

City of Gustavus, Alaska

Resolution No. 2010-29

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSAL TO ‘CONSTRUCT A MODEL SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BROADBAND NETWORK’

WHEREAS, city-owned Gustavus Community Network (GCN) has provided Internet service to the community of Gustavus since 1996 and has a solid record of creativity and self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, existing dial-up internet service provided to the majority of GCN subscribers is sorely inadequate for today’s media-rich Internet applications, much less those to come, resulting in a substantial decline in GCN subscribers; and

WHEREAS, private satellite internet services available in Gustavus suffer from high-latency, high cost, low performance, low reliability, and do not meet the FCC definition of ‘broadband’; and

WHEREAS, upgrading the community Internet service to broadband has been identified as a critical infrastructure need for the City of Gustavus and received ‘strong positive’ support as a capital infrastructure project in the ‘City of Gustavus Strategic Plan 2005’; and

WHEREAS, 84% of respondents to the DCRA sponsored ‘Gustavus, Alaska: 2008 Community Survey Report’ identified improvement of Internet connectivity as an important infrastructure project, placing second only to a new dock in importance on a list of 25 infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, GCN can oversee the building of a “future proof” last-mile fiber optic network to deliver the fastest, most reliable and most affordable Internet access, voice communications, and entertainment services to all Gustavus and Glacier Bay homes and businesses including wireless service to Icy Strait, a major shipping channel and fishing and tourism area;

WHEREAS, preliminary planning efforts have resulted in cost estimates ranging between \$2.5 and \$3.5 million for implementing the sustainable community broadband network, and

WHEREAS, GCN recognizes that other rural areas in Alaska are a step ahead in the broadband network creation process and that engineering, design and construction efforts are underway in other regions of the state that might better indicate the component costs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Gustavus City Council, in an effort to promote economic development, curb out-migration and improve community health and safety by providing the fastest, most reliable and most affordable last-mile fiber optic broadband internet service seeks State general fund support. and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Gustavus City Council supports for submission the proposal 'Construct Model Sustainable Community Broadband Network' Capital request for phase one, FY12 funding in the amount of \$384,000.00 for design and engineering the GCN broadband network.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Gustavus City Council, this 9th day of December, 2010.


Jim Mackowiak, Mayor


Melanie Lesh, Council Member


John Nixon, Council Member


Karen Taylor, Council Member

Via Teleconference
Louis Cacioppo, Vice Mayor

Via Teleconference
Tim Sunday, Council Member


Joe Lassiter, Council Member


Attest: Kapryce Manchester, CMC
City Clerk