

**CITY OF HOMER
HOMER, ALASKA**

City Council

ORDINANCE 15-01(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.

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

WHEREAS, Socio-economic and political circumstances in which we live and govern demand a continually increasing amount of time, energy, professional knowledge, and

expertise in order to effectively represent and safeguard the concerns and interests of the Citizens of Homer; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF HOMER ORDAINS:

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

m. Salaries of Elected Officials.

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

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

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

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


The City shall not spend any funds for elected officials' membership in the Public Employees Retirement System. An elected official may not receive any other compensation for service to the City unless specifically authorized to do so by ordinance. Per diem payments or reimbursements for expenses are not compensation under this section.

Section 2. The compensation provided in Section 1 above applies to service as Mayor or Council Member commencing the first day of the first calendar month following the calendar month in which this ordinance is enacted, March 1, 2015, and as of that date replaces all forms of compensation previously payable for service as Mayor or Council Member, other than reimbursement for expenses incurred in performing official duties.

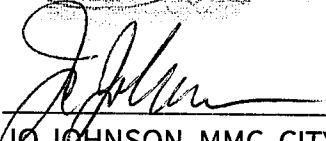
Section 3. Section 1 of this Ordinance is of a permanent and general character and shall be included in the City Code.

ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOMER, ALASKA, this 9th day of February, 2015.

CITY OF HOMER


Mary E. Wythe
MARY E. WYTHE, MAYOR

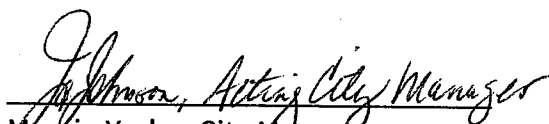
ATTEST:


JO JOHNSON, MMC, CITY CLERK

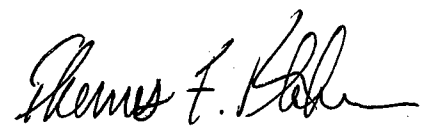
AYES: 4
NOES: 2
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

First Reading: 1/12/15
Public Reading: 1/26/15 *Reconsideration 1/26/15*
Second Reading: 2/09/15
Effective Date: 2/10/15

Reviewed and approved as to form:


Marvin Yoder, City Manager

Date: 2/10/15


Thomas F. Klinkner, City Attorney

Date: 2-13-15