



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

Assembly Memorandum

No. AM 654-2024

Meeting Date: August 27, 2024

1 **FROM: MAYOR**

2
3 **SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENT - CONFIRMATION HEARING.**

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5 Pursuant to the Municipality of Anchorage Charter in sections 5.02, 5.03 through
6 5.05 and the Anchorage Municipal Code sections 2.30.095, 3.20.020, and 3.20.070,
7 I ask the Assembly to confirm the following executive and department head that I
8 have appointed:

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
11 Ona Brause	12 Management and Budget Director

13 Resume submitted in accordance with Anchorage Municipal Code section 3.30.173
14 is attached for your information.

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16 **THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.**

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18 Prepared by: David Samsa, Human Resources Executive Assistant
19 Approved by: Tyler Andrews, Chief Human Resources Officer
20 Concur: William D. Falsey, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
21 Concur: Rebecca A. Windt Pearson, Municipal Manager
22 Respectfully submitted: Suzanne LaFrance, Mayor

Ona R. Brause

Anchorage, AK 99507

Highly accomplished administrative officer and change agent with 15+ years of motivational leadership and critical decision-making in challenging, fast-paced work environments. Known for insightful legislative and policy analysis, being an effective liaison at all levels, and establishing stellar public partnerships and outreach. Accustomed to administering the complex finances and coordinating the administrative activities of large civic departments comprising multi-disciplinary, cross-functional teams. Exceptional interpersonal, communications, and team-mentoring skills.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Strategic Planning & Execution
- Regulatory Compliance
- Financial Administration
- Public Policy Analysis
- Relationship Management
- Contract Negotiation
- Budgeting & Forecasting
- Public Outreach & Engagement
- Collaborative Teamwork

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PRINCIPAL/OWNER | Front Range Group LLP, Anchorage, AK **2021 - Current**

Owner and principal consultant for strategic advisory firm specializing in local and state government operations, policy, and project development.

CHIEF OF STAFF | Municipality of Anchorage, Anchorage, AK **2017 - 2020**

Provided executive guidance, policy development, financial management, and support to the mayor and directors overseeing the work of 3,000 employees serving 300,000 residents. Administered ~ \$520 million annual operating budget. Nurtured and maintained effective working relationships and engagement with the city manager, senior staff, national partners, public-private partnerships, Assembly members, the community, and other stakeholders.

- Directly supervised 15 permanent staff and indirect supervision of over 100 permanent staff working on public safety, facility management, parks and recreation, library services, health and human services, and maintenance and operations of municipal infrastructure.
- Oversaw negotiation and public engagement over three years related to \$1 billion sale of Municipal Light & Power electric utility to Chugach Electric Association, Inc.
- Member of core leadership in the Emergency Operations Center during immediate recovery from the 2018 Cook Inlet earthquake.
- Executed strategic plan to create, pass and implement Anchorage's first Municipal Climate Action Plan in partnership with University of Alaska Anchorage.
- Facilitated the expansion of the Anchorage Police Department by 100+ officers, resulting in a decrease in local crime rates.

Continued...

Ona R. Brause

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DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF | Municipality of Anchorage, Anchorage, AK

2015 - 2017

Collaborated with the municipal chief of staff in the administration of intergovernmental affairs, municipal utilities, Port of Alaska, energy efficiency and resilience, boards and commissions, SAP enterprise software, and budgeting.

- Developed and put forward annual municipal budgets of \$500+ million for general operating and capital programs; included budget reduction measures developed in collaboration with department directors and field staff.
- Served as liaison to the Office of the Governor and Alaska Legislature for coordination on municipal priorities for capital funding and legislative changes.
- Worked with Human Resources to improve employee morale, health and retirement benefits, employee work conditions and undertake efforts to increase workforce diversity.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS | Intelligent Energy Systems, LLC, Anchorage, AK 2009 - 2015

Developed budgets for community-scale renewable energy projects in rural Alaska, liaised with impacted communities, and fostered strong, sustainable relationships with federal, state, and commercial entities. Oversaw all company operations and financial management.

- Led innovative program development and funding acquisition for energy projects including wind turbines, battery storage, microgrids, and residential thermal storage.
- Secured and administered \$25+ million in state and federal grants.
- Directed company workflow to optimize productivity and staff retention; supervised three office and field employees.

EARLY CAREER EXPERIENCE

Director of Finance | Croft for Mayor, Anchorage, AK

Campaign Manager | Berkowitz for Congress and Crawford for State House, Anchorage, AK

Legislative Aide | Offices of House Minority Leader and House Finance Member, Juneau and Anchorage, AK

Research & Operations Director | Ivan Moore Research, Anchorage, AK

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Statistics | Boston University, Boston, MA

AWARDS

Aurora Award for Crisis Communications | Public Relations Society of America, Alaska Chapter, 2019