



Legislation Text

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Clerk 09/01/2016

AN ORDINANCE relating to committee meeting times; and amending Ordinance 11683, Section 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.035; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Findings:

A. Section 220.40 of the King County Charter requires the council to adopt by ordinance rules of procedure governing the time, place and conduct of its meetings.

B. Consistent with the county charter, the council adopted by ordinance rules of procedure, which are codified in K.C.C. chapter 1.24, and passed motions related to the organization and administration of the council.

C. The rules ordinance and the organizational motion have been amended from time to time to reflect desired changes in the council's rules of procedure and organization.

D. In order for the council to focus its deliberations on the executive proposed budget, all standing committees, except the committee of the whole, generally cancel meetings so that members may attend special meetings of various budget review panels. To accommodate this budget review process, the meeting times of the committee of the whole need to be adjusted because the regular meeting times of the committee of the whole otherwise will conflict with budget panel meeting times. In accordance with Section 230.30 of the King County Charter, this ordinance is necessary for the support of county government and its existing public institutions because this ordinance must be enacted as an emergency ordinance in order to be effective

immediately to ensure that the regular meeting times of the committee of the whole are revised for the period of budget consideration and effective contemporaneously with the council beginning deliberations on the executive proposed budget, which will be transmitted September 26, 2016.

SECTION 2. Ordinance 11683, Section 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.035 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

A.1.a. The time of regular meetings of the council is 1:30 p.m. on Monday of each week, or Tuesday if Monday is a state or county holiday or is a legislative branch furlough day due to a county emergency budget crisis, unless otherwise ordered by the chair or a majority of the council. However, the regular meetings of the council shall not take place from August 1 through August 12, 2016, and from December 19 through December 30, 2016. All regular or special meetings of council committees shall be regular or special council meetings, in accordance with subsection F. of this rule.

b. Each Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. shall be reserved for special standing committee meetings except when the health, housing and human services committee or the law and justice committee regular meeting is rescheduled in accordance with subsection B.1.e. and f. of this section and each fourth and fifth Wednesday of each month from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. shall be reserved for special regional committee meetings as needed. In order to allow each member sufficient time to review legislation and to meet with constituents, staff and officials of other jurisdictions, no special committee meeting may be called for any other time without the prior written consent of the council chair or the consent of a majority of the members of the committee. If a special meeting for more than one committee is called for the same time and location, the meeting for which the agenda was first filed with the council clerk shall have precedence for use of the meeting location. This subsection A.1.b. does not apply to special meetings of the budget and fiscal management committee for purposes of considering the county executive's biennial budget proposal, which shall be called by the chair of the budget and fiscal management committee.

2.a. All regular meetings of the King County council and the council's committees, except for the

employment and administration committee, shall be held in the council chambers on the tenth floor of the King County Courthouse in Seattle, Washington. All regular meetings of the employment and administration committee shall be held in the southwest conference room on the twelfth floor of the King County Courthouse in Seattle, Washington.

b. Whenever, due to an emergency, as defined in K.C.C. 12.52.010, it is imprudent, inexpedient or impossible to conduct the affairs of the council at the regular or usual place or places, the council may meet at any place within or without the territorial limits of the county on the call of the chair or any two members of the council. After an emergency relocation, the affairs of the council shall be lawfully conducted at the emergency location for the duration of the emergency.

B.1. Except as provided in subsection B.2. of this rule, the times for regular committee meetings are as follows, unless the council is meeting at that time because the preceding Monday was a state or county holiday:

a. Committee of the whole: the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m. However, from October 3, 2016, through November 23, 2016, the regular meeting of the committee of the whole shall occur on the first and third Mondays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

b. Budget and fiscal management committee: the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

c. Employment and administration committee: the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 10:00 a.m.;

d. Government accountability and oversight committee: the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

e. Health, housing and human services committee: the first and third Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. or the next Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. if the council's regular meeting is rescheduled to Tuesday because Monday is a state or county holiday or is a legislative branch furlough day due to a county emergency budget crisis, unless otherwise ordered by the chair or a majority of the council;

f. Law and justice committee: the second and fourth, and fifth if one occurs, Tuesdays of each month at 1:30 p.m. or the next Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. if the council's regular meeting is rescheduled to Tuesday because Monday is a state or county holiday or is a legislative branch furlough day due to a county emergency budget crisis, unless otherwise ordered by the chair or a majority of the council;

g. Transportation, economy and environment committee: the first and third, and fifth if one occurs, Tuesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

h. Regional policy committee: the second Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m.;

i. Regional transit committee: the third Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m.; and

j. Regional water quality committee: the first Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m.

2. The regular meetings of the committees shall not take place during the first and second weeks in August and the third and fourth weeks in December.

C. Council and committee meetings must be held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1971, chapter 42.30 RCW.

D. A meeting may be continued, in accordance with chapter 42.30 RCW, to another date and does not conclude until adjourned in accordance with these rules.

E.1. An executive session may be held during a council or committee meeting if one of the specific grounds under chapter 42.30 RCW for an executive session exists.

2. Before convening in executive session, the chair of the council or committee shall publicly announce the purpose for excluding the public from the meeting place and the time when the executive session will be concluded. The executive session may be extended to a stated later time by announcement of the chair.

3. Only members of the council or committee, special invitees and those employees or staff members the council or committee determines to be necessary are allowed to remain in the room. Persons attending an executive session shall maintain the confidentiality of the proceedings.

F.1. A legal analysis of the Open Public Meetings Act by the office of the Attorney General, 2010 AGO

No. 9, has advised that when a committee meeting is attended by a quorum of the governing body it must be noticed not only as a committee meeting but also as a meeting of the governing body. For this reason, all meetings of council committees shall be noticed both as committee meetings and as council meetings whose agenda is limited to the committee business.

2. In all committee meetings, which are council meetings in accordance with subsection F.1. of this rule, only the rules and procedures applicable to committees apply, and not those rules and procedures applicable to full council meetings. This includes, but is not limited to:

- a. only those members who serve on the committee have the right to exercise parliamentary rights in the meeting, including, but not limited to, raising points of order, making motions and voting;
- b. attendance shall be recorded only for members serving on the committee, and the quorum for the meeting shall be the committee quorum; and
- c. committee meetings shall be chaired by the committee chair.

SECTION 3. The county council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency exists and that this ordinance is necessary for the support of county government and its existing public institutions.