

**FYI, 2/19/05**

----- Original Message -----

**From:** John Harrington  
**To:** Ketchikan Charter Commission  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 10, 2005 8:30 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Fw: fire service

The way we have it now it would take a vote of the people to go areawide. But if we included this language in the charter, it would facilitate an appropriate way of consolidating the departments. It also fits with our position to give the new assembly the tools they need to govern the borough.

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**From:** Glen Thompson [mailto:gthompson@akpacific.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 09, 2005 11:11 PM  
**To:** Ketchikan Charter Commission  
**Cc:** Tom Miller; Mike Painter; John Harrington; Jerry Kiffer; Dennis McCarty; Brad Finney; Dan Bockhorst  
**Subject:** Re: Fw: fire service

This is an interesting concept but it fails to address the problem of volunteers who have a lower threshold for physical performance from the hired city staff as well as the overtime pay problem regarding city firefighters who live in the borough and volunteer their time and training to the department that protects their home.

GT

On Wednesday, Feb 9, 2005, at 20:29 America/Anchorage, Ketchikan Charter Commission wrote:

FYI

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Scott Brandt-Erichsen  
**To:** 'Ketchikan Charter Commission  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 09, 2005 11:41 AM  
**Subject:** fire service

Recently I was dealing with a service area issue as part of a discussion of pending legislation with the AML legislative committee and I came across a concept you may wish to consider regarding some services. A 2001 amendment to AS 29.35.470 added subsection (b). This section reads:

Sec. 29.35.470. Financing.  
Statute text

(a) The assembly may levy or authorize the levying of taxes, charges, or assessments in a service area to finance the special services. If the assembly authorizes the levying of taxes, charges, or assessments, the rate of taxation and the issuance of bonds are subject to assembly approval.

(b) The assembly may by ordinance establish, alter, and abolish differential tax zones within a service area to provide and levy property taxes for a different level of services than that provided generally in the service area. Taxes levied within a differential tax zone that exceed the amount that would have otherwise been levied may only be used for the services provided in that zone.

### History

(§ 10 ch 74 SLA 1985; am § 4 ch 31 SLA 2001)

Under this stature the consolidated Borough could:

- 1) Create a single fire and EMS service area which serves all of Revillagigedo island and the airport, but not Pennock or the remainder of Gravina;
- 2) Establish a 24/7 staffed fire and EMS differential zone in the former City of Ketchikan; and
- 3) Use the arrangement for unified administration but separate service and tax levels.

You need not use this approach, but to the extent it might address some of the issues, I wanted to bring it to your attention.

Scott