

From: [Peter Dahlen](#)
To: [Lynette Peterson](#)
Subject: Council Salaries for 2027 and 2028
Date: Saturday, May 30, 2026 9:23:42 AM

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[perhaps, this can be included in the packet. I am sending to all Council members using the BCC line.]

Dear Council,

Regarding the 2nd Reading of Council Salaries Ordinance on Tuesday night's agenda, please consider my. . .

MOTION TO AMEND Ordinance No. 1093

Move that council salaries remain the same for 2027 as in 2026.

OR

MOTION TO POSTPONE Ordinance No. 1093

Move that Ordinance No. 1093 be postponed until 2027 for further study leading to a later decision.

RATIONALE

The setting of salaries belongs solely to the Council. Setting of staff salaries belongs to the administrative team. This Ordinance was improvidently moved by staff before any budget scenario or budget impacts for 2027 were known by the Council.

The arguments for social equity and peer cities lack specifics and need more analysis.

The argument that this council's decision is being de-politicized was specious. All decisions by elected persons in a democracy are political, most notably the setting of council salaries. To depoliticize it would mean appointing an independent commission to study and recommend, with circumscribing the council's ability to either approve the recommendation or return for further study.

Thank you.

Peter Dahlen

Northfield MN