WHEREAS, Thanksgiving Day is a time each year, dating back many centuries, when we lay aside the troubles and disagreements of the day and bow our heads in humble recognition of the providence bestowed upon our Nation; and

WHEREAS, President George Washington declared the first Thanksgiving in America, recounting the blessings of tranquility, union, and plenty that shined upon our young country. In the dark days of the Civil War when the fate of our Union was in doubt, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a Thanksgiving Day, calling for "the Almighty hand" to heal and restore our Nation; and

WHEREAS, while Thanksgiving is a time to gather in a spirit of gratitude with family, friends, and neighbors, it is also an opportunity to serve others and to share our blessings with those in need; and

WHEREAS, this Thanksgiving, thousands of our men and women in uniform will sit down for a meal far from their loved ones and the comforts of home. We honor their service and sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, this Thanksgiving Day, let us be mindful of the reasons we are grateful for our lives, for those around us, and for our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, Bryce Ward, Mayor of the Fairbanks North Star Borough, Jim Matherly, Mayor of the City of Fairbanks, and Michael Welch, Mayor of the City of North Pole, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 26th, 2020 as:

Thanksgiving Day

And urge the residents of our community, and communities across the country, to give thanks for the many blessings we receive.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands this 1st day of November 2020.

Bryce Ward, Mayor
Fairbanks North Star Borough

Jim Matherly, Mayor
City of Fairbanks

Michael Welch, Mayor
City of North Pole

April Trickey, Borough Clerk