
Sponsor: Human Resources

Meeting Date: 6/21/2022

Title: Adopt the Proposed Ramsey County Commissioners Salary Ordinance for 2023

File Number: 2022-340

Background and Rationale:

The Ramsey County Home Rule Charter section 5.01.A.1 requires that certain acts of the Ramsey County Board shall be by ordinance. The provisions of the Ramsey County Home Rule Charter relating to compensation for the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners in section 2.01.D state that:

- a) The Ramsey County Board may determine the amount of the annual salary of its members by passage of a salary ordinance; and
- b) The salary ordinance must be passed by July 1 of the year prior to the effective date of the ordinance; and
- c) The ordinance shall not become effective until the first business day of the following year (January 1, 2023).

Ramsey County employees with settled bargaining agreements and unrepresented employees received a general wage increase of 1.5% in 2022. It is the intent of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners that future salary increases for the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners be set at a rate that matches the general increase in wages given to employees in the previous year. An increase of 1.5% for the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners will result in a salary increase equivalent to the general wage increase given to employees in the calendar year 2022.

The Ramsey County Home Rule Charter section 5.02 states each proposed ordinance shall receive two readings: first, at the time it is presented, and second, at the time of the public hearing as required by law. Both readings may be waived if a copy of the ordinance is supplied to each member of the Ramsey County Board prior to its introduction. In accordance with these requirements, the proposed Commissioners Salary Ordinance for 2023 was provided to each commissioner prior to its introduction on May 24, 2022. Both the first and second reading were waived by duly made motion and majority vote.

The Ramsey County Home Rule Charter section 5.02 states that every proposed ordinance shall hold a public hearing as required by law. The public hearing was held on Tuesday, June 14, 2022.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

Adopt the proposed Ramsey County Commissioners Salary Ordinance for 2023.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Reinhardt, seconded by Commissioner Carter. Motion passed.

Aye: - 7: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

By: 
Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board

Salary Ordinance

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Ramsey County Home Rule Charter (Charter) relating to compensation for the Board of Commissioners state that:

- a) The Board may determine the annual salary of its members by passage of a salary ordinance; and,
- b) The salary ordinance must be passed by July 1 of the year prior to the effective date of the ordinance; and,
- c) The ordinance shall not become effective until the first business day of the following year (January 1, 2023); and,

WHEREAS, The Charter requires that per diem payments be made to the County and that, with the exception of fees, payments and other compensation paid to an officer of the Association of Minnesota Counties, the County will not add these payments to the Commissioners' salary when payments are received from the various boards, committees and other governmental agencies; and

WHEREAS, The current annual salary of the Board of Commissioners is \$97,588 for County Board Members, and \$100,639 for the County Board Chair; and,

WHEREAS, In 2022 Ramsey County employees received a general wage increase of 1.5%; and,

WHEREAS, It is the intent of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners that future salary increases for the Board of Commissioners be set at a rate that matches the general increase in wages given to employees in the previous year; and,

WHEREAS, An increase of 1.5% for the Board of Commissioners will result in a salary increase equivalent to the general wage increase given to employees in the calendar year 2022; Now, Therefore, The Board of Commissioners for the County of Ramsey Does,

ORDAIN, That the annual salary for the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners for calendar year 2023 shall increase by 1.5% to \$99,052 for County Board Members and by 1.5% to \$102,149 for the County Board Chair; and Be it Further

ORDAINED, With the exception of fees, payments and other compensation paid to an officer of the Association of Minnesota Counties, the Board voted to decline fees, payments and other compensation paid to County Board members in exchange for representing the County on outside boards, committees and other governmental agencies and any subcommittees thereof, and that any funds received by the County would remain within the County's General Fund; and Be It Further

ORDAINED, That the Commissioners are eligible to receive fees, payments and other compensation paid from the following boards, committees and other governmental agencies and any subcommittees thereof;

Association of Minnesota Counties (if serving as an Officer)

And Be It Further

ORDAINED, That all appointments of County Commissioners to various boards, committees and other governmental agencies shall be ratified by County Board resolution before per diems shall be paid; and Be It Further

ORDAINED, That any subsequent new appointments or changes in appointments to new or existing boards, committees or governmental agencies, and any subsequent

57 establishment of new per diem rates or increase in current per diem rates shall be ratified by
58 County Board resolution before per diems shall be paid; And Be It Further

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60 ORDAINED, That any increase in per diems or new per diems which are approved by
61 the above described process, shall be included in the next annual salary ordinance, and Be It
62 Further

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64 ORDAINED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners shall be allowed to
65 receive actual and necessary expenses for attendance at conferences, seminars, etc., in
66 connection with their official County Commissioner duties as do all other Ramsey County
67 employees; and Be It Further

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69 ORDAINED, That unless a valid referendum petition is filed within 45 days after the
70 publication of this ordinance, this ordinance shall:

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72 a) Become effective on January 1, 2023 and replace the previous salary ordinance (Ordinance
73 B2021-152); and,

74 b) Continue in effect throughout calendar year 2023 and subsequent years until changed by a
75 subsequent County Board ordinance.

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