

**CITY OF GUSTAVUS, ALASKA  
RESOLUTION CY25-XX**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY OF GUSTAVUS CLARIFYING THE ROLE OF THE CITY OF  
GUSTAVUS AND THE SOUTHEAST ALASKA LAND TRUST IN  
THE GUSTAVUS NATURAL LANDS LEASE PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, Resolution CY24-12 on May 13, 2024 established the Conservation Lands Advisory Committee (“CLAC”) to provide recommendations, strategies, and supporting documentation to the City on oversight and conservation lands within the City boundaries; and,

**WHEREAS**, CLAC in partnership with the Southeast Alaska Land Trust (“SEALT”) applied for an Endowment Fund grant for the Gustavus Natural Lands Lease Project (the “Project”) to allow time to investigate, pursue, and obtain funding for a temporary conservation easement on lands privately held by the DeBoer family; and,

**WHEREAS**, it is intended that SEALT obtain the temporary conservation easement (the “lease”), and manage and enforce its provisions for the benefit of the community of Gustavus; and

**WHEREAS**, following the submission of the Endowment Fund application, CLAC was advised that because the application was submitted by a City committee, it needed to comply with Resolution CY22-20 requiring advance approval by the City Council of a project scoping plan for grant proposals over \$15,001. Accordingly, CLAC prepared a project scoping document (“PSD”) which was introduced on the agenda for the Dec. 16, 2024 Council meeting in advance of Resolution CY24-19 regarding approval of Endowment Fund Grant awards; and

**WHEREAS**, there are inconsistencies between the PSD and documents filed supporting the Endowment Fund award, including the Endowment Fund application (Gustavus Natural Lands Project – An Introduction) and a letter from SEALT dated December 9, 2024. This resulted in public concern that the funding was intended for a City project to purchase and manage privately-held lands; and,

**WHEREAS**, additional clarification is needed to clear up confusion in the roles and responsibilities of SEALT and CLAC, variously described as project manager, partner, consultant and liaison, and in references to project management and unauthorized operational expenditures (attorney fees); and,

**WHEREAS**, in order to clarify the roles and responsibilities of SEALT and CLAC with regard to the Endowment Funding award for the Gustavus Natural Lands Lease Project, an amendment of the PSD is necessary to align its planning design in accordance with City ordinances and the Endowment Fund grant;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Gustavus City Council adopts the following clarifications for incorporation as an amendment to the PSD as follows:

1. The Gustavus Natural Lands Lease Project is not a project of the City of Gustavus.
2. CLAC serves as advisory partner, consultant and liaison with SEALT and interested parties.
3. The PSD provides planning and guidance on achieving the goal of long-term conservation of high-value natural property to the community of Gustavus, and its visitors, but does not vest the authority or responsibility in the City or CLAC to manage the property or enforce the terms of the easement.

**PASSED** and **APPROVED** by the Gustavus City Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025, and effective upon adoption.

---

Sally A. McLaughlin, Mayor

---

Attest: Liesl M. Barker, City Clerk