

ORDINANCE NO. 6314

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FAIRBANKS GENERAL CODE
SECTION 2-119(a), ORDER OF BUSINESS, REQUIRING A LAND
ACKNOWLEDGMENT AT EVERY REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

WHEREAS, in 2021 and 2022, the Fairbanks City Council worked with Denakkanaaga Elders to create a land acknowledgment that would be appropriate for the City to offer on its publications, signage, and prior to meetings and conferences; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 4981 was proposed to add the land acknowledgment at the beginning of regular City Council meetings and, at the request of the City Council, the Fairbanks Diversity Council reviewed the Resolution and voted unanimously to recommend the Resolution be approved; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that a Land Acknowledgment, by itself, is a small gesture but it becomes meaningful when coupled with authentic relationships and informed actions and that a Land Acknowledgment can function as a living celebration of Indigenous communities; and

WHEREAS, although Resolution No. 4981 was ultimately not enacted, the recommended Land Acknowledgment was posted at the entrance to the City Council Chambers for all to see.

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

Section 1. That Fairbanks General Code at Section 2-119(a) is hereby amended as follows [new text in **bold/underline** font; deleted text in ~~striketrough~~ font]:

Sec. 2-119. - Order of business; citizens addressing city council.

(a) At every regular meeting of the city council, the order of business shall be as follows:

(1) Roll call.

(2) Land Acknowledgment: We respectfully acknowledge the Dena people upon whose traditional lands we reside. We honor the Dena who have been the stewards of Interior lands and waters for centuries, the Elders who lived here before, the Dena people of today, and future generations to come. We also recognize that Alaskan Native people would traditionally gather here and harvest Native foods.

~~(23)~~ Invocation.

~~(34)~~ Flag salutation.

- (~~45~~) Ceremonial matters (proclamations, introductions, recognitions, and awards).
- (~~56~~) Citizens' comments (oral communications to the city council on items not up for public hearing). The comment period will not exceed a total of 30 minutes unless extended by a council vote.
- (~~67~~) Approval of agenda and consent agenda. Consent agenda items are indicated by asterisks (*). Consent agenda items are considered together unless a council member requests that the item be returned to the general agenda. Ordinances on the approved consent agenda are automatically advanced to the next regular meeting for second reading and public hearing. All other items on the approved consent agenda are passed as final.
- (~~78~~) Approval of minutes of previous meetings.
- (~~89~~) Special orders.
- (~~910~~) Mayor's comments and report.
- (~~1011~~) Council members' comments.
- (~~1112~~) Unfinished business.
- (~~1213~~) New business.
- (~~1314~~) Written communication to the city council.
- (~~1415~~) Committee reports and council members' comments.
- (~~1516~~) City clerk's report.
- (~~1617~~) City attorney's report.
- (~~1718~~) Executive session (if necessary).
- (~~1819~~) Adjournment.

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

David Pruhs, City Mayor

AYES: Sprinkle, Therrien, Tidwell
NAYS: Marney, Ringstad, Cleworth, Pruhs
ABSENT: None
FAILED TO ADVANCE: May 19, 2025

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk

Thomas A. Chard II, City Attorney