



## CITY OF WASILLA

290 E. HERNING AVE.  
WASILLA, ALASKA 99687  
PHONE: (907) 373-9050  
FAX: (907) 373-0788

### COUNCIL MEMORANDUM NO. 90-84

FROM: Clerk's Office

DATE: November 27, 1990

SUBJECT: Ordinance Serial No. 90-40, Election Code Revisions

The Clerk's Office has completed another election season and has finished a review of our Code and issues to be brought before the Council. Federal preclearance requirements dictate that we best take care of any changes ASAP before the next regular election. Below is a discussion of Section IV and V of Ordinance Serial No. 90-40

#### Section IV

4.04.060 In 1989 the Matanuska-Susitna Borough completely rewrote their Election Code eliminating runoff elections and is an example of the current trend regarding runoff elections. Since then they have held two elections for Assembly but no Mayor's race. The Clerk's Office takes no position on this proposal, we only thought Council might like to debate the issue. The Council may wish to consider eliminating Council runoff elections and continuing the present 40% requirement for Mayoral elections or the Council may wish to leave the 40% requirement for all elective offices as is presently written in the Code.

4.10.020(A) The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Election Code rewrite changed the filing times slightly and set up a system where the two week filing period will always open on a Monday and close on a Friday. The Clerk's Office supports changing to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough system.

#### Section V

The Federal Government under the Civil Rights Act has to Pre-clear all special elections. They have given themselves 60 Days to act on a local government request for clearance. Obviously the 20 Days in our current Code does not allow sufficient time for their review. The danger lies in that if we held a special election the results could be overturned in the event that we didn't receive preclearance after the fact. The Clerk's Office requests and supports this change.

  
Erling P. Nelson, CMC  
City Clerk

EPN/mdh