



**Compensation Commission
Minutes
Diamondback Terrapin Conference Room
Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 6:30 pm**

Commissioners Present: Janice Podoll Frankle, Barry Klein, Richard Stolz, and Jonelle Williams (via phone)

City Staff Present: City Clerk/Director of Council Operations Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Attorney Debra Daniel, and Communications Manager Marylou Berg

Convene

Commission Chair Richard Stolz called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: to approve minutes of January 31, 2019 as amended

Moved by Commissioner Klein, seconded by Commissioner Podoll Frankle and approved unanimously.

Welcome

Commission Chair Richard Stolz welcomed Jonelle Williams as the new Compensation Commission member. The City Council approved Jonelle William's appointment to the Compensation Commission at its February 4, 2019 meeting.

Notice of Compensation Commission Public Hearing

The Compensation Commission reviewed the draft Notice of Hearing. It was suggested and everyone agreed that paragraph three of the Notice should also include the current salaries of the Mayor and City Council.

Communications Manager Marylou Berg discussed the logistics of publicizing the Compensation Commission public hearing on Thursday, February 28 at 7 PM. In order to provide wide dissemination of the announcement, Communications Manager Marylou Berg proposed preparing an article for the online version of the Rockville Reports, providing a link to the article in nextdoor.com, and in the "Look Ahead" section of the online Rockville Reports for February 17. She also suggested that a notice be placed on City of Rockville Channel 11. It was also suggested that the press release provide a link to the March 10, 2015 Compensation Commission public hearing, for additional information. Communications Director Marylou Berg suggested that the press release concerning the Commission public hearing be issued during the week of February 18, 2019, that the press release discuss the current stipends for the

Mayor and City Council, and that any proposed stipend changes would become effective for the Mayor and Council elected in November 2019.

Both City Clerk/Director of Council Operations Sara Taylor-Ferrell and City Attorney Debra Daniel stated that the preferred designation for the compensation received by the Mayor and Council is "stipend," as they are not salaried employees.

Discussion

There was discussion concerning whether the current stipend amount for the Mayor and City Council is a deterrent to certain citizens who would consider running for office, but due to financial considerations, are not financially able to do so. Commissioner Klein suggested that such a situation may be a reason for suggesting that the stipend be increased.

There was a discussion of whether it would be advantageous to the Mayor and City Council for the City to provide them with cell phones, or a cell phone allowance, for their conduct of City business. City Attorney Debra Daniel suggested that it might be logistically better to merely "roll" a cell phone allowance into the stipend amount, as opposed to providing separate additional benefits.

It was decided that the Compensation Commission would email questions to the current Mayor and City Council and people who served on the Council (or as Mayor), or may have thought about doing so but did not seek election. Chair Richard Stolz will draft questions for the Commission's review.

Future Meetings

Wednesday, March 6, 2019--6:30- 8:00 PM.

Thursday, March 28, 2019-7:00 PM (Public Hearing)

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Motion: to Adjourn

Moved by Commissioner Podoll Frankle and seconded by Commissioner Klein and approved unanimously.