

**CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO**

**ORDINANCE NO. 5247**

**AN ORDINANCE FOR AN AMENDMENT OF THE CITY CHARTER TO BE PLACED ON THE APRIL 8, 2025, ELECTION BALLOT TO CHANGE THE SALARY OF CITY COUNCIL BEGINNING THE FIRST MONDAY IN MAY 2027 OR THE SECOND MONDAY IN JANUARY 2028 IF A MAJORITY OF CITY ELECTORS APPROVE ORDINANCE 5246 ESTABLISHING NOVEMBER OF ODD YEARS FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, AND PROVIDING FOR A METHOD TO INCREASE THE SALARY BY ORDINANCE IN FUTURE YEARS AND REFER THE SAME TO THE APRIL 8, 2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION**

Recitals.

Pursuant to §151 of the Grand Junction City Charter, the Charter may be amended at any time in the manner provided by Article XX of the Constitution of the State of Colorado, and more than one Charter amendment or measure may be submitted to the voters in any one election.

In 1999 Section 38 of the City Charter Council was amended to provide that City Council members are paid a salary of \$500.00 per month and the President of the Council is paid \$750.00 per month. The salaries have not been increased since 1999. Accordingly, the City Council has determined that it is appropriate to ask the voters if an increase should be approved. If amended, the salary increase would not become effective until May 2027 or January 2028 depending on the passage of the ballot question to amend the Charter to change the date of the regular municipal election and terms of City Council.

The proposed ballot question, if approved by the voters, would provide for an index, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Mesa County, Colorado four-person household Area Median Income (AMI), to be applied annually to adjust by ordinance the Council and President of the Council salaries by application of a percentage of the AMI. The 2024 Mesa County four-person household AMI is \$94,200, and if the percentages of AMI (22% for Mayor and 15% for all other Councilmembers) were applied to Council salary for 2024 the Mayor/President of the Council would have received \$1727 per month and all other Councilmembers would have received \$1177.50 per month.

With this Ordinance and the proposed ballot question to amend the City Charter, the City Council desires the City voters to determine if the change would be in the best interest of the City.

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

That in consideration of the Recitals a proposed amendment to Article IV, Section 38 of the City of Grand Junction City Charter, as amended, is amended to read as follows with said amendment being referred to and that a question of the proposed amendments to Section 38 of the Charter to change the City Council salary being placed on the April 8, 2025 ballot for consideration by City electors.

Article IV, Section 38 of the City of Grand Junction Charter is amended subject to submission to and approval by the voters. Approval by the voters of any Charter amendment which repeals any section or portion of the Charter shall not be construed to be a limitation, denial, or suspension of any power of the City of Grand Junction, or any power of the City Council otherwise vested in or authorized to the City or the City Council by the Constitution or statutes of the State of Colorado.

All acts, orders, resolutions, ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith shall be repealed at the time the amendments provided for herein take effect; however, no such repeal shall be construed to destroy any property right, contract, right, or right of action of any nature or kind, vested in or against the City by virtue of any such act, order, resolution, ordinance or part thereof, theretofore existing or otherwise accruing to the City.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, or part of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall for any reason be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction invalid, such judgment shall not affect the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

The City Council finds and declares that this Ordinance is promulgated and adopted for the public health, safety and welfare and this Ordinance bears a rational relation to the

### **City of Grand Junction**

**Shall Article IV, Section 38 of the City Charter be amended to increase the salary of City Council and to provide for a basis to set and to increase the City Council salary in future years, for the purposes as stated in Ordinance 5247, and as follows and as described below?**

**38. Salaries, meetings. At least two meetings of the City Council shall be held monthly at such times as may be fixed by the council, such two meetings to be known as the regular meetings. All other meetings of the City council shall be known as special meetings or adjournments. The President of the Council shall be paid a salary of \$750.00 per month and all other councilmembers shall each be paid a salary of \$500.00 per month.**

**Beginning with the City Council terms commencing on the first Monday of May 2027 or the second Monday of January 2028 if a majority of City electors approve Ordinance 5246 establishing November of odd years for Municipal Elections, the President of the City Council shall be paid an annual salary calculated as 22% of the Mesa County, Colorado Area Median Income (AMI) for a four-person**

household as said AMI is annually determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and all other councilmembers shall each be paid a salary calculated as 15% of the Mesa County Area Median Income (AMI) for a four-person household as said AMI is annually determined by HUD. The City Council's annual salaries shall be prorated and paid on a monthly basis until the expiration of each member's term. After May 2027 or January 2028 as applicable, the annual salaries of the President of the City Council and the other members of City Council shall be adjusted annually, by ordinance, in accordance with the percentages of the most recent Mesa County AMI for a four-person household specified herein.

\_\_\_\_\_ YES/FOR

\_\_\_\_\_ NO/AGAINST

The ballot title is set based upon the requirements of the Colorado Constitution and the City Charter, all State statutes that might otherwise apply are hereby superseded to the extent of any inconsistencies or conflicts and, pursuant to Section 31-11-102, C.R.S. et seq., is an alternative to the provisions of State law.

Any inconsistency or conflict is intended by the City Council and shall be deemed made pursuant to the authority of Article XX of the Colorado Constitution and the Charter.

Pursuant to sections 31-10-1308 and 1-11-203.5 C.R.S., any election contest arising out of a ballot issue or ballot question election concerning the order of the ballot or the form or content of the ballot title shall be commenced by petition filed with the proper court within five days after the title of the ballot issue or ballot question is set, and for contest concerning the order of a ballot, within five days after the ballot order is set by the County Clerk.

The officers of the City are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this ordinance.

If any section, paragraph, clause, or provision of this ordinance shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause, or provision shall in no manner affect any remaining provisions of this resolution, the intent being that the same are

severable.

INTRODUCED ON FIRST READING AND ORDERED PUBLISHED THIS 15<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2025.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND ORDERED PUBLISHED IN PAMPHLET FORM THIS 5th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025.



Abram Herman  
President of City Council



ATTEST:



Selestina Sandoval  
City Clerk

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing Ordinance, being Ordinance No. 5247 was introduced by the City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado at a regular meeting of said body held on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of January 2025 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 5<sup>th</sup> day of February 2025, at which Ordinance No. 5247 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 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 2025.

  
Deputy City Clerk

Published: January 18, 2025  
Published: February 8, 2025  
Effective: March 10, 2025

