



# MEMORANDUM

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## Business License Report

**Item Type:** Informational Memorandum  
**Prepared For:** Mayor Castner and Homer City Council  
**Date:** March 1, 2024  
**From:** Council Member Venuti

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A short meeting was held in the Council chambers with City Manager, Karin Marks (EDC) and me.

For discussion was business licenses. It appears we are one of the few communities that lack business licenses.

First, we listed what business licenses could provide to the city.

- \*Good way to collect data about addresses and zones of Homer businesses
- \*Contact numbers for any emergencies
- \*Safety component/ADA compliant
- \* Sales tax would increase

Presently we do have licenses for Food Trucks, taxis and itinerant businesses.

Historically there was an Ordinance 11-01 proposed in 2011 requiring a business license to engage in business in the City of Homer. This was defeated.

It was agreed the way to have an ordinance that would pass is to lay it all out, so it is clear. It was mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce could be a place to get information out clearly along with maybe being part of a local radio programs.

Caroline will explore writing a Resolution regarding Business Licenses with the help of Rob for one of the Council meetings in April (the 8<sup>th</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup>).

**RECOMMENDATION:** Informational Only.

1 **CITY OF HOMER**  
2 **HOMER, ALASKA**

Venuti

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4 **RESOLUTION 24-xx**

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6 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA  
7 PROVIDING DIRECTION TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
8 COMMISSION REGARDING THE RESUMPTION OF A BUSINESS  
9 LICENSING PROGRAM

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11 WHEREAS, The City does not currently have a business licensing program; and

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13 WHEREAS, The adoption of a business licensing program has the potential to provide  
14 value by enhancing public safety, ensuring compliance with existing regulations, and providing  
15 opportunities for connections between the City and businesses to provide support and deliver  
16 public education; and

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18 WHEREAS, The City Council chose “champions” for various City projects at a regular  
19 meeting held on October 23, 2023; and

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21 WHEREAS, The investigation of a Citywide business license was a project to which  
22 Mayor Castner, Councilmember Venuti, and Economic Development Commission Chair Marks  
23 were assigned champions; and

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25 WHEREAS, The champions have met to discuss the potential scope of a business license  
26 program but wish to have the Economic Development Commission take time to discuss and  
27 develop the idea further; and

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29 WHEREAS, The Council wishes to memorialize direction to the Economic Development  
30 Commission via resolution to ensure clarity for the Commission and the Public regarding the  
31 Council’s intent.

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33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Homer, Alaska requests that  
34 the Economic Development Commission investigate the concept of a business licensing  
35 program which considers or achieves the following:

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  - The proper level of license requirements
  - Potential costs of licensure
  - Outreach to the Chamber of Commerce and business community
  - ...

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43 PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Homer City Council this \_\_\_\_th day of \_month\_, year.  
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CITY OF HOMER

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KEN CASTNER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK