



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

ALASKA

MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Aubrey Wegeleben, City Clerk

CC: Phillip Zavadil, City Manager; Stephanie Mandregan, Finance Director

DATE: January 13, 2024

RE: Resolution 24-03 - A Resolution of the Council of the City of Saint Paul Rescinding Resolution 21-10 and Indefinitely Suspending City Personnel Policy 10.34 – Employee COVID-19 Vaccination

SUMMARY: Our community, state, and country are in a different place regarding COVID-19 and the majority of individuals that have chosen to be vaccinated for COVID-19 have done so already. City should consider suspending the COVID-19 employee vaccination requirement.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: City Council did not approve Resolution 23-17 in September 2023, which would have rescinded Resolution 21-10.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION: The initial adoption on September 1, 2021 of Personnel Policy 10.34 – Employee COVID-19 Vaccination was a necessary component of the City’s overall strategy and commitment to maintaining a safe and healthy workplace during the COVID-19 pandemic to further protect the health of City employees, their families, and the community from COVID-19. The Federal government ended the COVID-19 public health emergency on May 11, 2023. The City of Saint Paul COVID-19 emergency declaration ended on March 14, 2023. With a dwindling qualified workforce on the island, the City should be situated to hire qualified individuals for employment opportunities that may become available in the future. The City Council may elect to reinstate this policy if there was another declared COVID emergency.

ALTERNATIVES: City Council could choose not to approve this resolution.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Unknown savings for recruiting qualified candidates off island for various City employment opportunities that become available.

LEGAL: Resolution 24-03 has been reviewed by the City’s legal counsel.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION: Approval of this Resolution is recommended.

PROPOSED MOTION: I move to approve Resolution 24-03.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution 24-03, Resolution 21-10.