

**JANUARY 17, 2024  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
ADDITIONAL MATERIAL/REVISIONS**

**REQUESTED ADDITIONS TO THE PACKET**

<b><u>ACTION</u></b>	<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>REQUESTED BY</u></b>
Add to Item E. 5.	<b>Resolution No. 2024-04</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public Comment</li></ul>	City Clerk
Add to Item H.7	<b>Discussion</b> - Public Meetings Remote Participation Update. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Memo</li></ul>	City Clerk

**From:** [Duane Bannock](#)  
**To:** [Brian Gabiel](#); [Henry Knackstedt](#); [Alex Douthit](#); [Deborah Sounart](#); [James Baisden](#); [Victoria Askin](#); [Phillip Daniel](#)  
**Cc:** [City Council](#); [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** City of Kenai Reso #2024-04  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 17, 2024 2:09:26 AM

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Mr Mayor & Council:

I hope to be in attendance this evening and speak directly the Subject. If not, please see my below comments in opposition to [Resolution 2024-04](#) as submitted:

I'm Duane Bannock; I am a proud resident of the Greater City of Kenai living at 1908 Aliak

Thank you for the opportunity to address you this evening. I ask you not to move forward with approving this Resolution as submitted for the follow reasons:

1. While your authority, vested in the City's Charter, allows you this privilege, there is nothing in that same Charter that makes this subject part of your official duties and responsibilities.
2. Your specific request found in Section 1: **"That Kenai City Council requests the State of Alaska make a meaningful increase to the base student allocation for public schools"** is both undefined and incomplete
  - a. Undefined: "Meaningful"? What qualifies as 'meaningful'? Are you asking for hundreds or thousands of dollars? Millions or billions of dollars? As written, this resolution cannot be measured financially.
  - b. Incomplete. I have a business saying: *"Never bring your boss a problem without a proposed solution."* The sponsors attempt to define a problem in the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Whereas, yet the Resolution is embarrassingly silent on a specific resolve other than **"make a meaningful increase..."** No funding source or budget diversion is identified
3. Your Resolution has no desired, measurable outcomes defined. The 8<sup>th</sup> Whereas includes **maintain(ing) class size**? What is the correct/desired class size? **Provid(ing)**

**student resource needs?** What needs are being unmet and what is the financial obligation of meeting such?

- a. What alternatives have you investigated or offered? Other than 'more cash' nothing is defined or even recommended.

This Resolution, as written is a modern day version of Oliver Twist's: *"Please Sir, I want some more."* Undefined and incomplete.

Although, funding for public education is nary a part of your responsibilities as Council members, I will respect your desires to add voice to a statewide political topic. I only ask that you speak responsibly on behalf of myself and our 7,000 neighbors.

Thank you,  
Duane Bannock  
1908 Aliak  
Kenai, AK 99611  
907 398 2316



# KENAI

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor Gabriel and Council Members

**FROM:** Shellie Saner, City Clerk  
Scott Bloom, City Attorney

**DATE:** January 17, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Remote Participation Update

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On December 20, 2023, the Council, at its regular meeting, discussed virtual meeting participation by Council Members, administration, appointed officials and the public. During that discussion, three Council members indicated a preference to limit virtual participation to Council members, appointed officials and administrative staff and one Council member indicated a desire to have virtual participation available to the public. Administration intended to draft a policy on virtual attendance and participation and bring it back to Council for approval. After further internal administrative discussion, we want to ensure Council is comfortable with the proposed policy direction prior to bringing a policy back. The proposed outline is as follows:

1. Virtual meeting links will be set up for every regularly scheduled meeting of the Council, its Board and Commissions. (special meetings and work sessions will have virtual meeting access as practice and possible)
2. Council and P&Z members may attend virtually as allowed by code (KMC 1.15.130 and 14.05.025). Administration may attend as needed, and other appointed officials can attend as needed. Other bodies of the City only have regular meetings a maximum of one time per month, as opposed to two meetings for Council and P&Z, some bodies meet much less frequently. If it appears that appointed officials are choosing not to attend for reasons other than necessity, limits can be implemented at a future time to encourage in person attendance.
3. Because the platform for virtual attendance will be available for every meeting, the public would be allowed to attend and comment virtually as well. There are several reasons for this. First, public virtual participation at Council Meetings is minimal. At the meetings of other City bodies, it is almost zero virtual participation. Second, a new procedure will be implemented to help the meetings run more smoothly, rather than stopping at each public hearing to see if commenters are waiting online, the Clerk, or other administrator running the meeting, will notify the Mayor or Chair of online participants wishing to comment on a particular item at the appropriate time. Otherwise meetings can proceed without pause to check for online comments. While this will require online commenters to notify the clerk of a desire to comment without consistent instruction, it balances the ability for the public to comment using a virtual platform without unnecessary consistent meeting interruption. Third, while this approach is not necessarily required by the Open Meetings Act, it is consistent with the spirit and intent.