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**INFORMATION MEMORANDUM
NO. 97-66**

DATE: October 6, 1997
TO: Wasilla City Council Members
FROM: Sarah Palin, Mayor 
RE: Wasilla Municipal Code 11.40

Per WMC 11.40 it is clear that city law prohibits influencing a ballot measure on city property.

It was brought to my attention that a "Friends of the Library" flyer had been on city property that did attempt to influence a question on the October 7, 1997 ballot.

The "Friends of the Library" committee was made aware of this indiscretion. Mary Ellen Emmons spoke to "Friends" president Kay Carney regarding the issue over the weekend and it was agreed that the flyer be pulled.

CHAPTER 11.40POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SIGNSSECTIONS:

11.40.010	Definitions.
11.40.020	Posting on Public Right-of-Way Prohibited.
11.40.030	Posting Time Limits.
11.40.040	Removal of Illegal Signs.
11.40.050	Removal of Political Signs.
11.40.060	Removal Procedure.
11.40.070	Persons Responsible.

11.40.010 Definitions. Unless it appears from the context that a different meaning is intended, the following words shall have the meanings given them in this section:

- A. "City" means the City of Wasilla, a municipal corporation in the State of Alaska.
- B. "Mayor" means the duly elected Mayor of the City of Wasilla.
- C. "Person" means any person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company, or organization of any kind.
- D. "Political Campaign Sign" means any sign urging the election or defeat of any candidate seeking any political office, or urging the passage or defeat of any ballot measure, but does not mean or include any billboard owned or maintained by a commercial firm or advertising company.
- E. "Public Property" means all publicly owned property, including streets, rights-of-way, easements, and everything affixed thereto and thereover.
- F. "Sign" means and includes any bill, poster, placard, handbill, flyer, painting, sign or other similar object in any form whatsoever which contains printed or written matter in words, symbols, or pictures, or in any combination thereof. (Ord. 83-5 §2 1983)

11.40.020 Posting on Public Right-of-Way Prohibited. it shall be unlawful for any person to post a political campaign sign on or over any public property in the City. (Ord. 83-5 §3 1983)

11.40.030 Posting Time Limits. It shall be unlawful for any person to post a political campaign sign more than ninety (90) days prior to the election for which the sign is posted, and it shall be unlawful to fail to remove a political campaign sign within ten (10) days after the election for which the sign was posted. (Ord. 83-5 §4 1983)

11.40.040 Removal of Illegal Signs. The Mayor or his authorized agents are hereby authorized to remove any political campaign sign found posted within the corporate limits of the City when such sign is in violation of the provisions of this Chapter. (Ord. 83-5 §5 1983)

(CW 03/97)

11.40.050 Removal of Political Signs. For the purpose of removing political campaign signs, the Mayor or his authorized agents are empowered to enter upon the property where the signs are posted, and the Mayor is further authorized to enlist the aid or assistance of any other department of the City and to secure legal process to the end that all such signs shall be expeditiously removed from any property where posted. (Ord. 83-5 §6 1983)

11.40.060 Removal Procedure. When the director or his agents find that a political campaign sign has been posted in violation of this article, he shall attempt to contact the candidate, committee or person responsible for the posting of such sign. If successful, he shall give twenty-four (24) hours advance telephonic notice of his intention to remove the sign, indicate the nature of the violation and the location of the sign. If, after such notification, the illegal sign remains in violation, the director or his agents shall remove said sign and store it in a safe location. If, after reasonable diligence, the director is unable to contact the candidate, committee or person responsible for the sign, he may dispense with the notice requirement and remove the sign, store it in a safe location for 30 days after which the sign may be discarded. (Ord. 83-5 §7 1983)

11.40.070 Persons Responsible. In a campaign for political office, the candidate for such office shall be deemed the person responsible for the posting of political campaign signs, unless he first notifies the City Clerk. In such case, the candidate shall provide the name, address, telephone number, and signed consent of such other responsible person. In a campaign regarding a ballot measure, the president of the committee supporting or opposing such ballot measure shall be deemed responsible, unless he first notifies the City Clerk in the manner described above. The candidate, or in the case of a ballot measure, the committee president, or other responsible person if so designated, shall be liable to pay any fees or costs for the removal and storage of illegal signs, as set out herein. Further, such candidate, committee president, or other designated person, shall be subject to prosecution for any violation of this ordinance. (Ord. 83-5 §8 1983)