

## Item 24-1101: Approval of Alderperson Salaries

### Human Resources Information Technology Committee

Wed, Sep 25, 2024 6:30PM

**Alderperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 00:43**

We have no public hearings or appearances, so we are going to move on to action items. We're going to start with item number 24-1101, approval of alderperson salaries. Can I get a motion on the table?

**Alderperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 00:57**

Move to approve a zero increase.

**Alderperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 00:58**

Second.

**Alderperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 01:00**

All right, so we have a motion.

**Alderperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 01:02**

0% I should clarify.

**Alderperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 01:04**

And \$0.

**Alderperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 01:06**

Which would be \$0, usually.

**Alderperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 01:09**

Alderperson van Zeeland.

**Alderperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 01:10**

Oh, I'm sorry, were we...?

**Alderperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 01:12**

I—so both of you said that you seconded that. I'm just looking to see if that's—we're good on that.

**Alderperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 01:18**

Okay.

**Alderperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 01:18**

Whoever Zach wishes to put as the seconder would be acceptable with me.

**Alderperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 01:24**

Would you like to speak?

**Alderperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 01:24**

Sure.

**Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 01:25**

All right.

**Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 01:25**

Sure. I think I always like to remind people during this discussion that alders do not vote on their own salaries. This is an increase that would take place for future alders, so we always have to keep that in mind when making these decisions. My reasoning—a personal reasoning for not looking at a small increase, which usually happens around this time or next year, is just the effects of inflation on our citizens. I think it's really our responsibility to be frugal, just as they have been frugal. Thank you.

**Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 02:07**

Aldersperson Hartzheim.

**Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 02:10**

Thank you, Chair. My reason is a little more complex, but boils down to the same thing. In the past, there have been inconsistencies and issues with particular vote threshold that's required for approval of salaries, and, unfortunately, we as a body have not—I don't know that anyone up here has made this vote for previous salary increases—but we as a body have not always met that threshold as is appropriate, and as a result, there have been some—there's been some overpayments on some salaries to alderspersons. I wouldn't say insignificant, but I wouldn't say hugely significant either. Now, should we, quote, punish the future as a payment for the past? No. But the constituents of the of this city still deserve to have their money's worth, and for that reason, I would like to have this stayed for this year.

**Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 03:16**

Others? Aldersperson Croatt?

**Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 03:20**

No.

**Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 03:21**

All right. Aldersperson Van Zeeland.

**Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 03:23**

I just want to be careful with the phrase overpayment, because as I understand it, you know, there may have been a procedural issue, but that procedural issue was reaffirmed in future votes. I still think this is the right thing to do, but I just want to clarify that for people at home, so that they don't think that people just received free money and are keeping it. Thank you.

**Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 03:48**

Any other questions or comments? All right, all those in favor signify by saying aye. Any opposed? Any abstention? That clears a five, zero.

**Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 03:59**

Moving on to information items. 24-1228, the Director's Report. Director Richman, you are District Six, and your microphone is on.

**Director Jay Ratchman (HR) 04:14**

Can I clarify something on the last item?

**Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 04:16**

Absolutely.

**Director Jay Ratchman (HR) 04:16**

So, there's two options, staggered salaries or a single adjustment. Can I just for the record which one you're voting on?

**Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 04:25**

If I could say I would have seconded for both years which is how we typically do this, is it not? Yes. Okay.

**Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 04:34**

Yeah, exactly what, what I would have proposed.

**Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 04:37**

I concur.

**Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 04:38**

Voting in favor as well for the two years. Okay.