

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CODIFIED ORDINANCE CHAPTER 297, MILITARY AND VETERANS' COMMISSION, TO COMPLY WITH THE NEWLY CREATED CHARTER SECTION 8.09, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, Section 8.09 of the Charter [REDACTED], enacted November 4, 2025, establishes the Military and Veterans' Commission as a part of the Charter and sets forth requirements regarding its composition, qualifications, term length, and service limitations; and

WHEREAS, Council had previously established a Military and Veterans' Commission under Section 297.04 of the Codified Ordinances [REDACTED], which currently contains provisions that are inconsistent with the new Section 8.09 of the Charter, including provisions relating to the number of members and term length; and

WHEREAS, as a matter of law, the Charter supersedes any conflicting provisions of the Codified Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to amend Codified Ordinance Section 297.04 to ensure compliance with the Charter while retaining additional member qualifications and structural provisions that are not inconsistent with the Charter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City [REDACTED] as follows:

Section 1. That Section 297.04 of the Codified Ordinances [REDACTED] be amended to read in its entirety as follows, with additions being **underlined and in bold** and deletions being ~~underlined and stricken~~:

297.04 MEMBERS, TERMS, AND VACANCIES.

(a) Members. The Commission shall consist of **five (5) or seven (7) qualified electors of the Municipality, appointed by Council, who shall serve without compensation and who shall not hold any other public office. Each member shall have been a resident of the Municipality or territory annexed thereto for the two (2) years preceding appointment and shall continue to remain a resident during the member's term.** ~~between four and six total voting and non-voting members. Three members shall be appointed by City Council with up to an additional two commission members so appointed at Council's option. Members appointed by City Council shall be qualified residents of the Municipality not holding other public office and shall serve without compensation. Each member shall be a resident of the Municipality for two years preceding appointment and shall~~

~~remain a resident during that member's term. At all times, a City Council member shall be appointed to serve as liaison to and be a non-voting member of the Commission.~~

(b) Terms. **Members of the Commission shall serve staggered four (4)-year terms. Terms shall be structured on a calendar basis and shall commence on January 1 and expire on December 31 of the fourth year of such term, unless otherwise provided by law. No member shall serve on the Commission for more than three (3) full four (4)-year terms or 12 years, whichever is greater.** ~~With the exception of the appointments of the Commission's initial members, each member of the Commission shall serve a three year term, with the term expiring on December 31 of each year. The term of the Council member serving as liaison, as described in division (a) of this Section, shall not exceed their term of office on Council. The initial members shall be appointed for staggered terms of one, two, and three years. Members shall serve no more than three consecutive full terms.~~

(c) Vacancies. Vacancies on the Commission shall be filled by a majority vote of the members of City Council then holding office.

(d) Council Liaison. A member of City Council may be appointed by the Council President to serve as a liaison to the Commission. Such liaison shall serve in a non-voting capacity and shall not be counted as one of the five (5) or seven (7) Commission members.

Section 2. Those provisions of current Chapter 297 of the Codified Ordinances that are in conflict with the amendments set forth in Section 1 of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 3. The above-mentioned recitals are rendered to be the findings of this Council and are incorporated into this Ordinance.

Section 4. This Ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of life, property, public health, safety, public peace, and the general welfare of the City and for the further reason that it is immediately necessary to make this amendment to comport with the recent change to the [REDACTED] Charter; and, therefore, shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage, provided it receives five (5) affirmative votes of members of Council, except that six (6) affirmative votes are required if all members are present; otherwise it shall be in full force and effect from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____

[REDACTED], Mayor

ATTEST:

[REDACTED], Clerk of Council

I certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly passed by the Council of said Municipality on _____, 2026.

[REDACTED], Clerk of Council