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CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 4173

AN ORDINANCE relating to the city council auditor and to the payment of certain claims by the City; establishing a procedure for the expedited payment thereof; amending BCC 4.40.010; and adding a new Section 4.40.045 to Chapter 4.40 of the Bellevue City Code

WHEREAS, Chapter 4.40 of the Bellevue City Code provides a procedure for review, approval and payment of claims; and

WHEREAS, said procedure requires approval by the city council auditor prior to payment of any claim by the city manager or finance director; and

WHEREAS, the city council auditor is only present and available to approve payment of claims on a bi-weekly basis and circumstances sometimes arise where immediate payment of a claim is necessary to expedite resolution of such claim; and

WHEREAS, it would be administratively more efficient to provide a procedure for the expedited payment of claims under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, RCW 42.24.180 provides authority for such an expedited process consistent with local ordinance; now, therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 1 of Ordinance No. 2519 as amended by Section 2 of Ordinance No. 2042 and Section 4.40.010 of the Bellevue City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

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4.40.010 Services of auditor

The Mayor may contract for the services of a city council auditor pursuant to the provisions of RCW 35A.13.080(2), upon concurrence of the city council. The auditor shall be under the direction of the city council and shall not be considered an employee of the city nor under the control of the city administration.

Section 2. Chapter 4.40 of the Bellevue City Code is hereby amended by the addition of a new Section 4.40.045 to read as follows:

4.40.045 Expedited payment of claim.

Notwithstanding any other provision in this chapter to the contrary, an expedited payment of a claim may be made under the following circumstances and subject to the following procedure:

A. When expedited process applicable. When the city council auditor is not immediately available to examine and approve payment of a claim and the city manager or the finance director determines that expedited payment of such claim is administratively necessary, such claim may be paid provided the procedures set forth in paragraphs B. and C. of this section have been followed.

B. Procedure for expedited process. Whenever payment of a claim is to be made pursuant to the expedited process provided herein, the claim shall first be examined by the appropriate administrative official pursuant to Section 4.40.020. If the appropriate administrative official determines that the claim is just, due and owing, and if funds are available, and if he/she further finds that payment of said claim would not be in violation of any city ordinance, state statute or general law, he/she may authorize payment of the same. Such authorization shall be sufficient for the honoring and payment of such claim.

C. Expedited payment review. The city council auditor shall examine all claims paid pursuant to the expedited payment process of this section in the manner provided for review of claims in Section 4.40.030. If upon review the city council auditor finds that such claim is not just due and owing, the city council auditor shall so indicate in his report to the city council.

D. Review by city council. If upon review the city council disapproves the claim, the finance director shall cause the disapproved claim to be recognized as a receivable of the city and shall pursue collection diligently until the amounts disapproved are collected or until the city manager, acting on the recommendation of the finance director, determines the debt to be uncollectible.

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Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty days from its passage.

PASSED by the City Council this 24th day of September, 1990, and signed in authentication of its passage this 24th day of September, 1990.

(SEAL)

Terry Lukens, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Richard L. Andrews, City Attorney

Richard L. Kirkby, Assistant City Attorney

Attest:

Marie K. O'Connell, City Clerk

Published September 28, 1990