



## Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce

6488 Klawock-Hollis Highway, Suite #7  
PO Box 490 • Klawock, AK 99925-0490  
Phone: (907) 755-2626 • Fax: (907) 755-2627  
[www.princeofwalescoc.org](http://www.princeofwalescoc.org)

Resolution # 16-06

The Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce, representing more than 250 businesses located on Prince of Wales Island (or having strong ties to Prince of Wales)

**Recognizes** the value of a unified island-wide voice and strongly supports POWCAC's continuing work to build consensus among its members on a wide range of issues affecting Prince of Wales.

**Recognizes** the benefits of strategic planning, budgeting, and forward thinking for our member businesses, so they can better make their business plans.

**Recognizes** there is fear of borough formation and a lack of trust of POWCAC from many members of the public, regardless of the advertising and publicly-held POWCAC- member discussions that have gone on for many years on this subject.

-Applauds the community members who have helped share the information on social media sites.

-Appreciates MistyFitzpatrick's work in setting up the POWCAC.org website.

**Recognizes** the primary concerns of having a borough (based on comments submitted by the public and our membership thus far) seem to be:

Property Taxes, Property Tax liens, Short-sighted Budgeting Tactics, Unneeded Bureaucracy, and Taxing unfairly among industries.

**Recognizes** there might be potential benefits to having a borough, including improved EMS/ Firefighting coverage, voting rights for those living outside of organized communities, and sharing of a shrinking pot of revenues.


**Recognizes** that POWCAC's purpose of writing a draft borough charter is to continue the education of all POWCAC members as to the pros and cons of borough formation, and give all members the opportunity to incorporate their unique criteria into the document.

**Recognizes** that there is NO plan for borough formation at this time.

**Recognizes** that if a borough is ever required, or proposed by an outside interest, that WE want to have our say in how the borough operates. It is important to invest time in this planning, whenever we can find available time, because our lives are busy. We don't want to be caught without a plan in the future, when we might not have the time to react quickly.

**Therefore**, The Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce Resolves to support the Draft Borough Charter in it's current DRAFT form - and recommends it now be set aside on the shelf. We encourage members of POWCAC organizations and the public to continue to study the draft (as available on-line) and submit written comments of suggested changes that can be shelved with the DRAFT, in case it is ever needed in the future.

Approved on May 19, 2016 by the Board of Directors of the Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce

Signed:  \_\_\_\_\_

Sharilyn S. Zellhuber, President  
Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce