

07/23/2024

ORDINANCE NO. M-4453

A salary schedule in the form of an ordinance relating to the salary of the Mayor and City Councilmembers, and adopted by the Vancouver Citizen's Commission on Mayor/Council Salaries on July 23, 2024, pursuant to Section 2.18 of the Vancouver City Charter; setting the salaries for the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, and City Councilmembers for the 2025-2026 Biennium; and providing for an effective date.

WHEREAS, by vote of the citizens of Vancouver on November 8, 1994, a new Section 2.18 was added to the Vancouver City Charter creating a Vancouver Citizen's Commission on Mayor/Council Salaries, also known as the Salary Review Commission, to set the salaries of the City Mayor and City Councilmembers, which City Charter has been amended from time to time by a vote of the people and most recently on November 5, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners have been duly appointed by the Mayor, with the approval of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, since 1995, the Commission has approved the initial Mayor and Council salary schedules in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-3181; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has approved revised schedules for the 1997-1998 biennium in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-3240, and for the 1999-2000 biennium in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-3362, and for the 2001-2002

biennium in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-3486, and for the 2003-2004 biennium in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-3583, and for the 2005-2006 biennium in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-3649, and for the 2007-2008 biennium in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-3744, and for the 2009-2010 biennium in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-3873, and for the 2011-2012 biennium in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-3948, and for the 2013-2014 biennium in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-4010, and for the 2017-2018 biennium in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-4073 amended by M-4174, and for the 2019-2020 biennium in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-4227, and for the 2021-2022 biennium in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-4294, and for the 2023-2024 biennium in the form of an ordinance designated as Ordinance M-4376, all codified in Chapter 2.07 VMC.

WHEREAS, Charter Section 2.18 provides that the Commission is to file a schedule of annual salaries for the Mayor and City Councilmembers in applicable years so as to coincide with the City's budget cycle; and

WHEREAS, the planning process for the City's biennial budget for 2025-2026 commenced in early 2024; and

WHEREAS, as evaluated during the series of public meetings conducted by the Commission reviewing objective information, including the Consumer Price Index for Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for the West Region as established by the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics for the prior two years, established as 4.7% for the year ending March 2023 and 3.7% for the year ending March 2024, equal to an average of 4.25% for the prior two years and prescribed by the City Charter as the annual salary increase, along with other relevant

economic information including but not limited to City employee salary increases for the 2023-2024 biennium, comparable salaries and wage increases in similarly situated Washington council-manager cities, the City's goals for expanding diversity, equity, and inclusion in its Council representation of the community, and data related to City Council work hours, public service functions and board or council membership, the Commission has studied the relationship of the salaries to the duties of the Mayor and City Councilmembers and has held public meetings and public hearings as required by Charter and state law; and

WHEREAS, the Commission is acutely aware of the City's projected 2025-26 budget deficit of \$43 million and City Council's current consideration of various potential revenue increases and departmental budget cuts and therefore has determined not to increase elected official salaries for the 2025-2026 biennium;

WHEREAS, after a first and second public hearing on the proposed salary schedule ordinance, held respectively on July 16, 2024 and July 23, 2024, the Commission by an affirmative vote of not less than a majority of the Commission, duly approved the schedules of salaries for the Mayor and City Councilmembers for the 2025-2026 biennium in the form of this ordinance in conformity with Charter Section 2.18; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2024, following the final public hearing, the Salary Review Commission, by motion, determined to freeze salaries for calendar year 2025 as follows: to an annual salary of approximately \$29,688 for the position of Councilmember, to an annual salary of approximately \$33,000 for the position of Mayor Pro Tempore, and to an annual salary of approximately \$37,956 for the position of Mayor; and

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2024, at such public hearing, the Salary Review Commission, by the same motion, determined to freeze salaries for calendar year 2026 as follows: to an annual

salary of approximately \$29,688 for the position of Councilmember, to an annual salary of approximately \$33,000 for the position of Mayor Pro Tempore, and to an annual salary of approximately \$37,956 for the position of Mayor; and

WHEREAS, in conformity with Charter Section 2.18, the Salary Review Commission has duly approved the schedules of salaries for the Mayor and City Councilmembers for the 2025-2026 biennium.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ESTABLISHED FOR THE CITY OF VANCOUVER:

Section 1. Section 1 of Ordinance M-3181, last amended by Ordinance M-4376, currently codified at VMC 2.07.010, is amended to read as follows:

2.07.010 Councilmembers.

Council Salaries. The compensation accruing to the office of city councilmember for any person holding such office shall be \$750 each month during the city's 1997-1998 biennium, commencing January 1, 1997; shall be \$1,050 each month during the City's 1999-2000 biennium, commencing January 1, 1999; shall be \$1,260 each month during the City's 2001-2002 biennium, commencing January 1, 2001; shall be \$1,260 each month during the City's 2003-2004 biennium, commencing January 1, 2003; and shall be \$1,260 each month during the City's 2005-2006 biennium, commencing January 1, 2005, and shall be \$1,665 each month during the City's 2007-2008 biennium, commencing January 1, 2007, and shall be \$1,781 each month during the City's 2009-2010 biennium, commencing January 1, 2009; and shall be \$1,781 each month during the City's 2011-2012 biennium, commencing January 1, 2011; and shall be \$1,781 each month during the City's 2013-2014 biennium, commencing January 1, 2013; and shall be \$1,800 each month during the City's 2015-2016 biennium, commencing January 1, 2015; and shall be \$1872 each month during calendar year 2017 of the City's 2017-2018 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2017, and, shall be \$1947 during calendar year 2018 of the City's 2017-2018 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2018; and shall be \$1872 each month during calendar year 2017 of the City's 2017-2018 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2017, and, shall be \$1947 during calendar year 2018 of the City's 2017-2018 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2018; and shall be \$2005 each month during calendar year 2019 of the City's 2019-2020 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2019, and shall be \$2045 during calendar year 2020 of the City's 2019-2020 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2020; and shall be \$2045 during the calendar years 2021 and 2022 of the City's biennium, commencing on January 1, 2021; and shall be \$2,250 each month during calendar year 2023 of the City's 2023-2024 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2023, and shall be \$2,474 during calendar year 2024 of the City's 2023-2024 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2024; and shall be \$2,474 each month

during calendar year 2025 of the City's 2025-2026 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2025, and shall be \$2,474 during calendar year 2026 of the City's 2025-2026 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2026.

Section 2. Section 1 of Ordinance M-3181, last amended by Ordinance M-4376 and currently codified at VMC 2.07.015, is amended to read as follows:

2.07.015 Mayor Pro Tempore.

Mayor Pro Tempore Salary. The compensation accruing to the office of the city councilmember elected to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore for any person holding such office shall be \$2,000 each month during the City's 2009-2010 biennium, commencing January 1, 2009; and shall be \$2,000 each month during the City's 2011-2012 biennium, commencing January 1, 2011; and shall be \$2,000 each month during the City's 2013-2014 biennium, commencing January 1, 2013; and shall be \$2,000 each month during the City's 2015-2016 biennium, commencing January 1, 2015; and shall be \$2080 each month during calendar year 2017 of the City's 2017-2018 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2017, and, shall be \$2163 each month during calendar year 2018 of the City's 2017-2018 biennium commencing on January 1, 2018; and shall be \$2,228 each month during calendar year 2019 of the City's 2019-2020 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2019, and, shall be \$2,273 during calendar year 2020 of the City's 2019-2020 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2020; and shall be \$2,273 each month during the calendar years of the 2021 and 2022 of the City's biennium, commencing on January 1, 2021; and shall be \$2,500 each month during calendar year 2023 of the City's 2023-2024 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2023, and shall be \$2,750 during calendar year 2024 of the City's 2023-2024 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2024; and shall be \$2,750 each month during calendar year 2025 of the City's 2025-2026 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2025, and shall be \$2,750 during calendar year 2026 of the City's 2025-2026 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2026.

Section 3. Section 1 of Ordinance M-3181, last amended by Ordinance M-4376 and currently codified as VMC 2.07.020, is amended to read as follows:

2.07.020 Mayor.

Mayor's Salary. Compensation accruing to the office of mayor for any person holding such office shall be \$1,150 each month during the city's 1997-1998 biennium, commencing January 1, 1997; shall be \$1,450 each month during the city's 1999-2000 biennium, commencing January 1, 1999; shall be \$1,885 each month during the City's 2001-2002 biennium, commencing January 1, 2001; and shall be \$1,885 each month during the city's 2003-2004 biennium, commencing January 1, 2003; and shall be \$1,885 each month during the City's 2005-2006 biennium, commencing January 1, 2005, and shall be \$2,075 each month during the City's 2007-2008 biennium, commencing January 1, 2007, and shall be \$2,220 each month during the City's 2009-2010 biennium, commencing January 1, 2009; and shall be \$2,220 each month during the City's 2011-2012 biennium, commencing January 1, 2011; and shall be \$2,200 each month during the City's 2013-2014 biennium, commencing January 1, 2013; and shall be \$2,300 each month during the City's 2015-2016 biennium, commencing January 1, 2015; and shall be \$2,392 each

month during calendar year 2017 of the City’s 2017-2018 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2017, and, shall be \$2,488 during calendar year 2018 of the City’s 2017-2018 biennium commencing on January 1, 2018; and shall be \$2,563 each month during calendar year 2019 of the City’s 2019-2020 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2019, and, shall be \$2,614 during calendar year 2020 of the City’s 2019-2020 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2020; and shall be \$2,614 each month during the calendar years of the 2021 and 2022 of the City’s biennium, commencing on January 1, 2021; and shall be \$2,875 each month during calendar year 2023 of the City’s 2023-2024 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2023, and shall be \$3,163 during calendar year 2024 of the City’s 2023-2024 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2024; and shall be \$3,163 each month during calendar year 2025 of the City’s 2025-2026 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2025, and shall be \$3,163 during calendar year 2026 of the City’s 2025-2026 biennium, commencing on January 1, 2026.

Section 4. The foregoing salaries shall be in effect until a salary goes into effect in the 2027-2028 biennium pursuant to Charter Section 2.18.

Section 5. Effective Date. The provisions of this schedule shall become effective thirty (30) days from its filing with the City Clerk.

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE by the Vancouver Citizen’s Commission on Mayor/Council Salaries: July 23, 2024.

SIGNED this _____ day of July, 2024.

By: Greg Chaimov, Chair
Vancouver Citizen’s Commission on
Mayor/Council Salaries

Attest:

Approved as to form:

Natasha Ramras, City Clerk

Jonathan Young, City Attorney

SUMMARY

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The full text of this ordinance will be mailed upon request. Contact Raelyn Robinson-McJilton, Records Officer at 487-8711, or via www.cityofvancouver.us (Go to Government and Public Records Request).