

ORDINANCE NO. 4967

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND EXTEND ORDINANCE 4923 AMENDING THE GRAND JUNCTION MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS AND TO ALLOW FOR ALTERNATIVE HEARING PROCEDURE FOR LAND USE APPLICATIONS IN THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO

RECITALS:

On June 5, 2020 the Grand Junction City Council adopted Ordinance 4923 finding the existence of a special emergency and that as an emergency matter the Ordinance was necessary to ensure the preservation of the peace, public health, safety and general welfare by effectuating the Council's public purposes and policies, which are consistent with and supportive of those of the State of Colorado.

When Ordinance 4923 was adopted it was in response and due to the incidence of COVID-19 in the general public. Ordinance 4923 followed a declaration of a Local Emergency, the designation of pandemic by the World Health Organization, Emergency Declarations by Governor Polis and President Trump, together with the various Public Health Orders (PHO's) issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and Executive Orders (EO's) issued by Governor Polis, all of which established guidelines, policies and restrictions necessary for the health and safety of the residents of Colorado. Because of COVID-19 and the fact that the virus continues to spread, those actions, together with others, continue to be relevant and necessary actions must be taken to continue to attempt to limit the transmission of the virus.

In response to COVID in general, and specifically as provided in Ordinance 4923, certain City regulations have been temporarily implemented, amended and adjusted in order to respond to the emergency. Those temporary regulations included but were not limited to prescribing procedures for the conduct of City business and controlling the occupancy of certain premises while providing important opportunities for citizen engagement, dissemination of information, public participation and transparency. Related modifications of City business processes and procedures, included the amendment of the City Code to conduct City business remotely, and the development and implementation of techniques for citizens to view meetings and otherwise comment on agenda topics and for alternative public participation processes.

Ordinance 4923, which created many of those procedures, includes a sunset provision, which provides in relevant part that without further action by the City Council, the Ordinance will expire 180 days after the effective date thereof.

In order to continue to respond to the challenges presented by COVID, the City Council, by and with this ordinance extends Ordinance 4923, the amendments made to the Code and the City's *Alternative Hearing Procedure* enacted therewith, for an additional 180 days.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO:

The City Council having duly considered this Ordinance does find and determine that an amendment to and extension of the sunset of Ordinance 4923 is necessary given the current urgent situation presented by COVID.

Accordingly, Ordinance 4923, an ordinance amending the Grand Junction Municipal Code regarding neighborhood meetings and to allow for alternative hearing procedure for land use applications in the City of Grand Junction, Colorado shall be amended to provide an extended term of 180 days after the effective date hereof and shall expire, without subsequent action by the City Council, on the date immediately thereafter.

All other provisions of Ordinance 4923, as codified in the Grand Junction Municipal Code, shall remain in full force and effect. The extended term of the Ordinance will be applied in a manner that the City reasonably considers to comport with principles of Due Process and fundamental fairness as found and determined by the City Council with the enactment of Ordinance 4923.



C.E. Wortmann
President of the Council

ATTEST:



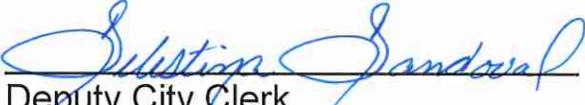
Wanda Winkelmann
City Clerk



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing Ordinance, being Ordinance No. 4967 was introduced by the City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado at a regular meeting of said body held on the 18th day of November 2020 and the same was published in The Daily Sentinel, a newspaper published and in general circulation in said City, in pamphlet form, at least ten days before its final passage.

I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT a Public Hearing was held on the 2nd day of December 2020, at which Ordinance No. 4967 was read, considered, adopted and ordered published in pamphlet form by the Grand Junction City Council.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of said City this 4th day of December 2020.


Deputy City Clerk

Published: November 20, 2020
Published: December 4, 2020
Effective: January 3, 2021

