ORDINANCE NO. 13-4

AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING A CHARTER AMENDMENT TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY FOR THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD APRIL 2, 2013, RELATING TO COUNCILMEMBER COMPENSATION

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. Council submits and refers to the vote of the electors of the City at the General Municipal Election to be conducted on April 2, 2013, closing at 7:00 p.m., a proposed amendment to Section 13-20(b) of the Charter of the City of Colorado Springs, to read as follows:

13-20. Compensation of Elected Officials.

* * *

- (b) All Councilmembers shall receive an annual stipend of \$6,250 payable pursuant to ordinance; provided, however, that commencing May 1, 2015, all persons holding the office of Councilmember shall receive an annual salary equal to fifty percent (50%) of the Mayor's salary as authorized in Article XIII, Section 13-20(a), above, payable pursuant to ordinance, in lieu of an annual stipend. The City of Colorado Springs shall not provide City paid employee benefits to Councilmembers other than those mandated by federal or state statute in the same manner as provided to full-time City employees.
- **Section 2.** The election shall be conducted as a mail ballot election in the City pursuant to the Charter of the City of Colorado Springs and applicable Colorado statutes, except as otherwise provided in the Charter or ordinances of the City, all as impliedly modified by relevant judicial decisions. The City Clerk shall be the designated election official for all matters.
- **Section 3.** The question of amending the City Charter for this purpose shall be submitted to the registered qualified electors of the City in substantially the following form:

"SHALL ARTICLE XIII, SECTION 13-20(B) OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS, BE AMENDED TO READ: 'ALL COUNCILMEMBERS SHALL RECEIVE AN ANNUAL STIPEND OF \$6,250 PAYABLE PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT COMMENCING MAY 1, 2015, ALL PERSONS HOLDING THE OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER SHALL RECEIVE AN ANNUAL SALARY EQUAL

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TO FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF THE MAYOR'S SALARY AS AUTHORIZED IN ARTICLE XIII, SECTION 13-20(A), ABOVE, PAYABLE PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE, IN LIEU OF AN ANNUAL STIPEND. THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS SHALL PROVIDE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS TO COUNCILMEMBERS IN THE SAME MANNER AS PROVIDED TO FULL-TIME CITY EMPLOYEES.'?"

Section 4. The officers of the City are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 5. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of that section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 6. All ordinances resolutions, bylaws and regulations of the City in conflict with this Ordinance, are hereby repealed to the extent of any conflict. This repealer shall not be construed to revive any ordinance, resolution, bylaw or regulation, in whole or in part, previously repealed.

Section 7. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as provided by the Charter. If passed by the electorate, it shall be effective as provided by law.

Section 8. Council deems it appropriate that this Ordinance be published by title and summary prepared by the City Clerk and that this Ordinance be available for inspection and acquisition in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced, read, passed on first reading and ordered published this 22nd day of January, 2013.

Scott Hente, Council President

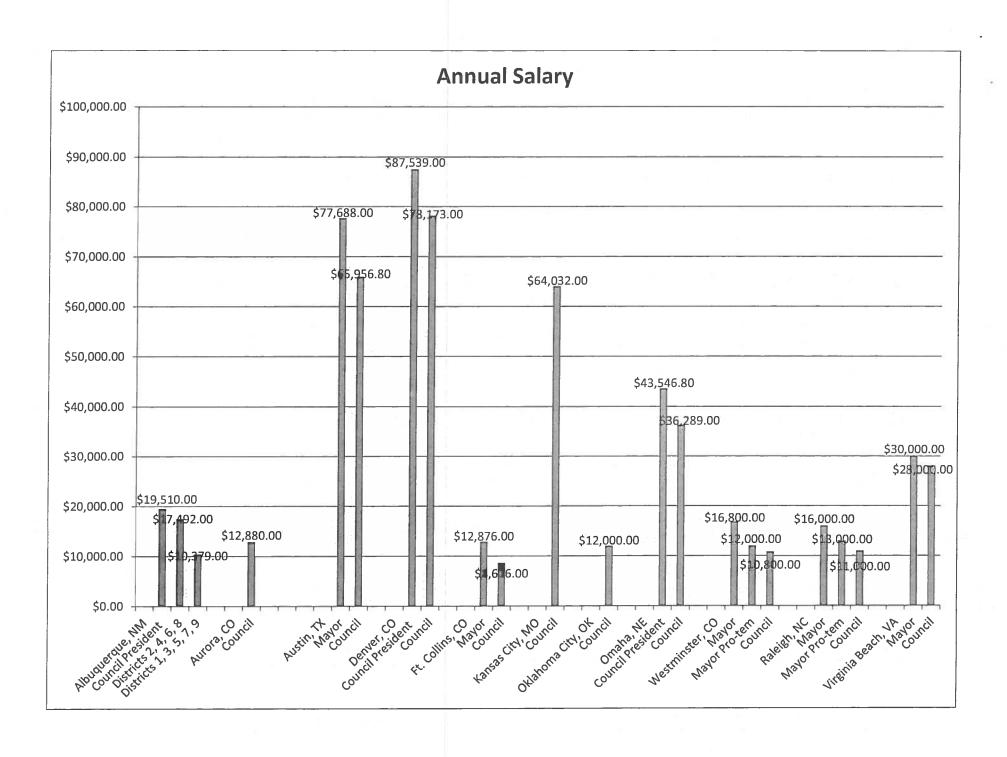
ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

SUBMITTING A CHARTER AMENDMENT TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY FOR THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD APRIL 2, 2013, RELATING TO COUNCILMEMBER COMPENSATION" was introduced and read at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Colorado Springs, held on January 22, 2013; that said ordinance was finally passed at a regular meeting of the City Council of said City, held on the 12th day of February, 2013, and that the same was published by title and summary, in accordance with Section 3-80 of Article III of the Charter, in the Transcript, a newspaper published and in general circulation in said City, at least ten days before its passage.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the City, this 12th day of February, 2013.

City Clerk



| | Annual Salary | Mileage | Individual budgets | Benefits | Notes |
|---|---|---------|-----------------------|----------|---|
| Albuquerque, NM Council President Districts 2, 4, 6, 8 Districts 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 | \$19,510.00 \$17,492.00 \$10,379.00 | No | No | | |
| Aurora, CO Council | \$12,880.00 | Yes | Yes | Yes | \$760.50 car allowance, \$250 expense allowance and medical & dental coverage. Also have a city council pension plan |
| Austin, TX Mayor Council | \$77,688.00 \$65,956.80 | Yes | Yes | Yes | Also, health insurance \$40,956. |
| Denver, CO Council President Council | \$87,539.00 \$78,173.00 | No | Yes | | |
| Ft. Collins, CO Mayor Council | \$12,876.00 \$8,616.00 | No | No | | No benefits |
| Kansas City, MO Council | \$64,032.00 | Yes | Yes | | Also car allowance, and can purchase health and dental at the same price as employees. |
| Oklahoma City, OK Council | \$12,000.00 | No | No | | |
| Omaha, NE Council President Council | \$43,546.80 \$36,289.00 | No | No | Yes | Option to accept health coverage and pay about 8%, dental at a similar cost; free \$50,000 life insurance |
| Westminster, CO | | No | No | No | \$250 a month stipend for cell phones, |
| Mayor Mayor Pro-tem Council | \$16,800.00 \$12,000.00 \$10,800.00 | | | | Internet needed at home, mileage for around the city. Receive no other benefits. |
| Raleigh, NC Mayor Mayor Pro-tem Council | \$16,000.00 \$13,000.00 \$11,000.00 | | | | |
| Virginia Beach, VA Mayor Council | \$30,000.00 \$28,000.00 | | | No | |
| Portland, OR | | No | Yes | | |
| Pueblo, CO | | No | No | | Council's FY2012 budget is \$298,500 and included the Council's salaries. |





FORMAL AGENDA ITEM

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: January 22, 2013

TO: President and Members of City Council

CC: Mayor Steve Bach

Laura Neumann, Chief of Staff/Chief Administrative Officer

Chris Melcher, City Attorney

FROM: Aimee Cox, City Council Administrator

Subject Title: AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING A CHARTER AMENDMENT TO THE ELECTORS OF

THE CITY FOR THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD APRIL 2, 2013,

RELATED TO COUNCILMEMBER COMPENSATION

SUMMARY: Council will consider referring a measure to the ballot to amend the City Charter to increase Council compensation from \$6,250 to \$48,000 annually, make councilmembers eligible for time employee benefits and split the salary and benefit costs with Colorado Springs Utilities beginning in May 1, 2015.

Council staff surveyed council compensation in ten communities. All communities surveyed had council compensation at amounts higher than the City of Colorado Springs, ranging from \$8,616 in Fort Collins to \$78,173 in Denver. Compensation was typically higher for the Mayor and the Council President. The survey results are attached.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The proposed ballot item increases council compensation from \$6,250 to \$48,000 annually beginning in April 2015. Salary costs would increase from \$56,250 to \$301,930 in 2015 (pro-rated), increasing to \$432,000 annually beginning in January 2016 (with further adjustment for inflation.) The ballot measure would also make councilmembers eligible for employee benefits at the full time rate. For budgeting purposes, benefit costs are estimated at 30% of salary or an additional cost of \$84,738 in 2015 and \$129,600 in 2016. The total cost is estimated at \$386,668 in 2015 and \$561,600 beginning in 2016. The costs would be split 50/50 by the City and Colorado Springs Utilities. The City currently recaptures 50% of council compensation through a cost allocation program with Springs Utilities.

STAKEHOLDER PROCESS: The ballot item was proposed by a citizen group made up of representatives from the *Colorado Springs Independent*, Colorado Springs Diversity Forum, Colorado Springs Young Professionals, Chamber Rising Professionals, and Citizens Project.

ALTERNATIVES:

- Approve the ordinance as proposed.
- 2. Modify the ordinance.
- 3. Deny the ordinance.

January 22, 2013 is the final date for Council to adopt charter amendments, electoral ordinances and referred measures on 1st reading for inclusion on the April 2, 2013 ballot.

Attachments:

- AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING A CHARTER AMENDMENT TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY FOR THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD APRIL 2, 2013, RELATED TO COUNCILMEMBER COMPENSATION
- Council Compensation Survey