

ORDINANCE NO. 1023-2022

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANITE FALLS AMENDING THE GRANITE FALLS MUNICIPAL CODE TO AMEND SECTION 2.08.030 AND ADD AN INDEPENDENT SALARY COMMISSION UNDER TITLE 2 – ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL AS CHAPTER 2.58 – SALARY COMMISSION.

WHEREAS, the Granite Falls Municipal Code 2.08.030 entitled “Compensation” provides for compensation and expense reimbursement of Council members; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to create a salary commission to review and set the salaries of elected officials; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35.21.015 provides authority for cities to create salary commissions; and

WHEREAS, the Granite Falls Municipal Code needs to contain a process for the appointment and administration of a salary commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRANITE FALLS DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. – Title 2 Amended

GFMC Section 2.08.030 entitled “Compensation” is hereby amended to read as follows:

2.08.030 Compensation. Expenses.

~~The council members shall be paid compensation in the amount of \$100.00 per month. Council members may be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in the discharge of official duties upon presentation of a claim therefor and its allowance and approval by resolution of the council.~~
Compensation shall be \$100 per month until increased or decreased by the Salary Commission established by Chapter 2.58 Granite Falls Municipal Code.

SECTION 2. – Title 2 Amended

There is hereby added a new Chapter 2.58 to the Granite Falls Municipal Code which shall have the title and sections listed in Exhibit A.

SECTION 3. – Severability

If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance.


SECTION 4. – Effective Date

This ordinance or a summary thereof consisting of the title shall be published in the official newspaper of the City and shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after publication.

Passed by the City Council of the City of Granite Falls this 16th day of March, 2022.

Approved by the Mayor of the City of Granite Falls this 16th day of March, 2022.

CITY OF GRANITE FALLS




Matthew Hartman, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED



Darla Reese, MMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Thom Graafstra, City Attorney
Emily Guildner, City Attorney

Passed by City Council: March 16, 2022

Date of Publication: March 23, 2022

Effective Date: March 28, 2022

TITLE 2
ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL

Chapter 2.58 – SALARY COMMISSION

Sections:

- 2.58.005 Purpose.
- 2.58.010 Created – Membership, appointment, compensation, term.
- 2.58.020 Vacancies.
- 2.58.030 Removal.
- 2.58.040 Duties.
- 2.58.050 Referendum.

2.58.005 Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to utilize RCW 35.21.015 which authorizes the city to establish through ordinance an independent salary commission given authority to set the salary of the members of City Council and of other elected city officials, and provides that the commission's action fixing such salaries shall supersede any provision in a city ordinance related to fixing salaries.

2.58.010 Created – Membership, appointment, compensation, term.

- (1) There is created a salary commission for the city. The commission shall consist of three members, to be appointed by the city manager with the approval of the city council.
- (2) Not less than two shall be residents of Granite Falls, the other one may be owners of business located within the city.
- (3) A member of the commission shall serve for a two-year term without compensation. The initial members shall be appointed for staggered terms.
- (4) Two members of such commission shall constitute a quorum and the vote of any three members of such commission concurring shall be sufficient for the decisions of all matters and the transaction of all business.
- (5) A member of the commission shall not be an officer, official, or employee of the city or an immediate family member of an officer, official, or employee of the city. For purposes of this section, "immediate family members" means the parents, spouse, siblings, children, or dependent relatives of an officer, official, or employee of the city, whether or not living in the household of the officer, official, or employee.

2.58.020 Vacancies.

In the event of a vacant spot in office of commissioner, the city manager shall appoint, subject to the city council's approval, a person to serve the unexpired portion of the term of the expired position.

2.58.030 Removal.

A member of the commission shall only be removed from office for cause of incapacity,

incompetence, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office, or for a disqualifying change of residence.

2.58.040 Duties.

(1) The independent salary commission shall have the duty, at such intervals as determined by the commission, to review the salaries paid by the city to each elected city official. Such review shall occur first in 2022, and no less frequently than every third year thereafter commencing in 2025. If after such review the commission determines that the salary of any elected official should be increased or decreased, the commission shall file a written salary schedule with the city clerk indicating the increase or decrease in salary. The commission's action shall be taken by July 1 of the review year.

(2) Any increase or decrease in salary established by the commission shall become effective and incorporated into the city budget without further action of the city council or the commission.

(3) Salary increases established by the commission shall be effective as to all city elected officials, regardless of their terms of office.

(4) Salary decreases established by the commission shall become effective as to incumbent city elected officials at the commencement of their next subsequent terms of office. Article XI Section 8 of the State Constitution prohibits salary decreases during the current term.

2.58.050 Referendum.

Any salary increase or decreases established by the independent salary commission pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to referendum petition by voters of the city, in the same manner as a city ordinance, upon filing of a referendum petition with the city clerk within 30 days after filing of a salary schedule by the commission. In the event of the filing of a valid referendum petition, the salary increase or decrease shall not go into effect until approved by a vote of the people. Referendum measures under this section shall be submitted to the voters of the city at the next following general or municipal election occurring 30 or more days after the petition is filed, and shall otherwise be governed by the provisions of the State Constitution and the laws generally applicable to referendum measures.