



DEPARTMENT OF  
**LEGAL AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE  
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TO: Alderperson Sheri S Hartzheim, Chair  
Members of the Human Resources / Information Technology Committee

From: Zak Buruin, Assistant City Attorney

Date: August 7, 2025

RE: Alderperson Salary Adjustment  
City Attorney File No. A19-0536

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Alderperson salaries are reviewed annually to give Council the ability to review and adjust the Alderperson salary for a future Council. On October 2, 2024, the Common Council voted to maintain the \$6,750 annual salary of all Alderpersons, effective April 2025.

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 on whether it wants different salaries for half of the Council, or one across-the-board adjustment for a future Council:

1. *For staggered salaries:* Council may establish salaries for Alderpersons for terms starting in April 2026 (Districts 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14) prior to December 1, 2025, and subsequently establish alderpersons' salaries for terms starting in April 2027 (Districts 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15) prior to December 1, 2026: or,
2. For a single adjustment: establish the salary for all alderpersons seated on the Council in April 2027 prior to December 1, 2025.

As a reminder, changes to the salary amount require a majority vote at the committee level but will ultimately require approval by three-fourths of all members of the council for final approval as required by Wisconsin Statutes §62.09(6)(a).

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