

To:

LEGAL SERVICES DIVISION

Office of the City Attorney

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Alderperson Maiyoua Thao, Chair Alderperson Katie Van Zeeland

Members of the Human Resources/Information Technology Committee

From: Darrin M. Glad, Assistant City Attorney

Date: February 23, 2021

Re: Alderperson Raises

Our File No. A19-1099

At your request, I have researched the authority for the deadline for increasing alderpersons' salaries. Wisconsin Statutes § 62.09(6)(am)2 prohibits changing alderperson salaries after the "earliest time for filing nomination papers for the office" and no changes can be made in the compensation during "the term of office for which the deadline applies."

Therefore, Council has the following options available depending whether it wants different salaries for half of the Council, or one across-the-board adjustment for a future Council:

- 1) For staggered salaries, the Council may establish alderpersons' salaries for Alderpersons in Districts 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14 for terms starting in April 2022 prior to December 1, 2021 and subsequently establish salaries for Alderpersons in Districts 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15 who will begin their term in April 2023 prior to December 1, 2022; or,
- 2) For a single adjustment, establish the salary for all alderpersons seated on the Council in April 2023 prior to December 1, 2021.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.