



City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve

Office of Gerrie Schipske
Councilwoman, Fifth District
Memorandum

Date: July 6, 2010

To: Charter Amendment Committee

From: Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske, Fifth District

Subject: AGENDA ITEM: Proposed Charter Amendment Requiring City of Long Beach to Reduce the Salary of the Mayor and City Council

DISCUSSION

The current City Charter established salaries in 1988 for the Mayor and the City Council in the following manner:

Sec. 203. - SALARY.

(a)

Commencing with the first Mayor to assume the office of Mayor on or after July 1, 1988, the Mayor shall receive an annual salary of Sixty-seven Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$67,500.00), which salary shall be automatically adjusted on July 1, 1989, and on July 1 of each year thereafter equivalent to the most recent upward change in the annual average of the Consumer Price Index as published by the United States Department of Labor for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim metropolitan area.

For purposes of calculating the annual adjustment under this section the base year shall be that year ending with the quarter ending December 31, 1988. The Mayor's salary

(b) for purposes of calculating the annual adjustment under this section the base year ending with the quarter ending December 31, 1988. The Mayor's salary shall first be adjusted on July 1, 1989, and annually thereafter, based on the annually calculated change from the base year.

Each member of the City Council shall receive a salary which shall be twenty-five percent of that provided for the Mayor under Subsection (a) of this Section 203.

In 1988, the Mayor and City Council met weekly. Around 2004, the City Council reduced the number of meetings to 3 without a commensurate reduction in salary.

It is now being proposed that the number of public council meetings be reduced further to just two per month.

Therefore, salaries need to be reduced accordingly to reflect the reduction of the number of public council meetings.

Charter Amendment Committee
Proposed Charter Amendment Requiring City of Long Beach to Reduce the Salary of
the Mayor and City Council
Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske, Fifth District
July 6, 2010
Page 2

RECOMMENDATION

Motion to approve the referral to the City Attorney for placement on the November 2010 ballot, a Charter Amendment to reduce salaries for the Mayor and City Council to reflect a 50 percent reduction in the number of Council meetings per month.