CITY OF UNALASKA UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-27

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UNALASKA SUPPORTING FUNDING TO THE ALASKA PUBLIC BROADCASTING COMMISSION

WHEREAS, a well-functioning democracy and vibrant economy are dependent upon an educated and informed populace, and public broadcasting strives to meet that need; and

WHEREAS, public radio is the sole source of news in most rural Alaska communities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Unalaska's local public radio station, KUCB, provides a valuable public service by disseminating information about local civic issues and community events; and

WHEREAS, KUCB provides essential public safety emergency information and a link to the Emergency Alert System; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission budget has already realized cuts in both FY16 and FY17, resulting in significant funding reductions at the station level; and

WHEREAS, additional cuts will result in serious and permanent harm to station across Alaska, including KUCB in Unalaska. Impacts would include reductions in staff and corresponding reductions in local service;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Unalaska respectfully urges the Alaska Legislature to maintain the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission funding at current levels.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY A DULY CONSTITUTED QUORUM OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL THIS 28TH DAY OF MARCH 2017.

Mayor ATTEST: City Clerk

Memorandum

To: Unalaska City Council

CC: City Manger Martinson, City Clerk Hazen,

From: Mayor Frank Kelty,

Date: March 24, 2017

Subject: Resolution in Support of Funding for Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission

I bring this Resolution to the City Council to inform the Alaska State Legislature of our continued support of the current funding levels for the Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission. There is pending legislation in a Senate subcommittee to cut \$2.0 million for radio and \$630,000 for TV; these were the funding amounts included in Gov. Walker's budget. The Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission has faced cuts the past two years of over 1 million dollars annually. I think we all know the importance of Public Broadcasting across Alaska and especially to KUCB in Unalaska. Last week we all received a letter from local resident Abi Woodbridge on her concerns on funding for Alaska Public Broadcasting Commission and I've had discussions with Lauren Adams, station manager of KUCB, on her concerns with the impacts to the station from reduced state funding.

The City of Unalaska has assisted with funding for KUCB radio and TV for many years, which shows the importance we place on public broadcasting in this community. We have also passed many Resolutions over the years that have been sent to the legislature in support of public broadcasting. I thank the Council for your consideration on the adoption of this resolution.

Best Regards

Mayor Frank Kell

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