

CITY OF UNALASKA  
UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 2019-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING A DONATION FROM THE COUNCIL'S OPERATING BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000 TO THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS FOUNDATION TO BE USED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE U.S. COAST GUARD MARINE SAFETY DETACHMENT IN UNALASKA

WHEREAS, the United States Coast Guard (Coast Guard) has provided important service to the community of Unalaska for more than 150 years, dating back to the Bering Sea Revenue Service Vessels that patrolled the Bering Sea in the late 1800s; and

WHEREAS, today the Coast Guard mission is multifaceted roles, focusing on maritime safety, maritime security and marine stewardship; and

WHEREAS, the main function of the Coast Guard Marine Safety Detachment (MSD) in Unalaska is to provide safety inspections for both fishing vessels and other maritime cargo vessels, and to respond to marine pollution issues. The services provided by MSD personnel are incredibly important to the maritime industry of the region and saves lives; and

WHEREAS, this donation to the Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Foundation will be used to offset any unforeseen impacts to the MSD personnel from future government shutdowns or other events which could create financial hardships for the MSD personnel and their families; and

WHEREAS, in a small measure this donation will show Unalaska's appreciation for all that the Unalaska MSD does for our community. Over the years the MSD has been extremely involved in the community and have volunteered on many projects in Unalaska; and

WHEREAS, during the recent shutdown of the federal government the Chief Petty Officers Foundation received donations from fishing companies, seafood processors, the Ballyhoo Lions Club and many local residents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Unalaska City Council authorizes a donation in the amount of \$10,000 from the Council's Operating Budget to the United States Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Foundation, to be used for the benefit of the personnel of the U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Detachment in Unalaska, to offset the impact of any future shutdown of the federal government or other events which may create hardships for MSD personnel and their families.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Unalaska City Council on February 12, 2019.



Dennis M. Robinson  
Vice Mayor

ATTEST:



Marjie Veeder  
City Clerk



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## MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

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To: City Council Members  
From: Frank Kelty, Mayor  
Date: February 12, 2019  
Re: Resolution 2019-09, Authorizing a donation from the Council's operating budget in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the United States Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Foundation to be used for the benefit of the U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Detachment in Unalaska

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**SUMMARY:** The United States Coast Guard has provided important service to the community of Unalaska for well over 150 years going back to the Bering Sea Revenue Service Vessels that patrolled the Bering Sea in the late 1800s.

Today the US Coast Guard mission focus has many multifaceted roles, the three most important include maritime safety, maritime security and marine stewardship. All of the above mentioned roles have been important to Unalaska throughout the years.

The purpose of this donation to the U.S. Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Foundation is to offset any unforeseen impacts to the Unalaska Marine Safety Detachment (MSD) personnel from future government shutdowns. As many of you know the Coast Guard personnel were not paid during that the last government shutdown creating many hardships. This donation would also assist in other events or hardships that could impact the lives of MSD personnel stationed in Unalaska. This in a small measure will help support the MSD personnel that have been instrumental in the assistance they provide to Unalaska and the seafood and maritime industries of this region throughout the years.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:** City of Unalaska has not, to my knowledge, made any donations to U.S. Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Foundation. The City has provided reduced price PCR passes to Coast Guard personnel for many years. The City has also made many donations to other organizations from Council Contingency throughout the years.

**BACKGROUND:** The Unalaska City Council lobbied the United States Coast Guard for many years for a larger Coast Guard presence in Unalaska. The two major accomplishments from the years of lobbying was the funding for the UMC dock extension for Coast Guard vessels to tie up during breaks from Bering Sea fishery patrols; navigation aids work; and the establishment of the Marine Safety Detachment office.

The main function of MSD personnel is vessel safety inspections of both fishing vessels and other maritime cargo vessels and to respond to pollution issues. The work of the

MSD is incredibly important and saves lives. Over the years the personnel of the MSD have been extremely involved in the community and have volunteered on many projects throughout Unalaska. I believe a donation that will help support the U.S. Coast Guard MSD personnel will in a small measure show Unalaska's appreciation for all that they do for our community. It should also be noted that during the recent Government shut down the U.S. Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Foundation received donations from fishing companies, processors, the Ballyhoo Lions club and many local residents.

**DISCUSSION:** I don't have a lot more to add, but I take the threat of another Government shutdown very seriously and we have had three shutdowns already under this administration. It should be noted that the U.S. Coast Guard was the only military branch that did not allow paychecks to their personnel during the shutdown because the Coast Guard is in the Department of Homeland Security and not in the Department of Defense like the other military branches. I understand that federal legislation may be pending to take care of this problem. This situation should never have been allowed, and caused many hardships for many Coast Guard personnel and their families during the 33 day government shutdown.

I fully support making a donation to U.S. Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Foundation for the benefit of the Unalaska Marine Safety Detachment. I think it is very appropriate to show our support to the fine job they do and please always remember the Coast Guard motto: *Semper Paratus* / Always Ready!

**ALTERNATIVES:** Council may:

1. Take no action; or
2. Discuss the matter and vote it down; or
3. Approve Resolution 2019-09 with a majority vote after a necessary amendment is passed to designate a dollar amount.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:** The Council Sponsorship Contingency account in the operating budget contains \$7,500; and there is \$42,000 available in the Council Sponsorship Planned account because there are two planned sponsorships that will not be expended. If Council chooses to support this donation, the amount will first come from the Sponsorship Contingency account, and the remainder, if necessary, will come from the Planned Sponsorship account.

**MAYOR'S RECOMMENDATION:** I support the adoption of Resolution 2019-09.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** To open the discussion, a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-09 is needed. If the Council chooses to donate, a motion to amend Resolution 2019-09 is needed to insert an amount.