

Vote: Holler, Larson, Massie, Menard, Metiva, Woodruff in favor

**WASILLA CITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 07-34**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WASILLA CITY COUNCIL ESTABLISHING LIBRARY
FEES FOR NON-CITY BOROUGH RESIDENTS AT THE WASILLA LIBRARY.**

WHEREAS, from 1985-1993 the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly provided approximately sixty percent of Wasilla Library's operating budget; and

WHEREAS, in 1993 the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly decreased their contribution by almost half; and

WHEREAS, over the next ten years the Borough contribution continued to increase to approximately 50% of the library operating budget; and

WHEREAS, in January 2003 the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the City of Wasilla and the City of Palmer agreed to a funding formula that provided funding in a fair and equitable manner to the two cities libraries for services provided to non-city borough residents at the two libraries; and

WHEREAS, this funding formula was used for fiscal years 2004 and 2005; and

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2006 the Matanuska-Susitna Borough eliminated the funding formula and once again provided funds to the cities libraries for library services through a block grant; and

WHEREAS, for fiscal year 2008 the Matanuska-Susitna Borough reduced the amount of the block grant by 20% from the previous fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly has stated that they will continue to decrease funding to the Wasilla Library by another 20% per year over the next four fiscal years until the Matanuska-Susitna Borough's contribution reaches \$0; and

WHEREAS, over 80% of the items borrowed from the Wasilla Library are borrowed by borough residents who live outside of the Wasilla city limits; and

WHEREAS, the average cost per circulation in FY07 was \$4.99 for each item borrowed; and the City contributed 1.3 times more money for each item borrowed than was contributed by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough; and

WHEREAS, the borough is withdrawing its funding of the Wasilla Library while offering no core area library services to those borough residents who live in the core area outside the city limits; and

WHEREAS, because of the reduction in funding from the Matanuska-Susitna Borough there will be a shortfall of approximately \$73,000 in the operating budget; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Wasilla City Council hereby approves the following fees for the issuing of non-city borough resident library cards:

\$20 per person per 12 month period

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution, if adopted by the Wasilla City Council, shall take effect on January 1, 2008.

DEFEATED by the Wasilla City Council on October 22, 2007.



**CITY OF WASILLA
LEGISLATION STAFF REPORT**

RE: RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 07-34 ESTABLISHING LIBRARY FEES FOR NON-CITY BOROUGH RESIDENTS AT THE WASILLA LIBRARY.

Agenda of: October 22, 2007

Date: October 12, 2007

Originator: Recreation & Cultural Services Manager

Route to:	Department	Signature/Date
	Police	
	Recreation and Cultural Services	
	Public Works	
X	Finance, Risk Management, Purchasing MIS Director	<i>Deanne E. Colligan</i>
X	Deputy Administrator Planning, Economic Development, Human Resources	
X	City Clerk	

REVIEWED BY MAYOR DIANNE M. KELLER: *Dianne M. Keller 10/12/07*

FISCAL IMPACT: yes or no Funds Available yes no

Account name/number:

Attachments: Proposed Resolution

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The Wasilla Library Association transferred its library holdings, ownership and property of the library to the City of Wasilla in 1986. From 1985-1993, the Mat-Su Borough Assembly provided approximately 60% of the library's operating budget. In 1993, the assembly decreased their contribution by almost half. Over time, the assembly's contribution has continued to decrease, while the City contribution has continued to increase. On October 9, 1999, city and borough government administrators, as well as library advocates, attended a library issues workshop to discuss funding, governance, and facility issues. The outcome was the decision to establish a formal Borough-City funding formula and to maintain city operation of the city libraries. In January 2003 a funding formula was developed, agreed upon by all parties, and used for only two funding cycles, fiscal years 2004 and 2005. In the third and fourth funding cycles, the borough simply issued block grants to the cities in the same amount as the previous year. This fiscal year, FY08, the fifth funding cycle since the implementation of the funding formula, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough budget includes a block grant to the city of Wasilla for library services which is 20% less than last year's block grant amount. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough administration and assembly has stated its intention of

reducing these funds to \$0 over the next four years. 80.3% of the items checked out from the Wasilla library are borrowed by borough residents who live outside of the city limits; 93.6% of these items are borrowed by non-city borough residents who live in the following road service areas: Bogard; Butte; Fairview; Goldtrails; Knik; Lazy Mountain; Meadow Lakes; Midway; North & South Colony; and places outside the road service areas in the borough. The 20% reduction in funding from the borough has resulted in a budget shortfall of \$73,020. It is anticipated that the budget shortfall will be made up by charging \$20 for a library card to each non-city borough resident who desires to check out books from the library. All library patrons regardless of where they reside will still be permitted to use the library for all other services at no cost. The City of Palmer has already passed a resolution to charge the same fee for a library card at its library. The two cities have agreed to allow patrons to use the same card at both libraries and are also working together to provide consistency in policies between the two libraries.