WHEREAS: on March 11, 2020, Alaska Governor Mike Dunleavy, under the authority granted by Alaska Statute 26.23.050(c), issued a declaration of public health disaster emergency in response to the anticipated COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS: Governor Dunleavy has issued subsequent COVID-19 Health Mandates to prevent or slow the spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS: the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services has certified that it is highly probable that an outbreak of COVID-19 will occur in Alaska in the near future within the definition “disaster” codified at Alaska Statute 26.23.900(2)(E); and

WHEREAS: the imminent threat of an outbreak of COVID-19 will significantly affect the life and health of the residents of the Northwest Arctic Borough; and

WHEREAS: under Chapter 12.16 of the Borough Code, the Mayor is responsible for meeting dangers presented by disasters to the Borough and its people and may issue orders, proclamations, and regulations to address those disasters; and

WHEREAS, a Borough-wide response authorized under Chapter 2.56 is needed to fully address this condition of public health importance.

THEREFORE on this 18th day of March, 2020, under the authority granted by NABC § 12.16.060, I hereby declare that a condition of public health disaster emergency exists in the Northwest Arctic Borough, and this condition is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a public health disaster emergency declaration in order to provide assistance and take necessary action.

FURTHER, this declaration allows the Borough to request assistance from the State of Alaska, including funds, services, or materials deemed necessary to meet needs stemming from COVID-19.
FURTHER, this declaration authorizes the Mayor to implement measures necessary to prevent the spread of disease, and to mitigate the effects of COVID-19.

Lucy S. Nelson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Stella Atoruk, Borough Clerk