

**CITY OF CRAIG
ORDINANCE No. 715**

ADDING SECTION 2.04.165 OF THE CRAIG MUNICIPAL CODE, REGARDING
COUNCIL PARTICIPATION IN COUNCIL MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCE

Section 1. Classification. This ordinance is of a general and permanent nature and the code sections adopted hereby shall become a part of the code of the City of Craig, Alaska.

Section 2. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this ordinance and the application to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Section 4. Action. This ordinance adds Section 2.04.165 of the Craig Municipal Code by adding the underlined text, as follows:

2.04.165 Teleconference Participation

A. The use of teleconferencing at council meetings is for the convenience of government officials and the public. Teleconference participation by the mayor, council members and the public is authorized by AS 44.62.310(a) and 44.62.312. While physical presence of the mayor, council members and the public is the preferred method of participation at council meetings, the mayor, council members, and the public are allowed to participate at council meetings in the following manner:

1. Participation of Mayor and Council Members by Teleconference.

a. Any council member may participate in any council meeting by teleconference. Teleconference participation is solely at the discretion of the council member who requests this method of participation if the council member is out of town or non-ambulatory. The council member shall notify the clerk to arrange for teleconference participation by four p.m. on the Friday before the Thursday regular council meeting, and at least twelve hours before any special council meeting.

b. The mayor, or the presiding officer in the absence of the mayor, may also participate in any council meeting by teleconference. The mayor, or the

presiding officer in the absence of the mayor, shall notify the clerk to arrange for teleconference participation by four p.m. on the Friday before the Thursday regular meeting, and at least twelve hours before any special meeting. However, the mayor, or the presiding officer in the absence of the mayor, shall not preside over the council meeting when participating by teleconference.

c. The mayor and any council member participating by teleconference shall be deemed to be present at the meeting for all purposes, including for quorum and voting, except as provided in subsection (A)(1)(b) of this section.

d. The mayor and any council member participating by teleconference shall have the same right to participate in any matter as if physically present at the council meeting, executive sessions, adjudicatory matters, and presentations. Reasonable efforts shall be made to make available to the mayor and any council member participating by teleconference any pertinent documents that are to be discussed and/or acted upon, including the council packet.

e. The mayor and any council member participating by teleconference shall have the same right to vote on any matter as if physically present at the council meeting. All voting at the meeting shall be by roll call vote. The council member who is participating by teleconference, or the mayor when participating by teleconference, determines whether the member or the mayor has had the opportunity to evaluate all pertinent information, including any testimony and/or evidence, and is prepared to vote.

f. Teleconference participation at any council meeting is limited to four times a year by each council member or by the mayor.

g. Each council member and the Mayor may attend additional teleconferences as a special exception if expressly approved for good cause in each instance by a vote of the Council. Good cause may include, but is not limited to, absence required for extended medical care needed for the individual or the individual's immediate family.

Passed and approved this 6th day of Dec, 2018.

Tim O'Connor

Mayor Timothy O'Connor

Kassi Mackie

Kassi Mackie, City Clerk

