

ORDINANCE NO. 13-13

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 8-97 TO REVISE THE SALARIES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS; ESTABLISHING A COMPENSATION IMPLEMENTATION DATE; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, RCW 35A.13.040 directs that the salaries of the city's mayor and councilmembers be fixed by ordinance and may be revised from time to time by ordinance; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 35A.13.040, implementation of an ordinance adjusting the compensation of either the mayor or councilmember positions must be delayed until a position has passed the next election following adoption of said ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the city council previously passed Ordinance No. 8-97 on June 10, 1997, which set the salaries of the mayor and councilmembers during their initial term of office; and

WHEREAS, the city council subsequently passed Ordinance No. 19-99 on July 20, 1999, revising the mayor's compensation from \$187.50 per month to \$500.00 per month and the councilmembers' compensation from \$150.00 per month to \$450.00 per month based upon the salaries paid to the mayors and councilmembers of comparable cities surveyed in 1999; and

WHEREAS, taking into account the results of a survey, conducted by city staff in 2013, of mayor and councilmembers' compensation in comparable cities and presented to the city council for their discussion at the council's regular meeting of October 29, 2013; the significant time commitment and workload demands placed upon said elected officials to attend a multitude of council, local, and regional meetings; and because it has been fourteen years since the city council revised the compensation for the mayor and councilmember positions, the city council has determined that the mayor and councilmember compensation established by Ordinance No. 19-99 is no longer on par with those of comparable cities and it is, therefore, appropriate that the current salary structure be revised;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Amendment to Ordinance No. 8-97. Section 1 of Ordinance No. 8-97 shall be and hereby is amended in whole part to read as follows:

Section 1. Salaries of the Mayor and Councilmembers. City councilmembers shall each be paid compensation at the rate of \$150.00 per month. The Mayor shall be paid compensation at the rate of \$187.50 per month. Commencing January 1, 2000, city councilmembers shall each be paid monthly compensation at the rate of \$450.00 and the mayor shall be paid monthly compensation at the rate of \$500.00. Commencing January 1, 2014, the base rate of compensation for each and every councilmember position shall

be \$600.00 per month and the appointed position of mayor shall receive an additional stipend of \$200.00 per month. Also commencing January 1, 2014, an annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) shall be applied to the councilmember base compensation rate in the same manner as applied to city staff compensation. The annual COLA shall not apply to the appointed mayor's additional stipend. The compensation schedule as provided hereinabove is in addition to other benefits provided the council by ordinance or resolution including, but not limited to, social security replacement and life insurance.

Section 2. Implementation Dates of Compensation Increases. In accordance with RCW 35A.13.040, requiring implementation of an ordinance adjusting the compensation of either the mayor or councilmember positions to be delayed until a position has passed the next election following adoption of such ordinance, the councilmember compensation established in this ordinance shall be implemented on January 1, 2016, for Council Position Nos. 1, 3, 5 and 7; and shall be implemented on January 1, 2018, for Council Position Nos. 2, 4 and 6. The additional stipend for the position of mayor shall either be implemented on January 1, 2016, if the councilmember appointed mayor on that same date holds Council Position No. 1, 3, 5, or 7; or shall be implemented on January 1, 2018, if the councilmember appointed mayor on January 1, 2016, holds Council Position No. 2, 4, or 6.

Section 3. Corrections. Upon the approval of the City Attorney, the City Clerk is authorized to make any necessary corrections to this ordinance including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerkal errors, references, ordinance numbering, section/subsection numbers, and any reference thereto.

Section 4. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance, or ordinance modified by it is determined to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provision of this ordinance and ordinances and/or resolutions modified by it shall remain in force and effect.

Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect five (5) days after its passage, approval, posting, and publication as provided by law. A summary of this ordinance may be published in lieu of publishing the ordinance in its entirety.

PASSED by the city council of the City of Covington on this 26th day of November, 2013.



Mayor Margaret Harto

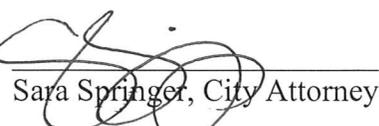
ATTESTED:



Sharon Scott, City Clerk

PUBLISHED: December 6, 2013
EFFECTIVE: December 11, 2013

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Sara Springer, City Attorney