Liesl M. Barker, City Clerk