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**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

Burgess/Lewis/Roberts

ORDINANCE 14-17(A)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF HOMER, ALASKA,
AMENDING HOMER CITY CODE 2.08.040.M REGARDING
COMPENSATION FOR THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL, AND
AMENDING THE FY 2014 OPERATING BUDGET BY
APPROPRIATING \$8,775.00 FROM THE GENERAL FUND - FUND
BALANCE FOR MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER
COMPENSATION.

WHEREAS, The functioning of a vital, just, resilient and truly representative democracy requires that all citizens have equitable and economically viable avenues to participate in government and to hold elected office, if duly elected; and

WHEREAS, The median income of the current Mayor and Council Members probably is markedly higher than the median income of their constituents; and

WHEREAS, The office of Mayor or Council Member is not attainable or tenable for a person of limited or even moderate economic means without minimum levels of compensation; and

WHEREAS, The Laws of the State of Alaska and the United States of America require minimum levels of pay and compensation be paid for work or services performed; and

WHEREAS, Reasonable and thoughtful execution of the duties of the office of Mayor or Council Member requires at least 6 to 9 hours of work per meeting in the form of participating at City Council meetings, reading 250 to 600+ pages of City Council packets and other related documents on a monthly or per meeting basis, being available to the public and City staff to answer questions and listen to concerns, crafting legislation, reviewing legal briefs, serving from time to time as a member of the Board of Adjustment, and all of the other duties and obligations associated with the office of Mayor or Council Member; and

WHEREAS, Current levels of Mayor and Council Member compensation are 200% lower than levels 8 years ago, and those levels were reduced in a time of severe economic recession and dire budgetary constraints; and

WHEREAS, Compensation for the work performed by the Mayor and Council Members ideally should be correlated with measurable time and personal resources invested in executing the duties of office; and

44 WHEREAS, Socio-economic and political circumstances in which we live and govern
45 demand a continually increasing amount of time, energy, professional knowledge, and
46 expertise in order to effectively represent and safeguard the concerns and interests of the
47 Citizens of Homer; and
48

49 WHEREAS, AS 29.20.620 authorizes the Council by ordinance to provide a method of
50 determining the salaries of elected officials, provided that the salary stipend of the Mayor may
51 not be reduced during the term of office of the Mayor.
52

53 NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF HOMER ORDAINS:
54

55 Section 1. Homer City Code 2.08.040(m) is amended to read as follows:
56

57 m. Salaries of Elected Officials.

58 1. The Mayor and each Council Member shall be paid a salary stipend of
59 \$75 for each council-meeting-day in which the person participates in person, or \$50 per
60 council-meeting-day in which a majority of the person's participation time is
61 telephonic. A council-meeting-day is any calendar day in which the person participates
62 in any one or more of the following:

63 a. A scheduled and publically noticed meeting of the City Council,
64 including without limitation a regular meeting, special meeting, committee of
65 the whole meeting and meeting in executive session.

66 b. A scheduled and publically noticed meeting of the Board of
67 Adjustment, Board of Ethics, or other board or commission that is composed of
68 the Mayor and Council Members.

69 c. Training or continuing education programs, and work sessions,
70 that are required by law or commonly recognized best practice to perform the
71 duties of Mayor or Council Member.

72 ~~The Council may fix by ordinance the salaries of elected officials. The Council members will~~
73 ~~receive a \$50.00 nonwage stipend per month during their term of office as a reimbursement~~
74 ~~for expenses and the Mayor at \$75.00 per month. The City shall not spend any funds for elected~~
75 ~~officials' membership in the Public Employees Retirement System. An elected official may not~~
76 ~~receive any other compensation for service to the City municipality unless specifically~~
77 ~~authorized to do so by ordinance. Per diem payments or reimbursements for expenses are not~~
78 ~~compensation under this section.~~

79 2. In lieu of receiving compensation under this subsection, the Mayor or a
80 Council Member may direct the City Clerk in writing to distribute some or all of the
81 person's compensation to the General Fund or to The Homer Foundation or another
82 nonprofit or charitable organization operating on the Southern Kenai Peninsula.
83

84 Section 2. The compensation provided in Section 1 above applies to service as Mayor or
85 Council Member commencing the first day of the first calendar month following the calendar
86 month in which this ordinance is enacted, and as of that date replaces all forms of

87 compensation previously payable for service as Mayor or Council Member, other than
88 reimbursement for expenses incurred in performing official duties.

89
90 Section 3. The FY 2014 Operating Budget is amended by appropriating \$7,500 from the
91 General Fund, Fund Balance for Mayor and Council Member compensation as described below:
92

93 Expenditure:

94 <u>Account No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
95 100-0100	Mayor and Council Member Compensation	\$8,775.00

96
97
98
99 Section 4. Section 1 of this Ordinance is of a permanent and general character and shall
100 be included in the City Code. Section 3 of this Ordinance is a budget amendment, is not
101 permanent in nature, and shall not be codified.
102

103 ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA, this ____ day
104 of May 2014.

105
106 CITY OF HOMER

107
108
109
110 _____
111 MARY E. WYTHE, MAYOR

112 ATTEST:

113
114
115 _____
116 JO JOHNSON, MMC, CITY CLERK

117
118
119 AYES:
120 NOES:
121 ABSTAIN:
122 ABSENT:

123
124
125 First Reading:
126 Public Reading:
127 Second Reading:
128 Effective Date:
129

130 Reviewed and approved as to form:
131
132
133 _____
134 Walt Wrede, City Manager
135
136 Date: _____

Thomas F. Klinkner, City Attorney
Date: _____