

**CITY OF MONROE
ORDINANCE NO. 006/2017**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MONROE,
WASHINGTON, REPEALING MONROE MUNICIPAL CODE
CHAPTER 2.26, TERM LIMITS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS;
PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING
AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, Monroe Municipal Code 2.26, Term Limits for Elected Officials was adopted through Ordinance No. 001/2012, on January 3, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes it is the right of the voters to elect a particular candidate, without local limitation of terms served or years of service; and

WHEREAS, the majority of local government entities within Washington State do not have limitations on terms served or years of service by elected officials; and

WHEREAS, public hearings were held November 15, 2016, and December 6, 2016, gathering feedback from the citizens of Monroe regarding the elimination of term limits for elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to remove the limitations on the terms of service for Council Members and Mayors, and repeal MMC 2.26.

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

Section 1. Repeal of Chapter 2.26 MMC. Chapter 2.26, Term Limits for Elected Officials, of the Monroe Municipal Code is hereby repealed in full:

**[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) OF THIS SECTION 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.]~~

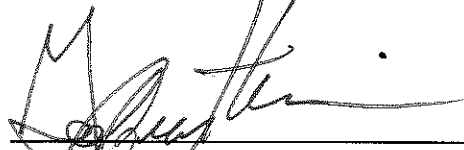
Section 2. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 3. 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 21st day of March, 2017.

First Reading March 14, 2017
Adoption: March 21, 2017
Published: March ~~24~~, 2017
Effective: April ~~23~~, 2017

CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON:




Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor

(seal)

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Elizabeth M. Adkisson, MMC, City Clerk



J. Zachary Lell, City Attorney