

ORDINANCE NO. 001/2012

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON, AMENDING TITLE 2 MMC ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL BY ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 2.26 TERM LIMITS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS THERETO; ESTABLISHING LIMITATIONS ON THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE POSITIONS OF COUNCIL MEMBER AND MAYOR; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND FIXING A TIME WHEN THE SAME SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE.

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the policy and administrative functions of the Council and the office of the Mayor, respectively, are enhanced and improved by the continual installation of new officials; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to establish reasonable limitations on the terms of service for Council Members and Mayors in order to encourage and facilitate other Monroe residents to seek local elective office;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Amendment of Title 2 MMC. Title 2 of the Monroe Municipal Code is hereby amended by the addition of a new Chapter 2.26 Term Limits for Elected Officials to provide in its entirety as follows:

**Chapter 2.26
TERM LIMITS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Sections:

- 2.26.010 Purpose.
- 2.26.020 Term limits for city council members.
- 2.26.030 Term limits for mayors.

2.26.010 Purpose.

The city council finds that the public interest is best served by encouraging and facilitating a wide range of Monroe residents to seek and hold local elected office. The city council further finds that this objective is most effectively advanced by limiting the allowed terms of office for council members and mayors.

2.26.020 Term limits for city council members.

A. No person shall serve on the city council for more than eight total years except as provided in this section.

B. A person may serve on the city council for a total of nine years if the person was previously appointed to fill a vacancy on the city council and the period of appointment was less than one year.

C. A person who has previously served eight years on the city council shall be eligible for appointment to fill a vacancy on the city council if the period of appointment is less than one year.

D. The limitations set forth in subsections (A) through (C) shall not prevent a person from being elected or appointed to serve on the city council where eight consecutive years have lapsed since the date the person last served on the city council.

2.26.030 Term limits for mayors.

A. No person shall serve as mayor for more than eight total years except as provided in this section.

B. A person may serve as mayor for a total of nine years if the person was previously appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of the mayor and the period of appointment was less than one year.

C. A person who has previously served eight years as mayor shall be eligible for appointment to fill a vacancy in the office of the mayor if the period of appointment is less than one year.

D. The limitations set forth in subsections (A) through (C) shall not prevent a person from being elected or appointed to serve as mayor where eight consecutive years have lapsed since the date the person last served as mayor.

Section 2. Prospective Effect. The provisions of this ordinance shall have prospective effect only and shall not disqualify any local elected official from completing the term of office that he or she was elected to serve as of the effective date of this ordinance.

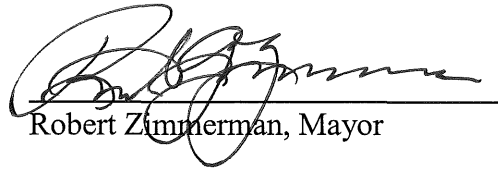
Section 3. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days from and after its passage and approval and publication as required by law.

PASSED by the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of Monroe, at a regular meeting held this 3rd day of January, 2012.

1st Reading: 12/6/11
2nd Reading: 01/03/12
Published: 01/10/12
Effective: 2/9/12

CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON:


Robert Zimmerman, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:


Eadye Martinson, Deputy City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


J. Zachary Lell, City Attorney