

**To:** Mayor and City Council  
**Through:** Ryan Schroeder, City Manager  
**From:** Shirley Buecksler, City Clerk  
**Date:** July 13, 2020

## Proposed Charter Amendment; Council Stipends

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Attached is a proposed Charter and City Code ordinance amendment increasing the Mayor and Council salaries as recommended by the Charter Commission. Recommended is 2.75% percent increases in each of the Mayoral and Council Stipends in each of 2021 and 2022. At the June 22 OCWS meeting of Council, consensus was to move this item forward to hold a first reading of the required ordinance.

The Charter Commission recommended the increase in stipend in that the last adopted change occurred in 2018 for a 2019 and 2020 adjustment. Further, that 2.75% closely followed increases in City labor contracts over the past two years. Further, resulting stipends would compare reasonably to a survey of sixteen similarly sized metro area communities. The resulting Mayoral stipend would reside at 4% below the mean stipend in these neighboring communities while Council salaries would be 2% above the mean (assuming there were no upward adjustments in other communities over the next two years).

For consideration, Council will have to hold a Public Hearing that is noticed between 2 weeks and 30 days prior to the Public Hearing. The entire text of the Charter amendment (not the City Code amendment) must be included in the publication. Then, in order to pass, it requires unanimous vote of the entire Council, including the Mayor. Unlike other amendments, it does not become effective until 90 days after publication. Moreover, in any case, any change in Council stipends would not take effect until the next Council is seated.

Upon the first reading of this ordinance, publication of the proposal would occur on July 12 for a Public Hearing to be held on July 27, 2020.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

\$1,493 in 2021 and \$1,543 in 2022.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Consider the recommendation of the Charter Commission by consideration of the first reading of the enclosed ordinance, which would result in a Public Hearing on July 27, 2020.