

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH
CITY OF KETCHIKAN
CITY OF SAXMAN**

**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH RESOLUTION NO. 2905
CITY OF KETCHIKAN RESOLUTION NO. 21-2816
CITY OF SAXMAN RESOLUTION NO. 8.24.05**

**A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KETCHIKAN
GATEWAY BOROUGH, COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KETCHIKAN,
AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAXMAN RECOGNIZING FIRE
CHIEF AND INCIDENT COMMANDER ABNER HOAGE AND HIS
SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY OF KETCHIKAN; AND
ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

WHEREAS, the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly, Ketchikan City Council, Saxman City Council, and community of Ketchikan recognize the service, contributions, and dedication of City of Ketchikan Fire Chief and Incident Commander Abner Hoage and congratulate him on his retirement, effective October 15, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Chief Hoage was raised in Tumwater, WA and graduated Tumwater High School one year early to join the United States Air Force in 1992 with authorization from his parents; and

WHEREAS, while initially wanting to be a pilot, Chief Hoage entered the Air Force under the fire department where he quickly committed himself to the world of fire service; and

WHEREAS, Chief Hoage was first stationed at nearby McChord Air Force Base and was soon deployed overseas and later stationed at Eielson Air Force Base near Fairbanks, Alaska where he met his wife Robyne; and

WHEREAS, through his service in the Air Force, Chief Hoage was stationed at Lajes Field in the Azores, Portugal, Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany, Elmendorf Air Force Base in Alaska, McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey, Soto Cano Air Base in Honduras, and Mountain Home Air Force Base in Idaho, over which time period he quickly advanced ranks in a variety of fire service units and operations; and

WHEREAS, while serving in the Air Force, Chief Hoage completed his Masters of Management and Public Administration, which would serve him well when he retired from the Air Force in 2012; and

WHEREAS, wishing to apply his service talents in the civilian world, Chief Hoage served as Fire Chief for the City of Unalaska from 2012 to 2014, and was then appointed as City of Ketchikan Fire Chief in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Chief Hoage has brought about lasting changes for the City of Ketchikan and community, including regular coordination with local and state fire, emergency and law enforcement agencies, upgrades to the local radio and dispatch systems, initiating the Nixle Alert System for residents, developing a comprehensive fire apparatus replacement program, expanding the tsunami alert system, enhancing local emergency preparedness and response, and securing many grants to support departmental and emergency operations and initiatives; and

WHEREAS, Chief Hoage has served as a the Emergency Manager for the Ketchikan Gateway Borough and City of Ketchikan and has been involved with the Local Emergency Planning Committee, the Alaska Council on Emergency Medical Service, and served as President of the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association. He has continued to stay up-to-date on the latest innovations and approaches to emergency and disaster prevention, management, response, and recovery; and

WHEREAS, Chief Hoage is a well-respected community leader that has the keen ability to recognize others' strengths and has provided mentorship and encouragement to bring out the best in his team members for the good of the Ketchikan Fire Department and the community; and

WHEREAS, Chief Hoage's skills in leadership and emergency management were evidenced most profoundly in his position as Incident Commander for the Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center throughout the entirety of the COVID-19 pandemic beginning in March of 2020; and

WHEREAS, as Incident Commander, Chief Hoage was the face of Ketchikan's pandemic response and adeptly coordinated with multiple local, state and federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, through his development of a strong and extremely capable COVID-19 emergency management team, Chief Hoage carried Ketchikan through an unprecedented public health disaster with diplomacy, professionalism and positivity, to which Ketchikan owes a great debt of gratitude; and

WHEREAS, Ketchikan has surely become a safer, better prepared community due to the efforts of Chief Hoage, and Chief Hoage will long be remembered as one of the more exceptional, committed professionals Ketchikan was so fortunate to have as a resident, colleague, and friend; and

WHEREAS, Chief Hoage will retire to the lower 48 to travel and spend time with family. The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly, Ketchikan City Council and Saxman City Council wish Chief Hoage a well-deserved retirement and hope the best for him and his family in their future endeavors.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Assembly of the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, Council of the City of Ketchikan, and Council of the City of Saxman as follows:

Section 1. The Ketchikan Gateway Borough, City of Ketchikan and City of Saxman do hereby extend sincere thanks and congratulations to Chief Hoage as well as to his family.

Section 2. The Ketchikan Gateway Borough, City of Ketchikan and City of Saxman recognize and celebrate the many contributions made by Chief Hoage in his nearly 7 years of service to the City of Ketchikan Fire Department and greater Ketchikan community.

Section 3. The City of Ketchikan shall transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to Chief Hoage in expression of appreciation.

Section 4. This resolution is effective immediately upon passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Borough Assembly this 7th day of September, 2021.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Ketchikan City Council this 2nd day of September, 2021.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Saxman City Council this 15th day of September, 2021.

Ketchikan Gateway Borough Signatures:



Rodney Dial, Borough Mayor

City of Ketchikan Signatures:

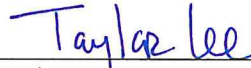


Bob Sivertsen, City of Ketchikan Mayor

ATTEST:

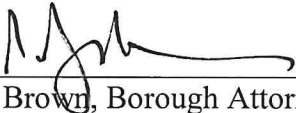


Kacie Paxton, Borough Clerk



Taylor Lee, Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Glenn Brown, Borough Attorney

City of Saxman Signatures:

Frank Seludo, City of Saxman Mayor

ATTEST:

Lori Richmond, City of Saxman Clerk