

## ARTICLE 2. THE COUNCIL

### **Councilmen: Number, Qualifications**

Section 2-1. There shall be a council of five members, which shall consist of the mayor and one councilman from each of the four wards of the city as the wards are now constituted or as they may hereafter be constituted by ordinance. Unless otherwise clearly indicated by the context, the words "councilman" and "councilmen" shall include the mayor as well as other councilmen.

Only qualified electors of the city who are freeholders in the city, shall be qualified for the office of mayor. Only qualified electors residing in the city and at the time of their election, in their respective wards, who are freeholders in the city, shall be qualified for the offices of councilmen from the wards. Removal of a councilman from one ward to another within the city after his election or selection to fill a vacancy, or a change in ward boundaries, shall not disqualify him from completing his term. No councilman may hold any office in the city government by appointment by the city manager or by any subordinate of the city manager.

### **Mayor And Vice Mayor**

Section 2-2. The mayor shall preside at meetings of the council. He shall be recognized as head of the city government for all ceremonial purposes and by the governor for purposes of military law. He shall have all powers, rights, privileges, duties, and responsibilities of councilmen, including the right to vote on questions. He shall have no regular administrative duties except that he shall sign such written obligations of the city as the council may require.

At the first meeting after the time prescribed for the beginning of the terms of newly elected councilmen, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the council shall elect one of its members vice mayor, who shall serve as such until the next such first meeting. The vice mayor shall act as mayor during the absence or disability of the mayor, or, if a vacancy occur in the office of mayor, until another mayor is elected by the council and qualifies. If the office of vice mayor becomes vacant, the council shall elect from its members another vice mayor for completion of the unexpired term.

### **Councilmen: Compensation**

Section 2-3. The mayor shall be paid a salary of \$75.00 per month, and each other councilman shall be paid a salary of \$50.00 per month; but they may not receive any other compensation as mayor or councilman nor for any other service rendered the city, other than expenses.

### **Council: Powers**

Section 2-4. Except as otherwise provided in this charter, all powers of the city, including the determination of all matters of policy, shall be vested in the council. Without limitation of the foregoing, the council shall have power, subject to the provisions of this charter:

- (1) To appoint and remove the city manager;
- (2) By ordinance to enact municipal legislation;
- (3) To raise revenue and make appropriations; and to regulate bond elections, the issuance of bonds, sinking funds, the refunding of indebtedness, salaries and wages, and all other fiscal affairs of the city;
- (4) To inquire into the conduct of any office, department, or agency of the city government, and investigate municipal affairs;
- (5) To appoint or elect and remove the members of the personnel board, the members of the planning commission, the members of the board of adjustment, and other quasi-legislative, quasi-judicial, or advisory officers and authorities, now or when and if established, or to prescribe the method of appointing or electing and removing them;
- (6) To grant pardons for violations of the charter and ordinances, including the remission of fines and costs;
- (7) To regulate elections, the initiative and referendum, and recall;