WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly ordained the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission (AHPC) with the responsibility to make recommendations to the Mayor and Assembly concerning acquisition of historic property or interests in historic property; and

WHEREAS, the Wireless Station was Anchorage’s sole communication link to the outside world between 1917 and 1931; and

WHEREAS, the Wireless Station has been determined by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, the Wireless Station is being considered for acquisition by the Municipality under historic monument purposes pursuant to Section 203(k)(3) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (63 Stat. 387), as amended, (40 U.S.C. 484(k)(3)) and in accordance with rules and regulations of the Department of Interior, for transfer of the Wireless Station which has been declared surplus and is subject to assignment to the Secretary of the Interior for the disposal of historic monument purposes; and

WHEREAS, municipal acquisition of the Wireless Station is contingent upon finding a suitable lessee for the Wireless Station; and

WHEREAS, the Wireless Station is in need of much stabilization and maintenance work to make it a useable building; and

WHEREAS, Anchorage Historic Properties, Inc. (AHPI), an Anchorage non-profit preservation organization, desires to lease the Wireless Station and rehabilitate it in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties; and

WHEREAS, AHPI submitted a historic preservation plan for the Wireless Station to the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission has reviewed the plan to ensure that APHI adheres to applicable historic preservation laws; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission believes that best preservation of historic buildings occurs when they are used; and

WHEREAS, the preservation of the Wireless Station aligns with the goals and vision of the [draft] Anchorage Historic Preservation Plan.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission that:

A. The Commission recommends that:

1. The Municipality signs the proposed application to acquire the historic Wireless Station, which has been declared a surplus federal property, through a transfer of title from the United States General Services Administration without monetary consideration.

2. The Municipality enter into a lease agreement with Anchorage Historic Properties, Inc. (AHPI), subject to the conditions below:

a. The Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission be provided a copy of the lease from the Municipality of Anchorage to AHPI. The Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission shall be allowed an opportunity to review and/or comment on the lease agreement, future renewals, and/or any sub-leases or lease transfers.

b. Anchorage Historic Properties, Inc., shall allow the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission opportunity to review and comment on any proposed changes to the preservation plan for the Wireless Station.

c. Anchorage Historic Properties, Inc., be required to provide regular updates on the progress/status of the project.

d. Anchorage Historic Properties, Inc., be required to consult with the Anchorage Historic Preservation Commission, the State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Government Hill Community Council during the planning and rehabilitation process.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Historic Preservation Commission this 23rd day of March 2011.

Jerry F. Weaver, Jr.
Secretary

Julie Jessen
Chair