

CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 5640

AN ORDINANCE concerning the payment of an allowance in lieu of reimbursement for the use of personal automobiles for official travel by members of the City Council.

WHEREAS, RCW 42.24.090 authorizes the City Council to provide for an allowance in the form of payments for use of personal automobiles for official travel by Councilmembers on City business, if such payments would be less costly to the City than providing City-owned automobiles for such official travel; and

WHEREAS, the City has performed an analysis and determined that at least five City-owned vehicles would be required to adequately provide for the official travel needs of the seven members of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the cost of providing a fleet of five City-owned vehicles is estimated at \$231.00 per month; and

WHEREAS, the cost of providing a monthly allowance in the amount of \$216, in lieu of reimbursement for use of personal automobiles for official travel is less costly to the City than actually providing City-owned automobiles for such travel; and

WHEREAS, the City previously conducted a study of the average usage of personal automobiles by Councilmembers, and, applying the current reimbursement rate of \$0.455 per mile, concluded that the actual average monthly reimbursement rate would be \$260 per Councilmember; and

WHEREAS, based on said analyses the City Council desires to establish an optional car allowance in lieu of reimbursement for City Councilmembers; now, therefore,

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

Section 1. In lieu of reimbursement for actual expenses incurred, each member of the Bellevue City Council shall be entitled to a monthly allowance of \$216.00 to cover his or her actual and necessary expenses incurred in obtaining, keeping, maintaining, repairing, replacing, operating and using his or her personal automobile for official travel on behalf of the City; provided, that said monthly allowance shall not be in lieu of reimbursement for parking, tolls, and similar expenses incurred on official city business. No request for reimbursement or accounting for expenses shall be required to be submitted in order for the Councilmembers to qualify to receive the allowance provided for in this section. The City Council determines such monthly allowance will be less costly to the City than providing automobiles to the Councilmembers for their official travel.

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Section 2. Any member of the City Council may elect not to receive the monthly allowance provided for in Section 1 of this Ordinance by filing a written election with the City Clerk, which election shall be effective until revoked by a written notice to that effect filed with the City Clerk. No member of the City Council may change his or her election hereunder more frequently than once in any twelve month period. If any member of the City Council elects not to receive the monthly allowance provided for in Section 1, of this Ordinance, he or she shall be entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the use of his or her personal automobile for official travel as provided in the City's then current adopted reimbursement policy.

Section 3. The car allowance authorized in Section 1 of this ordinance shall be subject to an annual administrative CPI adjustment.

Section 4. The City Manager or his designee shall review the amount of the car allowance authorized pursuant to Section 1 of this ordinance not less frequently than once every two years.

Section 5. The provisions of Section 1 of this ordinance shall become effective on January 1, 2006.

Section 6. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force five (5) days after passage and legal publication.

Passed by the City Council this 5th day of December, 2005, and signed in authentication of its passage this 5th day of December 2005.

(SEAL)

Connie B. Marshall
Connie B. Marshall, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Lori M. Riordan, City Attorney

Patrice C. Cole
Patrice C. Cole, Assistant City Attorney

Attest:

Myrna L. Basich
Myrna L. Basich, City Clerk

Published Dec. 9, 2005