
SENATE BILL 5115

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Drew, von Reichbauer, Loveland and Haugen

Read first time 01/13/93. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to meetings by cities and towns; and amending RCW
2 35.24.180, 35.24.190, 35.27.270, 35.27.280, and 35A.39.010.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 35.24.180 and 1965 c 7 s 35.24.180 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 The city council and mayor shall meet on the first Tuesday in
7 January next succeeding the date of each general municipal election,
8 and shall take the oath of office, and shall hold regular meetings at
9 least once during each month but not to exceed one regular meeting in
10 each week, at such times as may be fixed by ordinance.

11 Special meetings may be called by the mayor by written notice
12 (~~delivered to each member of the council at least three hours before~~
13 ~~the time specified for the proposed meeting~~) as provided in RCW
14 42.30.080. No ordinances shall be passed or contract let or entered
15 into, or bill for the payment of money allowed at any special meeting.

16 All meetings of the city council shall be held within the corporate
17 limits of the city at such place as may be designated by ordinance.
18 All meetings of the city council must be public.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 35.24.190 and 1969 c 101 s 3 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 The members of the city council at their first meeting after each
4 general municipal election and thereafter whenever a vacancy occurs,
5 shall elect from among their number a mayor pro tempore, who shall hold
6 office at the pleasure of the council and in case of the absence of the
7 mayor, perform the duties of mayor except that he or she shall not have
8 the power to appoint or remove any officer or to veto any ordinance.
9 If a vacancy occurs in the office of mayor, the city council at their
10 next regular meeting shall elect from among their number a mayor, who
11 shall serve until a mayor is elected and certified at the next
12 municipal election.

13 In the event of the extended excused absence or disability of a
14 councilmember, the remaining members by majority vote may appoint a
15 councilmember pro tempore to serve during the absence or disability.

16 The mayor and the mayor pro tempore shall have power to administer
17 oaths and affirmations, take affidavits and certify them. The mayor or
18 the mayor pro tempore when acting as mayor, shall sign all conveyances
19 made by the city and all instruments which require the seal of the
20 city.

21 **Sec. 3.** RCW 35.27.270 and 1965 c 7 s 35.27.270 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 The town council shall meet on the second Tuesday in January
24 succeeding the date of the general municipal election, shall take the
25 oath of office, and shall hold regular meetings at least once each
26 month at such times as may be fixed by ordinance. Special meetings may
27 be called at any time by the mayor or by three ~~((councilmen))~~
28 councilmembers, by written notice ~~((delivered to each member at least~~
29 ~~three hours before the time specified for the proposed meeting))~~ as
30 provided in RCW 42.30.080. No resolution or order for the payment of
31 money shall be passed at any other than a regular meeting. No such
32 resolution or order shall be valid unless passed by the votes of at
33 least three ~~((councilmen))~~ councilmembers.

34 All meetings of the council shall be held within the corporate
35 limits of the town, at such places as may be designated by ordinance
36 and shall be public.

1 **Sec. 4.** RCW 35.27.280 and 1965 c 107 s 2 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 A majority of the ~~((councilmen))~~ councilmembers shall constitute a
4 quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn
5 from time to time and may compel the attendance of absent members in
6 such manner and under such penalties as may be prescribed by ordinance.

7 In the event of the extended excused absence or disability of a
8 councilmember, the remaining members by majority vote may appoint a
9 councilmember pro tempore to serve during the absence or disability.

10 The mayor shall preside at all meetings of the council. The mayor
11 shall have a vote only in case of a tie in the votes of the
12 ~~((councilmen))~~ councilmembers. In the absence of the mayor the council
13 may appoint a president pro tempore; in the absence of the clerk, the
14 mayor, or president pro tempore, shall appoint one of the
15 councilmembers as clerk pro tempore. The council may establish rules
16 for the conduct of its proceedings and punish any members or other
17 person for disorderly behavior at any meeting. At the desire of any
18 member, the ayes and noes shall be taken on any question and entered in
19 the journal.

20 **Sec. 5.** RCW 35A.39.010 and 1967 ex.s. c 119 s 35A.39.010 are each
21 amended to read as follows:

22 Every code city shall keep a journal of minutes of its legislative
23 meetings with orders, resolutions and ordinances passed, and records of
24 the proceedings of any city department, division or commission
25 performing quasi judicial functions as required by ordinances of the
26 city and general laws of the state and shall keep such records open to
27 the public as required by RCW 42.32.030 and shall keep and preserve all
28 public records and publications or reproduce and destroy the same as
29 provided by Title 40 RCW. Each code city ~~((shall provide three copies~~
30 ~~of each of its ordinances of general application to the association of~~
31 ~~Washington cities without charge and))~~ may duplicate and sell copies of
32 its ordinances at fees reasonably calculated to defray the cost of such
33 duplication and handling.

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