

**CITY OF HOMER  
HOMER, ALASKA**

Evenesen

**RESOLUTION 19-085**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA  
ENCOURAGING PROPER PRONUNCIATION OF COWLES COUNCIL  
CHAMBERS, AS CONTINUED RECOGNITION FOR THE CITY OF  
HOMER'S FIRST MAYOR.

WHEREAS, The first Mayor of Homer, Ralph Cowles, was instrumental to creating the City of Homer, helping lead Homer during a difficult time surrounding the 1964 Good Friday Earthquake; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Cowles' founding efforts gave productive momentum to Homer that continues to present day; and

WHEREAS, Recognition of historical civic accomplishments is valued by the City of Homer and it may be important to the descendants and relatives of Ralph Cowles (phonetically, "coals"); and

WHEREAS, An original Street of Homer formerly bearing dedication in the Cowles name was renamed (Resolution 05-08A) for reasons cited by residents to include 'difficult pronunciation'; and

WHEREAS, It is possible the renaming was simply because residents, even City Staff, misunderstood the pronunciation, and following this renaming event the Council Chamber at City Hall was dedicated in the Cowles name; and

WHEREAS, The name Cowles Chamber (pronounced "coals") is typically mispronounced (e.g., "cow - olls") by radio press, City Staff and Officials, and the public. For several reasons the pronunciation should be corrected to be accurate in the future.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Staff and Officials will verbally refer to the Chamber name as intended by the family name (i.e., as "Coals" Chamber).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that signage above Chamber doors will reflect phonetic pronunciation to help clarify its reference – at present and for the future.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this 25<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019.

CITY OF HOMER

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KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK

Fiscal note: Accounts 100.0100.5201-\$100 and 100.0100.5210 - \$100