

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE**  
**WATERSHED & NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**RESOLUTION NO. 2014-02**

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING AN AMENDMENT TO TITLE 21 PROHIBITING METAL PALISADE FENCES WITH PROJECTING POINTS CAPABLE OF IMPALING OR SNAGGING MOOSE.**

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WHEREAS, the Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission serves in an advisory capacity to the Mayor, the Assembly, the Planning and Zoning Commission, and municipal departments; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality contains thousands of miles of fences of various heights and styles, but relatively few metal palisade fences, although these are increasing; and

WHEREAS, several hundred moose inhabit developed areas within the Municipality; and

WHEREAS, adult moose will attempt to step or jump over fences up to eight feet tall, or even slightly higher in years with a deep snowpack, and adult and calf moose are known to have been killed by metal palisade fences ranging in height from three to seven feet; and

WHEREAS, the pales or points of metal palisade fences can kill moose in at least three different ways: (1) by puncturing the torso and vital organs, leaving the moose impaled on the fence; (2) by puncturing a leg muscle or snagging one or both hind feet between pales, which leaves the moose hanging head down and dying from suffocation or bloat; or (3) by puncturing the abdomen, after which the moose struggles free, to die later from internal bleeding or a systemic infection; and

WHEREAS, despite the best efforts of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to rescue moose impaled or snagged on metal palisade fences, one or two moose are known to be killed by these fences in the Municipality annually, on average, and moose that free themselves are suspected to die later from the injury; and

WHEREAS, as the number of metal palisade fences increases, more moose will be impaled or snagged annually; and

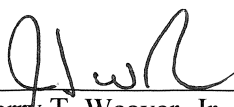
WHEREAS, these mortalities are cruel, unusual, and unnecessary, given that less deadly types of fences are available; and

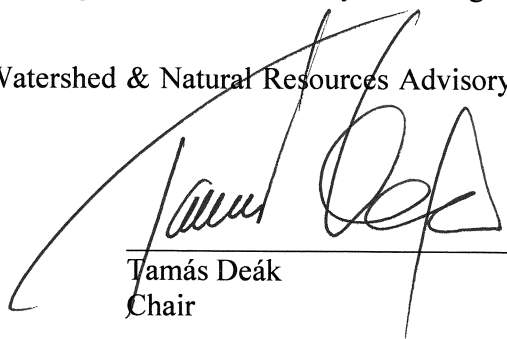
WHEREAS, metal palisade fences can be modified by removing or capping the pales so that there are no projections capable of impaling a moose or snagging hooves; and

WHEREAS, the use and types of fences within the Municipality are regulated by Title 21.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission recommends that Sec. 21.07.080H. of Title 21 be amended to prohibit the use of metal palisade fences unless they are at least nine feet high or are modified by removing or capping the pales.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission this 23rd day of April 2014.

  
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Jerry T. Weaver, Jr.  
Secretary

  
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Tamás Deák  
Chair