



RESOLUTION 21-08-26-01  
CITY OF THORNE BAY

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF THORNE BAY, ALASKA, TO IMPLEMENT ORDINANCE 21-02-02-21 DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO SCHEDULE THE 2021 REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION FOR THE ELECTION OF 5 CITY COUNCIL SEATS; TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2021; DESIGNATING THE LOCATIONS OF POLLING PLACES AND ABSENTEE VOTING LOCATIONS

**WHEREAS**, the City Council is the governing body for the City of Thorne Bay Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council may designate the location of polling places and absentee voting stations for municipal elections; and

**WHEREAS**, State Elections have only ONE (1) polling location and one precinct register for each precinct, in Thorne Bay's case, the precinct covers all residents within the boundaries of Thorne Bay; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council on February 2, 2021, adopted Ordinance 21-02-02-01, which established two polling places within Thorne Bay's precinct boundaries for city elections only; and

**WHEREAS**, upon the City Clerk's request to the State Division of Elections for two precinct registers for the 2021, Regular Municipal Election, concerns were expressed about how the City would manage two live voting locations with only one precinct voter register; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council held a special workshop on August 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss what implications two polling places may have on the City's election and how to address them and among the ideas discussed was to find out if the City had the option to establish its own precincts within Thorne Bay; and

**WHEREAS**, the City does not have the authority under state law to establish its own precincts; however, the City could request that the State split the Voter Precinct Register and the City would work with the State to accomplish this based on residents' voter registration addresses, and thus creating two registers, each containing separate voter names and addresses for the Thorne Bay precinct;

**WHEREAS**, there may not be sufficient time for the City and State to accomplish splitting the register for the October 5, 2021, municipal election; however, the City Clerk will work with the State to provide the information needed in order to accomplish this task in time for the October 2022 election;

**WHEREAS**, under state law the City could also have a copy of the current Voter Precinct Register at both polling places and allow anyone to vote at either location, with recordation of the persons voting and at which location; under this option, the City election officials would take all necessary steps to ensure that voters are allowed to vote once only;

**WHEREAS**, under state law the City could allow for only absentee voting at the Davidson Landing Polling place;

**WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of the Council to determine which of these options to choose to implement ORDINANCE 21-02-02-21 for the 2021 Regular Municipal Election;

**WHEREAS**, that the City Council for the City of Thorne Bay; direct the City Clerk to administer the 2021 Regular Municipal Election as follows by implementing one of the following three options:

#### **OPTION A**

- A. There shall be two (2) polling places open for voting on Election Day,
  - 1) City Hall Council Chambers;
  - 2) Davidson Landing Fire Hall.
  
- B. The Thorne Bay Precinct Voter Register will be divided into two separate registers.
  - 1) Register #1 will include the list of all registered voters that reside in the Northside of the Bay, Float houses and within the Goose Creek Subdivision;
  - 2) Register #2 will include the list of all registered voters that reside in South Thorne Bay Subdivision, South Arm Subdivision, Thorne Bay Addition #1.
  
- C. The official Polling Places for Registers 1 & 2 will be as follows:
  - 1) Register #1: City Hall Council Chambers located at 120 Freeman Drive, Thorne Bay, AK 99919
  - 2) Register #2: Davidson Landing, South Thorne Bay Subdivision, Thorne Bay, AK 99919

Any person wanting to vote outside of their designated polling location may do so by casting a “Questioned” ballot.

Example: Registered voter X resides in South Thorne Bay and is listed on Register #2, but shows up at the City Hall polling place to vote on Election Day. Her name does not appear on Register #1, the voter registers at the City Hall polling place, due to where she resides. She may still vote at City Hall but will cast a “Questioned Ballot” which will be counted the following Friday by the Canvassing Committee.

- D. The City Clerk will work with the State to provide all information needed to accomplish splitting the register for the 2021 municipal election. In the event there is not sufficient time for the State to split the register for the October 5, 2021, municipal election, the City Council directs the City Clerk to implement Option C] below for the 2021 municipal election, and the City Clerk will work with the State to split the register for the 2022 municipal election.

## OPTION B

A copy of the Thorne Bay Precinct Voter Register will be placed each of the two polling places:

- 1) City Hall Council Chambers located at 120 Freeman Drive, Thorne Bay, AK 99919; and
- 2) Davidson Landing, South Thorne Bay Subdivision, Thorne Bay, AK 99919

Any registered voter may vote once only at one or the other of these polling places and the person voting will sign the register at the polling place at which they choose to vote.

The City election officials will take all necessary steps to ensure that each voter votes once only.

## OPTION C

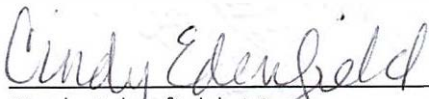
The Davidson Landing polling place will be set up for absentee voting for the October 5, 2021 Regular Municipal Election for persons who choose to vote at the Davidson Landing polling place.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council for the City of Thorne Bay hereby selects **Option C**, to provide for Absentee Voting at Davidson Landing Fire Hall for the October 5, 2021, Regular Municipal Election, through the following procedures:

1. At the close of Davidson Landing Polls, the Election Judges shall follow the procedures for closing of the polls as outlined in the Thorne Bay Municipal Code Section 2.28.340 Ballots-Counting and Tallying, Subsection (A).

2. After accounting for the total ballots cast to the total number of names on the ballot accountability register, ballots will be sealed into an envelope and placed into the Red Bag and locked with a plastic tag.
3. Ballots will then be transported to the Thorne Bay City Hall and will be processed and counted by the City Election Officials in accordance with normal procedures for these ballots.
4. Transportation of the Ballots will be done by at least two of the Appointed Election Officials which served at the Davidson Landing Polls, and shall be done as per the procedures outlined in the "Davidson Landing Poll Closing Procedures and Accountability Method"
5. Ballot Reading:
6. Results of the Election will be reported from City Hall in the following manner:
  - a) Ballots cast at the Polls in City Hall on October 5, 2021, will be counted and read in accordance with the ballot counting procedures outlined in the Thorne Bay Municipal Code Chapter 2.28-Elections; Section 2.28.340 Ballots-Counting and Tallying.
  - b) Absentee and Questioned ballots cast both at Davidson Landing and City Hall will be counted and read on Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, at 5pm, in accordance with the Thorne Bay Municipal Code Chapter 2.28-Elections, Section 2.28.400 Canvass to be Made Public.
    - i. The canvassing meeting will be broadcasted via Cisco WebEx Live Stream for the public to view.

**PASSED AND APPROVED:** August 26, 2021

  
Cindy Edenfield, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Teri Feibel, CMC

# PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTING VOTING AT DAVIDSON LANDING AS A POLLING PLACE FOR REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2022 AND FUTURE YEARS

**Section 1: Introduction** The City Council adopted Resolution 21-08-26-01, on August 26th, which provided the City Council with three (3) options for administering the 2021 Municipal Election at two polling places while only having one master precinct voter register.

The City Council passed the Resolution selection Option C, which provided for Absentee Voting at Davidson Landing on Election Day and directed the Clerk to work with the State of Alaska, Division of Elections, for splitting the voter register into two registers for future elections. The process for the Clerk to follow for the 2021 and future Municipal Elections is outlined in Section 2.

## **Section 2: Implementation Procedures**

**Step 1: The City will provide Absentee Voting at Davidson Landing on October 5, 2021.**

### **Davidson Landing Absentee Voting October 5, 2021:**

- a) Davidson Landing will serve as an Absentee Voting location for the October 5, 2021, Regular Municipal Election.
- b) The City Council will appoint three registered voters to serve as Absentee Officials for Davidson Landing.
- c) At the close of Davidson Landing Polls, the Absentee Officials shall follow the procedures for closing of the polls as outlined in the Thorne Bay Municipal Code Section 2.28.340 Ballots-Counting and Tallying, Subsection (A).
- d) After accounting for the total ballots cast to the total number of names on the ballot accountability register, ballots will be sealed into an envelope and placed into the Red Bag and locked with a plastic tag.
- e) Ballots will then be transported to the Thorne Bay City Hall and will be processed and counted by the City Election Officials in accordance with normal procedures for these ballots.
- f) Transportation of the Ballots will be done by at least two of the Appointed Election Officials which served at the Davidson Landing Polls, and shall be done as per the procedures outlined in the "Davidson Landing Poll Closing Procedures and Accountability Method"

## IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES FOR DAVIDSON LANDING AS A POLLING PLACE

### g) Ballot Reading:

Results of the Election will be reported from City Hall in the following manner:

- i. Ballots cast at the Polls in City Hall on October 5, 2021, will be counted and read in accordance with the ballot counting procedures outlined in the Thorne Bay Municipal Code Chapter 2.28-Elections; Section 2.28.340 Ballots-Counting and Tallying.
- ii. Absentee and Questioned ballots cast both at Davidson Landing and City Hall will be counted and read on Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, at 5pm, in accordance with the Thorne Bay Municipal Code Chapter 2.28-Elections, Section 2.28.400 Canvass to be Made Public.
  1. The canvassing meeting will be broadcasted via Cisco WebEx Live Stream for the public to view.

### Step 2: Clerk will work with the State of Alaska Division of Elections to split the master precinct voter register:

#### Creating Voter Registers for two (2) City Poll Locations for the 2022 Election:

- a) City Clerk shall work with the Alaska Division of Elections to split the Thorne Bay Master Voter Precinct Register into two registers (Register 1 & Register 2), to be determined by voter registration address.
- b) The Thorne Bay Precinct Voter Register will be divided into two separate registers.
  - i. **Register #1** will include the list of all registered voters that reside in the Northside of the Bay, Float houses and within the Goose Creek Subdivision.
  - ii. **Register #2** will include the list of all registered voters that reside in South Thorne Bay Subdivision, South Arm Subdivision, Thorne Bay Addition #1.
- c) The official Polling Places for Registers 1 & 2 will be as follows:
  - i. **Register #1:** City Hall Council Chambers located at 120 Freeman Drive, Thorne Bay, AK 99919
  - ii. **Register #2:** Davidson Landing, South Thorne Bay Subdivision, Thorne Bay, AK 99919

### Step 3: 2022 - Municipal Polling Location Procedures for Davidson Landing Polling Place

The following procedures will be followed for the closing of the Davidson Landing polling place and processing and counting of all voted ballots, absentee and questioned ballots for the **October 4, 2022, and future Municipal Elections only:**

## IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES FOR DAVIDSON LANDING AS A POLLING PLACE

- a) At the close of Davidson Landing Polls, the Election Judges shall follow the procedures for closing of the polls as outlined in the Thorne Bay Municipal Code Section 2.28.340 Ballots-Counting and Tallying, Subsection (A).
- b) After accounting for the total ballots cast to the total number of names on the ballot accountability register, ballots will be sealed into an envelope and placed into the Red Bag and locked with a plastic tag.
- c) Ballots will then be transported to the Thorne Bay City Hall and will be processed and counted by the City Election Officials in accordance with normal procedures for these ballots.
- d) Transportation of the Ballots will be done by at least two of the Appointed Election Judges which served at the Davidson Landing Polls, and shall be done as per the procedures outlined in the “Davidson Landing Poll Closing Procedures and Accountability Method”
- e) Ballot Reading:

Results of the Election for both City Hall and Davidson Landing Polls will be reported from City Hall in the following manner:

  - i. Ballots cast at City Hall Polls, will be counted and read in accordance with the ballot counting procedures outlined in the Thorne Bay Municipal Code Chapter 2.28.040-Ballots Counting and Tallying
  - ii. Ballots cast at the Davidson Landing Polls, will be counted and read in accordance with the ballot counting procedures outlined in the Thorne Bay Municipal Code Chapter 2.28-Elections; Section 2.28.340 Ballots-Counting and Tallying.
  - iii. Absentee and Questioned ballots cast both at Davidson Landing and City Hall will be counted and read on the Friday following the Municipal Election, in accordance with the Thorne Bay Municipal Code Chapter 2.28-Elections, Section 2.28.400 Canvass to be Made Public.
    1. The canvassing meeting will be broadcasted via Cisco WebEx Live Stream for the public to view.

## IMPLICATIONS ADDRESSED FROM CONCERNS OVER ONE VOTER REGISTER FOR 2021 MUNICIPAL ELECTION:

1. How will the City Clerk ensure that one person does not vote in each polling place?
  - i. By dividing the Precinct Register into two registers based on the voter's address, then a voter would only appear on one register.
  - ii. If a voter's name does not appear on the voter register, they may cast a questioned ballot<sup>1</sup>
  - iii. In the event there is only one register for both polling places, the City election officials will take all necessary steps to ensure that each voter is allowed to vote only once.
2. Could results be reported on Election Night if it was discovered someone voted twice?
  - i. With dividing the precinct register into two registers, it will prevent one's name from appearing on both registers. If the register is not divided into two registers, the steps taken by City election officials to manage voting to ensure voters are allowed to vote once only will work to preserve the integrity of the election.
3. Election Night Reporting: How would accountability from both polling locations be done at the end of the night?
  - i. At the close of Davidson Landing Polls, the Election Judges shall follow the procedures for closing of the polls as outlined in the Thorne Bay Municipal Code Section 2.28.340 Ballots-Counting and Tallying, Subsection (A).
  - ii. After accounting for the total ballots cast to the total number of names on the ballot accountability register, ballots will be sealed into an envelope and placed into the Red Bag and locked with a plastic tag.
  - iii. Ballots will then be transported to the City Hall Polls to be counted in the view of the public and in view of the Online WebEx Video stream.
  - iv. Transportation of the Ballots will be done by at least two of the Appointed Election Judges which served at the Davidson Landing Polls, and shall be done as per the procedures outlined in the "Davidson Landing Poll Closing Procedures and Accountability Method"
4. How would results be reported?
  - i. Results will be reported from City Hall after the closing of the polls and after counting of both the City Hall and Davidson Landing Poll Ballots.

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<sup>1</sup> Questioned Ballots – Questioned ballots are counted by the Canvassing Committee the Friday following the day of the Election. The Canvassing Committee determined whether or not a questioned ballot is counted by verifying with the Division of Election that the person is a registered voter of Thorne Bay and that he/she has not already cast a liveballot in another location.