

CITY OF SAXMAN

RESOLUTION # 04.2024.06

A **RESOLUTION** of the Council of the City of Saxman, Alaska confirming the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Mayor's Declaration of a Disaster Emergency due to loss by fire of the South Tongass Fire Station and Emergency Apparatus.

WHEREAS, in the early morning hours of April 9, 2024, the building housing the South Tongass Volunteer Fire Department (STVFD) suffered a devastating fire which rendered the building wholly unusable; and

WHEREAS, the fire additionally consumed the department's rolling stock including two medical services units, and one firetruck, and rendered unusable all of the department's fire service equipment, medical equipment, and medical supplies necessary to protect the health and safety of the community; and

WHEREAS, the loss to fire of the building, equipment, and supplies necessary to maintain operation of the STVFD represents a disaster as defined by AS 26.23.900(2), as it is an occurrence of loss or severe damage to property, and poses a resultant threat to public health and safety due to disruption and displacement of critical department operations; and

WHEREAS, AS 26.23.140(c) provides "A representative of an interjurisdictional disaster planning and service area may not declare a local disaster emergency unless expressly authorized by the principal executive officer of each political subdivision in the emergency area"; and

WHEREAS, the City of Saxman, the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, and the City of Ketchikan are all signatories to and participants in the Greater Ketchikan Area Multi-Jurisdictional Emergency Operations Plan; and

WHEREAS, in response to this emergency and in accordance with statute, the City of Saxman Mayor Frank Seludo, along with the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Mayor Rodney Dial and the City of Ketchikan Mayor David Kiffer, jointly issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency on Friday, April 12, 2024; and

WHEREAS, this resolution further consents to the jointly issued Greater Ketchikan Area Declaration of Disaster Emergency requesting the Governor of the State of Alaska to also issue a state declaration of disaster emergency due to the loss of property and threats posed by the April 9, 2024 STVFD fire.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Saxman confirms the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Mayor's declaration of a local disaster emergency due to the loss of property and the public health and safety threats posed by the April 9, 2024 building fire at South Tongass Volunteer Fire Department.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Saxman requests the Governor of the State of Alaska to issue a state declaration of disaster emergency due to the loss of property and public health and safety threats posed by the April 9, 2024 building fire at South Tongass Volunteer Fire Department.

A copy of this resolution shall be filed with the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and a copy forwarded to the Governor's Office.

Effective Date: This Resolution is effective upon adoption.

PASSED and **APPROVED** by the Saxman City Council this 17th day of April 2024.

Frank H. Seludo
Mayor

ATTEST:

Marissa Medford
City Administrator