

KETCHIKAN CHARTER COMMISSION
AGENDA STATEMENT

NO H-2 (b)

MEETING OF July 23, 2004

ITEM TITLE Amend Article XII, Areawide, Nonareawide and Service Area Powers, Section 12.03 (2), 12.07 and 12.02 (c) SUBMITTED BY John Harrington

SUMMARY STATEMENT

In an effort to make certain that Fire and EMS services are offered as joint services, rather than separate service entities in the service areas, the Chiefs of the three current Fire/EMS Departments have requested changes in the way these departments are referenced in the Charter. The following are suggested changes to the Charter document in Article XII.

EMS and Fire as NonAreawide Powers Delivered Through Service Areas

Rewrite: Article XII, Section 12.03 (2) to read, "The establishment and operation of Fire and Emergency Medical Services departments., ~~the hiring of personnel firefighters, and the contracting for fire fighting and Emergency Medical services;~~"

Eliminate: **Section 12.07 Emergency Medical Services**

~~The emergency medical services previously provided by the City of Ketchikan will be provided to such areas as designated by the Assembly where no other adequate emergency medical service exists. Unless the Ketchikan Service Area is compensated for the resulting increase in its service area costs, emergency medical services shall be provided through the Ketchikan Service Area but funded by the entire area being served. The provisions of Sections 12.04 and 12.06(c) shall not apply to service areas for the providing of emergency medical services. This section shall not require the municipality to extend emergency medical services to remote locations or to areas where the extension of such service is not deemed practicable by the Assembly. Until otherwise changed as provided by this section, emergency medical services shall be provided by the service area established under the transition plan described in Section 16.09.~~

Change: Article XII, Section 12.02(c) The power to provide for hospital and public health services, including, but not limited to, those services formerly provided by the City of Ketchikan's Gateway Center for Human Services. The power to provide emergency medical services shall be exercised as provided in Section 12.03 (2) ~~12.07~~;

This item was postponed at the meetings of June 11, June 18 and June 25, 2004 at the request of the City of Ketchikan and Commissioner Harrington. During deliberations on July 7, 2004, the Commission voted to postpone this item and bring it back in conjunction with H-2(a) which addressed areawide Fire & EMS powers.

MOTION ON THE FLOOR:

"I move to make the suggested changes to Article XII, Areawide, Nonareawide and Service Area Powers as shown above."

Memorandum

To: Charter Commission
From: John Harrington
Date: 7/3/04
Re: Fire and EMS powers.

Attached are two of my drafts of the charter (Section 12:02 and 12:03). One with fire and EMS powers designated as areawide; and another with them designated as nonareawide. The language appears to be simple, but the ramifications of either definitely need thoughtful consideration. Also attached is a financial spreadsheet of the current budgets, with some possible funding alternatives if the decision is made to make the powers areawide.

If the decision is to go areawide, then we will need to address the concerns and cautions in the application and transition plan, so that we maintain the current *esprit de corps* of the volunteers. An effort should be made to bring the fire fighters and EMT's onboard now so that these changes will not backfire to the detriment of charter passage.