Sponsored by: Councilmember Cleworth*
Councilmember Ringstad*
Councilmember Therrien
Councilmember Lojewski
*Indicates original sponsor
Date: October 26, 2026

ORDINANCE NO. 6359, AS AMENDED

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FAIRBANKS GENERAL CODE, SECTION 2-120, RULES OF PROCEDURE

WHEREAS, under Fairbanks City Charter § 2.10, the council, by ordinance, determines its rules of procedure; and

WHEREAS, the council has established its rules of procedure in Section 2-120 of the Fairbanks General Code; and

WHEREAS, from time to time, council amends its rules of procedure to provide clarity regarding its intent and improve the efficiency of its deliberation and decision-making.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, as follows:

SECTION 1. Fairbanks General Code Sec. 2-120 is hereby amended as follows [new text in **bold/underlined** font; deleted text in ~~strikethrough~~ font]:

Sec. 2-120. Rules of procedure.

(~~h~~**a**) Any motion must be reduced to writing if the presiding officer so requires or any member so demands, and no other motion shall be entertained until reasonable time (not over ten minutes) is afforded for compliance with this rule.

(~~f~~**b**) The presiding officer shall put all questions in the order in which they are moved unless a subsequent motion ~~shall be~~ **is** previous in its nature; except in naming sums and fixing times, the largest sum and the longest time ~~shall~~ **will** be put first.

(~~j~~**c**) All motions ~~shall~~ require a second, unless otherwise provided.

(~~m~~**d**) After a motion is stated or read by the presiding officer, it ~~shall be deemed to be~~ **is** in the possession of the city council and ~~shall~~ **must** be disposed of by vote; but the mover may withdraw it at any time before decision or amendment, by consent of the second.

(~~k~~**e**) Any member may require the division of a question, when the sense of it will admit.

(~~l~~**f**) When a question is under debate, the presiding officer shall receive any of the following motions but no other:

(1) To adjourn.

(2) To recess.

(3) To raise a question of privilege.

(4) To call for the order of the day, or the regular order.

(5) To lay on the table.

(6) For the previous question.

(7) To limit or extend limits of debate.

(8) To postpone to a certain time.

(9) To refer.

(10) To amend.

(11) To postpone indefinitely.

When one of the motions referred to in subsections (~~I~~**f**)(1)—(11) has been made, none of the others inferior to it in the order in which they stand above ~~shall~~ **can** be made, and in proceeding to vote, motions pending ~~shall~~ **must** be put in the order of their rank as arranged in subsections (~~I~~**f**)(1)—(11). The first seven are not subject to debate. A motion to postpone to a certain time, refer, amend or to postpone indefinitely may be amended; the previous question may be demanded before an amendment, which motion ~~shall be~~ **is** decided without debate. A motion to adjourn ~~shall~~ **is** always ~~be~~ in order**,** provided that business of a nature to be recorded in the journal has been transacted since any previous motion to adjourn has been defeated. ~~No motion or proposition of a subject different from that under consideration shall be admitted under color of an amendment.~~ The city council may postpone a motion to a certain time other than the date of the next regular meeting if specified in the motion to postpone, except that a motion may not be postponed beyond three months after its introduction date. When a matter has been especially assigned to be taken up at a fixed time, or at certain stage of proceedings, such matter **is**~~shall~~, at the appointed time or at any subsequent time, ~~be~~ in order upon the call of any member, and take**s** precedence over all other business.

(~~c~~**g**) Any member may make a parliamentary inquiry of the ~~chairman~~ **presiding officer** at any time during the meeting.

(~~d~~**h**) Any member may make a point of order without a second at any time. The presiding officer may speak to points of order in preference to other members and shall decide all such questions, subject to appeal to the city council ~~by motion duly seconded, and no other business shall be in order until the question on the appeal has been decided~~.

(~~b~~**i**) No appeal from any decision of the presiding officer ~~shall~~ **will** be entertained unless it is seconded, and no other business ~~shall be~~ **is** in order until the question on

appeal has been decided. The question on the appeal is not debatable and ~~shall be~~ **is** put as follows: "Shall the decision of the chair stand as the judgment of the city council?" ~~It shall be~~ **The question is** deemed to be decided in the affirmative unless a majority of the votes given are to the contrary.

(e**j**) When the previous question is moved by any member, all debate on the main question ~~shall be~~ **is** suspended immediately and the presiding officer shall put the question in the following form: "The previous question is moved on (specifying the motion on which the previous question is demanded). As many as are in favor of ordering the previous question will so indicate." If four members vote "aye," the affirmative has it, the previous question is ordered, and the ~~chairman~~ **presiding officer** will proceed immediately to put to a vote the question on which the previous question was ordered. If less than four members so indicate, the negative has it, the motion is lost, and the question reverts to the immediately pending question which is again open to debate and amendment as if the previous question had not been demanded.

(k) Any member may propose amendments to any business before the council, including ordinances and resolutions upon introduction. No motion or proposition of a subject different from that under consideration ~~shall~~ **may** be admitted under color of an amendment. ~~(a)~~ A motion to amend an amendment ~~shall~~ **may** be in order, but a motion to amend an amendment to an amendment ~~shall~~ **will** not be entertained.

(~~i~~**l**) Any previous vote may be rescinded by **a** vote of four members ~~of the city council~~ at any time, provided the subject matter has not passed out of the control of the city council.

(~~g~~**m**) **Reconsideration.**

Except as otherwise provided, no resolution or ordinance shall be reconsidered on the day upon which the final vote was taken. A member who voted on the prevailing side may:

(1) On the day upon which final vote was taken, give and have entered in the minutes a notice of intention to move a reconsideration at the next city council meeting.

(2) On the day immediately following the vote on a resolution or ordinance, give the city clerk written notice of reconsideration.

When such notice is given, any member may at the next city council meeting move a reconsideration of the question. The affirmative votes of four members of the city council, excluding the mayor, may order a reconsideration taken up at the same meeting that notice of reconsideration is given. The motion for reconsideration opens for debate, and the question to be considered shall have precedence over

every other motion except the motion to adjourn. When a motion is reconsidered, that vote is canceled as though it had never been taken. When a majority votes to reconsider, the question immediately recurs upon the question reconsidered. There shall be but one reconsideration, even though the action of the city council after reconsideration is opposite the action of the city council before reconsideration.

(n) In all matters of parliamentary procedure not covered by this section, the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, ~~shall be~~ **is** applicable and governs. In those cases where Robert's does not address the question before the ~~chair~~ **presiding officer** in sufficient detail to assist in the resolution of the question, the city council ~~shall~~ **will** be guided by parliamentary law as it may be collected from the best authorities.

(o) The city council rules and order of business ~~shall~~ **will** be observed in all cases unless suspended temporarily for good cause by a vote of five members present. Any member may move at any time for the suspension of any rule, and such motion must be seconded to entitle it to consideration.

(p) If any member, in speaking or otherwise, transgresses the rules of the city council, the presiding officer shall, or any member may, call ~~him~~ **them** to order; in which case the member so called to order shall immediately cease discussion unless permitted by the presiding officer to explain; and the city council, if appealed to, shall decide the question without debate. If the decision is in favor of the member so called to order, ~~he~~ **they** shall be at liberty to proceed; if otherwise, ~~he~~ **they** shall not proceed without leave of the city council to proceed in order.

Section 2. The effective date of this ordinance is six days after adoption.

Mindy O'Neall, Mayor

YEAS: Cleworth, Lojewski, Ringstad, Sprinkle, Therrien
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Tidwell
ADOPTED: November 9, 2026

ATTEST:

D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Thomas A. Chard II, City Attorney