

ORDINANCE 566

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUSA, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING COLUSA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2-2 REGARDING CITY COUNCIL COMPENSATION

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 36516(a)(2) permits the City Council to establish by ordinance compensation to be paid to each councilmember up to a ceiling based on the city's population;

WHEREAS, in June 2023, Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law Senate Bill 329 ("SB 329"), which amends California Government Code Section 36516 to update city council compensation schedules to account for inflation. The previous compensation schedules, which are based on population, had not been adjusted since 1984;

WHEREAS, the legislative intent of SB 329 is to help city councils become more diverse because increased compensation can help individuals from across different income levels receive sufficient income from their service to help ensure that they can continue to serve the public and support their families;

WHEREAS, California Government Code Section 36516 provides a method by which salaries for members of a city council are established based on city population;

WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau, the estimated population of the City of Colusa as of July 1, 2022, is 6,368;

WHEREAS, under SB 329, city council salaries in cities with populations between up to and including 35,000 can be up to and including \$950 per month;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Colusa makes the following findings in support of raising City Council salaries to \$950, as allowed by SB 329:

- i. Higher pay can help remove financial barriers that may prevent individuals from running for office. This can make council positions more accessible to a wider range of people, including those from lower-income backgrounds, promoting greater socioeconomic diversity among elected representatives.
- ii. Increasing compensation recognizes and compensates city councilmembers for their substantial workload. Serving on the city council requires significant time and effort. Councilmembers are responsible for attending meetings, conducting research, engaging with constituents, and making important decisions that directly impact the community.

WHEREAS, California Government Code Section 36516.5 provides that a change in salary for each city council member does not take effect until one or more members of the city council begins a new term of office; and

WHEREAS, the new salary for each City Council member would go into effect beginning on the date on which a City Council member is sworn into office after the general municipal election held in November 2024.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUSA DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

The provisions of Section 2-2, Article II of the City of Colusa Municipal Code are amended, as follows:

SECTION 1. Amendment. Section 2-2 of the Colusa Code is hereby repealed and replaced to read as set forth below:

Sec. 2-2. Same—Salaries of members.

- (a) Each member of the city council shall receive, as salary, the sum of nine hundred and fifty dollars per month, as prescribed in section 36516 of the Government Code of the state for cities up to and including thirty-five thousand in population, which shall be payable at the same time and in the same manner as the salaries are paid to other officers and employees of the city.
- (b) The salaries prescribed in this section are and shall be exclusive of any amounts payable to each member of the city council as reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred by him or her in the performance of official duties of the city.

SECTION 2. Severability. If any section, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

SECTION 3. Effective Date and Notice. This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its adoption, provided it is published in full or in summary within fifteen (15) days of its adoption, in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City of Colusa.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Colusa this ____ day of _____ 2024 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

DANIEL VACA, MAYOR

Shelly Kittle, City Clerk