



KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

Mayor's Office

144 N. Binkley • Soldotna, Alaska 99669

Toll-free within the Borough: 1-800-478-4441

PHONE: (907) 714-2150 • FAX: (907) 714-2377

www.borough.kenai.ak.us

MEMORANDUM

TO: Milli Martin, Assembly President
Members of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly

FROM: David R. Carey, Borough Mayor *DR Carey*

DATE: September 30, 2009

SUBJECT: Ordinance 2009-19- 10, Appropriating \$35,000 in Interest Income from the Spruce Bark Beetle Program for an Emergency Power Generator at the Funny River Community Center

At least 1 million acres of the Kenai Peninsula Borough have been infested with spruce bark beetles during the last 17 years. The increased risk of fire is a major issue resulting from this enormous infestation. Since 1998 Congress has appropriated almost \$15 million for wildland fire mitigation, hazardous tree removal, and other projects designed to minimize the devastation caused by the spruce bark beetle. Interest income on those funds is unrestricted, and the borough currently holds approximately \$510,618 in such interest.

The Funny River Community Center is used as an emergency shelter for local residents. The facility is in need of an emergency power supply. Representatives from the community center have received estimates for a generator and installation and it is understood the project can be completed for \$35,000 or less. The community center will manage the project pursuant to a grant agreement with the borough.

An emergency generator will improve the community center's ability to provide emergency shelter in response to a fire or related emergencies stemming from the spruce bark beetle infestation as well as provide similar services in response to other emergencies in the area it serves. This project will provide a tangible long-term benefit for the borough residents of the Funny River Community and is consistent with the congressional purpose in appropriating the grant funds. Your support of this ordinance is appreciated.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT FUNDS VERIFIED	
\$ 35,000.00	
ACT # <u>262,2700 FB</u>	
BY: <u>C. Chapman</u>	DATE: <u>10/1/09</u>