

## **Section 4.02. City Council.**

**(a) Powers and Duties.** City Council Members shall exemplify good citizenship and exhibit a cooperative spirit. The City Council shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) To legislate for the City by adopting ordinances and resolutions in the best interest of all citizens of the City.

(2) To adopt the annual budget and all other appropriations necessary for efficient City government.

(3) To inquire into the conduct of any municipal office, department, agency or officer and to investigate municipal affairs, and for that purpose, may subpoena witnesses, administer oaths and compel the production of books, papers, or other evidence.

(4) To override the Mayor's veto of an ordinance or resolution by an affirmative vote of at least a majority plus one (1) of the Council Members.

(5) To devote such time as is necessary to the performance of City Council duties, and hold no other elected public office or be an employee of the City while a City Council Member.

(6) The City Council shall establish an Office of the City Council and shall have as its staff the following who shall be responsible to the City Council through the President of the Council:

(a) Budget Analyst. The City Council is authorized to employ a Budget Analyst or an individual with similar qualifications, pursuant to the City's position classification code, to assist the budgetary matters of the City Council. The City Council, by ordinance, shall define the qualifications, pay and responsibilities of said employee in accordance with the City's position classification code. The employee shall be subject to termination by a majority vote of the City Council; (b) Legal Aide. The City Council may appoint one assistant city attorney, whose salary shall be in accordance with those established for other assistant city attorneys. Said assistant city attorney shall (1) serve only in an advisory capacity to the City Council, and shall perform only such duties of a technical nature, including drafting of ordinances, legal research and providing advisory opinions, as requested by the City Council through its President, (2) perform such other duties required of him by the city attorney with the concurrence of the President of the City Council, (3) be subject to termination by a majority vote of the City Council; and (4) be responsible to the City Council through the President of the Council. Said assistant city attorney shall not file suit or bring or defend any action in court on behalf of the City Council, Mayor, the several departments, officers, and boards of the City government except with written authorization of the City Attorney. No action or opinion of said assistant city attorney shall be construed to be the official legal position of the City, and such official legal positions and actions shall be solely within the scope and powers and duties of the City Attorney; (c) Council Executive. The City Council is authorized to hire a Council Executive. The City Council shall define the qualifications, pay and responsibilities of said employee in accordance with the City's position classification

code. The employee shall be subject to termination by a majority vote of the City Council; (d) Executive Assistant. The City Council is authorized to hire an Executive Assistant. The City Council shall define the qualifications, pay and responsibilities of said employee in accordance with the City's position classification code. The employee shall be subject to termination by a majority vote of the City Council; and (e) Other Staff. The City Council may create and fill other staff positions for the purpose of assisting it in the performance of its legislative function.

**(b) *Vacancies.***

(1) If a vacancy on the Council is caused by death, resignation, refusal of any Council Member to serve, removal of any Council Member, the moving of a Council Member from the district from which the Council Member is elected, or for any other reason, the vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term of the vacated seat by a majority vote of the remaining Council Members, and such vacancies shall be filled within thirty (30) days after the vacancy occurs. The appointed Council Member shall serve the unexpired term of the previous Council Member unless the unexpired term of the previous Council Member is twenty-eight (28) months or longer. If the unexpired term is twenty-eight (28) months or longer, a person shall be elected at the next general election to fill the unexpired portion of such term.

(2) The Council Member appointed by the Council must meet the qualifications for office as set forth in 6.03 of this Charter at the time of appointment.

**(c) *Compensation.*** The salary compensation of Council Members shall be set by ordinance, which shall take effect upon the Council Member assuming office following the next Council election.