

CHAPTER III
ORGANIZATION OF GOVERNMENT

Section 3.1 Form.

The city shall have the council-manager non-partisan form of government.

Section 3.2 City Council Composition And Power.

There shall be a city council consisting of seven (7) councilpersons. The council shall elect the mayor & mayor pro-tem from the (7) seven council members. The council shall constitute the legislative and governing body of the city and shall have the power and authority to adopt such ordinances and resolutions, as it shall deem proper in the exercise of its power.

Section 3.3 Qualifications Of Council Members.

The members of the council shall meet the eligibility requirements as set forth herein. The councilperson shall be a resident of the city for not less than one (1) year and shall be a registered voter at the time of the election for which each is a candidate. They must remain a resident of the city during their term of office.

Section 3.4 Terms Of Office Of Councilpersons.

- (a) There shall be a regular city election held in November of each year.
- (b) There shall be elected from the city at large, councilpersons for terms of two (2) years each.
- (c) At one regular election, four (4) councilpersons shall be elected. At the following regular election, three (3) councilpersons shall be elected and such additional number of councilpersons as may be required to fill vacancies at either election.
- (d) All terms of office shall commence at 9:00 o'clock in the morning local time on the Monday following the date of the election, as certified by the canvas board.

Section 3.5 Compensation Of Mayor And Councilpersons.

- (a) The council shall from time to time set compensation to be received by the mayor and councilpersons for each duly-constituted regular and special meeting of the city council attended by each of said officers as established by ordinance.

- (b) A duly-constituted meeting of the city council is hereby defined as any meeting at which there shall be present a quorum. Four (4) members of the council shall constitute a quorum unless a greater number shall be required by applicable statutes of the State of Michigan.
- (c) In no case shall such mayor or councilperson receive compensation for any meeting or meetings not actually attended.
- (d) Payment of the sums ordained shall be made from the General Fund of the city treasury.

Section 3.6 Organizational Meeting Of Council; Selection Of Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tem.

The council shall hold its organizational meeting at the first regular meeting following the annual election of its members. At this time the council shall elect a mayor and mayor pro tem from its members.

Section 3.7 Powers And Duties Of Mayor And Mayor Pro-Tem.

- (a) The mayor shall preside at all meetings of the council. The mayor shall be a full voting member of the council but shall have no veto power. He or she shall be the chief executive officer of the city insofar as required by law and for all ceremonial purposes, but have no administrative duties. The mayor shall be the conservator of the peace and shall have the powers conferred by law upon sheriffs in times of emergency to suppress disorder, preserve the public peace and health and safety of persons and property and shall have other emergency powers as permitted by law. He or she shall authenticate by signature, such instruments as may be required under provisions of law. The mayor shall do all acts required of him or her by law.
- (b) The mayor pro tem shall act in place of the mayor in the absence or disability of the mayor. The mayor pro tem shall succeed to the office of mayor in the case of a vacancy in that office, thereby creating a vacancy in the office of mayor pro tem. The council shall fill any vacancy in the office of mayor pro tem. Until such vacancy is filled, the senior member of the council from the standpoint of continuous service shall act as mayor pro tem. Between persons of equal seniority, the person who received the highest number of votes at the time of his or her last election shall act as mayor pro tem.

Section 3.8 Council's Dealings With Administrative Services; Council's Ordering Of Subordinates Of City Manager.

Except for the purpose of investigations as provided in Section 6.8 of this charter, and except in those cases where the council must, by law, deal directly with the administrative services, the council and its members shall deal with the administrative services solely through the city manager. Neither the council nor any member thereof shall give orders to any of the subordinates of the city manager.

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