

Gautho, Julia

From: Gerry Jensen <mrgerryjensen@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2024 6:46 AM
To: City Council
Cc: Gautho, Julia
Subject: Opposition to item 9E of the Council packet dated 7/25/2024

Dear Mayor Brown and Council Members,

I am writing to express my opposition to the recommended action for Item 9E on the agenda for Thursday, July 25, 2024. If passed, this item would increase City Council compensation from \$660 to \$950 per month.

I appreciate the intent behind raising the pay for City Council members, as it will also make it easier for members of marginalized communities to serve. City Councils should be reflective of the communities they represent, and I believe raising public service compensation is an important step toward achieving equitable outcomes. However, the spirit of equity should apply across the board through the equitable treatment of employees and council members.

My opposition is based on the process, which differs from the approach used for city employees. Specifically, a salary survey should be conducted of relevant jurisdictions, and any increase should be contingent on the passage of the sales tax expansion slated for the November ballot. Without these factors for equitable treatment, a 43.93% increase is inappropriate.

Please also note that if this item is approved, the City Council's compensation rate will have increased by 58.3% over the last five years. I'm very concerned about the message this would send to the city's valued employees. See the chart below for reference.



Thank you very much for considering my concerns.

Gerry Jensen

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Year	Ordinance No.	Salary
1977	418	\$150
1991	716	\$300
2006	901	\$500
2019	1032	\$600
2022	1054	\$660

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Gerry Jensen