

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-17

BALLOT PROPOSITION OCTOBER 1, 2024

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA PROPOSING TO AMEND SECTION 20.01 "SITKA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL DEDICATED FUND" OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER AND, SUBMITTING THE QUESTION OF SUCH AN AMENDMENT TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS AT THE REGULAR ELECTION ON OCTOBER 1, 2024

1. CLASSIFICATION. This ordinance is of a permanent nature and is intended to become a part of the Sitka Home Rule Charter.

2. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this ordinance or any application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this ordinance and application thereof to any person or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

3. PURPOSE. The purpose of this ordinance is to remove language from the Home Rule Charter (HRC) of the City and Borough of Sitka in Article XX "Sitka Community Hospital" Section 20.01 indicating the use of the Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund. The HRC states the Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund shall only be used to pay for the operating, capital, and debt service needs of Sitka Community Hospital. Sitka Community Hospital closed on August 1, 2019. While there are still some residual expenses related to retirement benefits for former Sitka Community Hospital employees, it is expected there will be funding that could be used for other purposes in the foreseeable future.

4. ENACTMENT. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka that the Home Rule Charter of the City and Borough of Sitka, Section 20.01 "Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund," be amended by revising the language in Section 20.01 Sitka Community Hospital to read as follows (deleted language stricken, new language underlined):

* * *

**ARTICLE XX
SITKA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL**

Section 20.01 Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund

A Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund is hereby created. The Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund shall be maintained separate and apart from all other funds and accounts of the City and Borough. ~~The Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund shall only be used to pay for the operating, capital, and debt service needs of Sitka Community Hospital.~~

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5. BALLOT PROPOSITION. The following question shall be placed on the ballot at the regular election on October 1, 2024:

53 Shall the Home Rule Charter of the City and Borough of Sitka be amended to remove
54 the language in Section 20.01 stating the Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund be
55 only used to pay operating, capital, and debt expenses of the former Sitka Community
56 Hospital?

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Yes No

62 Informational: See ordinance 2024-17. This amendment is a housekeeping measure.
63 Sitka Community Hospital closed on August 1, 2019. The Home Rule Charter states the
64 Sitka Community Hospital Dedicated Fund shall only be used to pay for the operating,
65 capital, and debt service needs of Sitka Community Hospital. While there are still some
66 residual expenses related to retirement benefits for former Sitka Community Hospital
67 employees, it is expected there will be funding that could be used for other purposes in
68 the foreseeable future as determined by the Assembly.

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70 **6. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This ordinance shall become effective on the day after the
71 date of its passage.

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73 The amendment to the Charter set forth in Section 20.01 hereof shall only become
74 effective if the ballot proposition set forth in Section 5 hereof is approved by a majority of the
75 qualified voters at the regular election held on October 1, 2024.

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77 **PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the Assembly of the City and Borough of
78 Sitka, Alaska this 23rd day of July, 2024.

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81 _____
82 Steven Eisenbeisz, Mayor

83 **ATTEST:**
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85 _____
86 Sara Peterson, MMC
87 Municipal Clerk

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89 1st reading: 7/9/24
90 2nd and final reading: 7/23/24

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92 Sponsor: Administrator