

TITLE 1

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION¹

CHAPTER

1. BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.
2. MAYOR.
3. RECORDER.
4. CODE OF ETHICS.

CHAPTER 1

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN²

SECTION

- 1-101. Compensation of board of mayor and aldermen.
- 1-102. Time and place of regular meetings.
- 1-103. Order of business.
- 1-104. General rules of order.

1-101. Compensation of board of mayor and aldermen.³ Effective June 1, 2009, the salary of the mayor shall be _____ dollars (\$_____) per month and each alderman shall receive one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per regular monthly meeting and fifty dollars (\$50.00) per called meeting or workshop. Any aldermen failing to attend a regular meeting, called meeting or workshop of the board of mayor and aldermen shall not receive compensation for meeting he/she fails to attend. (1970 Code, § 1-105, modified, as replaced by

¹Charter references

See the charter index, the charter itself, and footnote references to the charter in the front of this code.

Municipal code references

Building, plumbing, and gas inspectors: title 12.

Fire department: title 7.

Utilities: title 18.

Wastewater treatment: title 18.

Zoning: title 14.

²Charter reference

Board of mayor and aldermen: art. IV.

³Charter reference

Compensation: art. IV, § 2

Ord. #149, Sept. 2006, and amended by Ord. #222, Jan. 2017 *Ch3_04-09-24*, and Ord. #251, July 2022 *Ch3_04-09-24*)

1-102. Time and place of regular meetings. The board of mayor and aldermen shall hold regular monthly meetings at 7:00 P.M. on the second Tuesday of each month at the city hall. (1970 Code, § 1-106, modified)

1-103. Order of business. At each meeting of the board of mayor and aldermen the following regular order of business shall be observed unless dispensed with by a majority vote of the members present:

- (1) Call to order by the mayor.
- (2) Roll call by the recorder.
- (3) Approval of minutes of the previous meeting by the recorder and approval or correction.
- (4) Grievances from citizens.
- (5) Communications from the mayor.
- (6) Reports from committees, members of the governing body and other officers.
- (7) Old business.
- (8) New business.
- (9) Adjournment. (1970 Code, § 1-107, modified)

1-104. General rules of order. The rules of order and parliamentary procedure contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the transaction of business by and before the board of mayor and aldermen at its meetings in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with provisions of the charter or this code. (1970 Code, § 1-108, modified)

CHAPTER 2

MAYOR¹

SECTION

1-201. Duties of mayor.

1-201. Duties of mayor. (1) The mayor:

(a) Shall be the chief executive officer of the municipality and shall preside at meetings of the board;

(b) Shall communicate any information needed, and recommend measures the mayor deems expedient to the board;

(c) (i) May call special meetings of the board upon adequate notice to the board and adequate public notice;

(ii) Shall state the matters to be considered at the special meeting and the action of the board shall be limited to those matters submitted;

(d) Shall countersign checks and drafts drawn upon the treasury by the treasurer and sign all contracts to which the municipality is a party;

(e) As a member of the board, may make motions but shall vote only in case of a tie;

(f) Shall make appointments to boards and commissions as authorized by law.

(2) Unless otherwise designated by the board by ordinance, the mayor shall perform the following duties or may designate a department head or department heads to perform any of the following duties:

(a) (i) Nothing in this charter shall be construed as granting a property interest to employees or department heads in their continued employment;

(b) Act as purchasing agent for the municipality in the purchase of all materials, supplies and equipment for the proper conduct of the municipality's business; provided, that all purchases shall be made in accordance with policies, practices and procedures established by the board in accordance with the general law;

(c) Prepare and submit the annual budget and capital program to the board for their adoption by ordinance; and

(d) Such other duties as may be designated or required by the board. (as amended by Ord. #218, Feb. 2016 ***Ch3_04-09-24***)

¹Charter references

Powers and duties of mayor, etc.: art. IV, § 3

CHAPTER 3

RECORDER¹

SECTION

1-301. To be bonded.

1-302. To keep minutes, etc.

1-303. To perform general administrative duties, etc.

1-304. To be treasurer.

1-301. To be bonded. The recorder shall be bonded in the sum of no less than eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000.00), with surety acceptable to the board of aldermen, before assuming the duties of his office. (1970 Code, § 1-301, modified)

1-302. To keep minutes, etc. The recorder shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the board of mayor and aldermen and shall preserve the original copy of all ordinances in a separate ordinance book. (1970 Code, § 1-302)

1-303. To perform general administrative duties, etc. The recorder shall perform all administrative duties for the board of mayor and aldermen and for the municipality which are not expressly assigned by the charter, this code, or the board of aldermen to another corporate officer. He shall also have custody of, and be responsible for maintaining all corporate bonds, records, and papers in such fireproof vault or safe as the municipality shall provide. (1970 Code, § 1-303)

1-304. To be treasurer. 1. The recorder shall be the treasurer of the town.

2. The treasurer shall keep such office hours as prescribed by the board of aldermen.

3. The treasurer shall be responsible for all bookkeeping of the town's records and business.

4. The treasurer shall be responsible for collection of all revenue and income for the town, including collection of taxes, privilege licenses, income from the water system and any and all records involving receipts and disbursements of the town.

5. The treasurer shall countersign all checks with the mayor for disbursement of any funds belonging to the town.

¹Charter reference
Recorder: art. VII.

6. The treasurer shall make such reports to the board of aldermen as required by the board for any business of the town.

7. The treasurer shall make out the town tax books and submit a report of the town tax assessment to the mayor and board of aldermen for approval. (1970 Code, § 1-404, modified)

CHAPTER 4

CODE OF ETHICS

SECTION

- 1-401. Applicability.
- 1-402. Definition of "personal interest."
- 1-403. Disclosure of personal interest by official with vote.
- 1-404. Disclosure of personal non-voting matters.
- 1-405. Acceptance of gratuities, etc.
- 1-406. Use of information.
- 1-407. Use of municipal time, facilities, etc.
- 1-408. Use of position or authority.
- 1-409. Outside employment.
- 1-410. Ethics complaints.
- 1-411. Violations.

CHAPTER 4

CODE OF ETHICS¹

¹State statutes dictate many of the ethics provisions that apply to municipal officials and employees. For provisions relative to the following, see the Tennessee Code Annotated sections indicated:

Campaign finance: Tennessee Code Annotated, title 2, ch. 10.

Conflict of interests: Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 6-54-107, 108; 12-4-101, 102.

Conflict of interests disclosure statements: Tennessee Code Annotated, § 8-50-501 and the following sections.

Consulting fee prohibition for elected municipal officials: Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 2-10-122, 124.

Crimes involving public officials (bribery, soliciting unlawful compensation, buying and selling in regard to office): Tennessee Code Annotated, § 39-16-101 and the following sections.

Crimes of official misconduct, official oppression, misuse of official information: Tennessee Code Annotated, § 39-16-401 and the following sections.

(continued...)

1-401. Applicability. This chapter is the code of ethics for personnel of the municipality. It applies to all full-time and part-time elected or appointed officials and employees, whether compensated or not, including those of any separate board, commission, committee, authority, corporation, or other instrumentality appointed or created by the municipality. The words "municipal" and "municipality" include these separate entities. (as added by Ord. #152, Oct. 2006)

1-402. Definition of "personal interest." 1. For purposes of §§ 1-403 and 1-404, "personal interest" means:

- a. Any financial, ownership, or employment interest in the subject of a vote by a municipal board not otherwise regulated by state statutes on conflicts of interests; or
- b. Any financial, ownership, or employment interest in a matter to be regulated or supervised; or
- c. Any such financial, ownership, or employment interest of the official's or employee's spouse, parent(s), step parent(s), grandparent(s), sibling(s), child(ren), or step child(ren).

2. The words "employment interest" include a situation in which an official or employee or a designated family member is negotiating possible employment with a person or organization that is the subject of the vote or that is to be regulated or supervised.

3. In any situation in which a personal interest is also a conflict of interest under state law, the provisions of the state law take precedence over the provisions of this chapter. (as added by Ord. #152, Oct. 2006)

1-403. Disclosure of personal interest by official with vote. An official with the responsibility to vote on a measure shall disclose during the meeting at which the vote takes place, before the vote and so it appears in the minutes, any personal interest that affects or that would lead a reasonable person to infer that it affects the official's vote on the measure. In addition, the

¹(...continued)

Ouster law: Tennessee Code Annotated, § 8-47-101 and the following sections.

A brief synopsis of each of these laws appears in the appendix of the municipal code.

official may recuse himself¹ from voting on the measure. (as added by Ord. #152, Oct. 2006)

1-404. Disclosure of personal interest in non-voting matters. An official or employee who must exercise discretion relative to any matter, other than casting a vote, and who has a personal interest in the matter that affects or that would lead a reasonable person to infer that it affects the exercise of the discretion shall disclose, before the exercise of the discretion when possible, the interest on a form provided by and filed with the recorder. In addition, the official or employee may, to the extent allowed by law, charter, ordinance, or policy, recuse himself from the exercise of discretion in the matter. (as added by Ord. #152, Oct. 2006)

1-405. Acceptance of gratuities, etc. An official or employee may not accept, directly or indirectly, any money, gift, gratuity, or other consideration or favor of any kind from anyone other than the municipality:

1. For the performance of an act, or refraining from performance of an act, that he would be expected to perform, or refrain from performing, in the regular course of his duties; or

2. That might reasonably be interpreted as an attempt to influence his action, or reward him for past action, in executing municipal business. (as added by Ord. #152, Oct. 2006)

1-406. Use of information. 1. An official or employee may not disclose any information obtained in his official capacity or position of employment that is made confidential under state or federal law except as authorized by law.

2. An official or employee may not use or disclose information obtained in his official capacity or position of employment with the intent to result in financial gain for himself or any other person or entity. (as added by Ord. #152, Oct. 2006)

1-407. Use of municipal time, facilities, etc. (1) An official or employee may not use or authorize the use of municipal time, facilities, equipment, or supplies for private gain or advantage to himself.

(2) An official or employee may not use or authorize the use of municipal time, facilities, equipment, or supplies for private gain or advantage to any private person or entity, except as authorized by legitimate contract or lease that is determined by the governing body to be in the best interests of the municipality. (as added by Ord. #152, Oct. 2006)

¹Masculine pronouns include the feminine. Only masculine pronouns have been used for convenience and readability.

1-408. Use of position or authority. 1. An official or employee may not make or attempt to make private purchases, for cash or otherwise, in the name of the municipality.

2. An official or employee may not use or attempt to use his position to secure any privilege or exemption for himself or others that is not authorized by the charter, general law, or ordinance or policy of the municipality. (as added by Ord. #152, Oct. 2006)

1-409. Outside employment. An official or employee may not accept or continue any outside employment if the work unreasonably inhibits the performance of any affirmative duty of the municipal position or conflicts with any provision of the municipality's charter or any ordinance or policy. (as added by Ord. #152, Oct. 2006)

1-410. Ethics complaints. 1. The city attorney is designated as the ethics officer of the municipality. Upon the written request of an official or employee potentially affected by a provision of this chapter, the city attorney may render an oral or written advisory ethics opinion based upon this chapter and other applicable law.

2. a. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the city attorney shall investigate any credible complaint against an appointed official or employee charging any violation of this chapter, or may undertake an investigation on his own initiative when he acquires information indicating a possible violation, and make recommendations for action to end or seek retribution for any activity that, in the attorney's judgment, constitutes a violation of this code of ethics.

b. The city attorney may request the governing body to hire another attorney, individual, or entity to act as ethics officer when he has or will have a conflict of interests in a particular matter.

c. When a complaint of a violation of any provision of this chapter is lodged against a member of the municipality's governing body, the governing body shall either determine that the complaint has merit, determine that the complaint does not have merit, or determine that the complaint has sufficient merit to warrant further investigation. If the governing body determines that a complaint warrants further investigation, it shall authorize an investigation by the city attorney or another individual or entity chosen by the governing body.

3. The interpretation that a reasonable person in the circumstances would apply shall be used in interpreting and enforcing this code of ethics.

4. When a violation of this code of ethics also constitutes a violation of a personnel policy, rule, or regulation or a civil service policy, rule, or regulation, the violation shall be dealt with as a violation of the personnel or civil service provisions rather than as a violation of this code of ethics. (as added by Ord. #152, Oct. 2006)

1-411. Violations. An elected official or appointed member of a separate municipal board, commission, committee, authority, corporation, or other instrumentality who violates any provision of this chapter is subject to punishment as provided by the municipality's charter or other applicable law, and in addition is subject to censure by the governing body. An appointed official or an employee who violates any provision of this chapter is subject to disciplinary action. (as added by Ord. #152, Oct. 2006)