

Article V. Boards, Commissions and Committees

DIVISION 1. GENERALLY

Sec. 2-250. Purpose of Boards and Commissions and applicability of division.

All Boards and Commissions shall endeavor to fulfill the mission, scope or purpose provided by law. They shall provide recommendations and advice to the City Council on issues related to the subject matter assigned to that Board or Commission by the Charter, ordinance or other law. This Division 1 shall apply to all Boards and Commissions of the City except when a different term or condition is otherwise provided by law. Additionally, nothing herein in this Division 1 shall apply to any Board, Commission, or Committee created by any Missouri statute.

Sec. 2-251. Filling of vacancies; successive terms.

Vacancies in any city board or commission occasioned by removals, resignations, expiration of term or otherwise, shall be reported to the Mayor and filled in a like manner as original appointments, except that if a vacancy is in an unexpired term, the appointment shall be made only for the unexpired portion of that term. Except as may otherwise be provided by law, no member of any board or commission of the city shall serve for more than three successive full terms, and, members shall not be eligible for further appointment to such board until one year after the expiration of the third full term. Provided, however, that a member of any board or commission who shall be prevented by this section from serving an additional term may make an application for appointment. Any such person may be appointed for an additional term upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Council. All board or commission members shall be provided a copy of this Article V. of the City Code, a copy of the City's ethics policy and information related to the Missouri open meetings law.

Sec. 2-252. Absence of members from meetings.

Each board or commission shall establish a calendar of meetings for the following year no later than the first meeting of the board or commission on or after July 1 of each year. Except as may otherwise be provided by law, any member of a city board or commission who shall be absent for three regular meetings during any calendar year, or, who shall be absent for three successive regular meetings without cause acceptable to a majority of the other members of the board or commission shall be deemed to have vacated their position on said board or commission, and the position on the board or commission shall immediately become vacant.

Sec. 2-253. Members to be registered voters – exceptions.

All proposed appointees to City boards, committees, and commissions shall be qualified voters of the City as defined by the Charter of the City of Lee's Summit, except as otherwise may be provided by resolution, ordinance, statute, or the Missouri Constitution. However, a person who is not a qualified voter of the City may be appointed to any City board, committee, or commission seat provided that the person shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire City Council.

Any registered voter who is appointed to a board, committee, or commission, and who thereafter becomes ineligible under this Section 2-253 during the person's term of service because the person is no longer a qualified voter, shall be reappointed to the person's seat on such board, committee, or commission as of the date that the person is no longer a qualified voter of the City, or the position shall be promptly filled as provided by law. All members of a board, committee, or commission shall report their home addresses yearly to the City Clerk and at any time when such address changes.

The information provided to the City Council at the time that an appointment is recommended shall include whether or not the individual is a qualified voter of the City. (Ordinance No. 9374 passed by the City Council 3-25-22)

Sec. 2-254. Application for appointment ~~or~~ **and process for** reappointment to Boards, Committees and Commissions – Content.

- A. **Initial Appointment.** All persons wishing to be considered for appointment ~~or reappointment~~ to any City board, committee, or commission shall first complete an application. The application shall include at least: name, address, e-mail address, telephone number, City Council District in which the person is registered to vote, years as a Lee's Summit resident, highest level of education completed, employment and position, reason for interest in appointment ~~or reappointment~~ and any qualifications, involvement in other community activities, any boards, commissions or committees of interest, current service on any other City of Lee's Summit board, committee or commission and when the current term expires; and, past service on a board, committee or commission in Lee's Summit or any other community. The completed application shall be forwarded to the City Council prior to consideration of any appointment ~~or reappointment~~.
- B. **Reappointment.** All persons seeking reappointment shall be asked by staff to update the information included in the application listed in subsection A above. However, failure to update such information shall not bar a person from being appointed or serving on the board, committee or commission. The original application and any updates shall be forwarded to the City Council prior to consideration of any reappointment.

Sec. 2-255. Length of term.

No term for any member of a city board or commission shall be longer than three years except as provided unless specifically otherwise provided by the Charter, an ordinance or other law. Any member shall continue to serve until a replacement is appointed as provided by the Charter of the City of Lee's Summit. Notwithstanding anything hereinabove, the term of any member who is appointed to a new or newly reorganized board or commission shall be determined by the drawing of lots with 1/3 of members to serve one year, 1/3rd of members shall serve two years and 1/3rd of the members shall serve three years. In the event that number of members of a board or commission isn't evenly divisible by three then preference shall be given to a three-year term for more than 1/3rd of members.

Sec. 2-256. Meetings to be held quarterly.

Each city board or commission shall meet at least once quarterly except that no board or commission shall required to meet at any time during a declared emergency.

Sec. 2-257. Appointments and removal.

(a) Generally. The procedure for appointment and removal of members of boards shall be as stated in this section except as otherwise provided by another provision of the Charter, this Code or Missouri Statute.

(b) Appointment. The Mayor shall appoint all members of boards and commission as provided in section 4.4(e) of the Charter of the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri and this Division 1.

(c) Removal. Members of boards and commissions may be removed by a 2/3rds majority of the entire City Council except as may otherwise be specifically provided by state statute or this code. Any member so removed shall be provided notice of their removal via regular US Mail. Any member so removed shall, if the member so requests, have the right to be heard by the council at the next regular meeting of the council occurring at least seven (7) days after notice of removal has been mailed and not more than twenty-one (21) days. The request to address council shall be filed by the affected board or commission member at least four days prior to the next regular council meeting. Grounds for removal of members, although not deemed exclusive, may be that the member:

(1) Lacks at any time during the member's term of appointment, any qualification for the board or commission prescribed by the charter, by this Code, or by law; or,

(2) Malfeasance or misfeasance.

Sec. 2-258. Communications to the City Council

All Boards and Commissions shall report their activities by causing an action letter to be prepared following each meeting. Action letters shall be an open record unless otherwise provided by Chapter 610 RSMo., shall be considered the report of the body once approved and shall be provided to the Mayor, City Council and City Manager. The City Council or a Committee of the Council may request a supplemental report at any time. A Board or Commission may provide an additional report on a matter within the mission, scope or purpose of the Board or Commission but only after such report is approved by a majority of the entire membership of the Board or Commission.

Sec. 2-259. Conduct of Meetings.

Meetings shall be conducted as provided by the rules of procedure generally applicable to the City Council and City Council Standing Committees as found in Chapter 2, Divisions 2 and 3 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lee's Summit Missouri. Each agenda shall have an item labeled "Citizen Comments" and provisions shall be made to take citizen comments at each meeting. The Missouri Sunshine Law, Chapter 610 RSMo. shall apply to Boards and Commissions and the subcommittees thereof.

Sec. 2-260. Agenda and Action Letters.

An agenda shall be prepared in accordance with Missouri Law in such a manner as to reasonably advise the public of topics to be discussed. Deviation from the agenda shall not invalidate the notice of any such meeting. An action letter shall be prepared by the City Clerk or Staff Liaison following each Board, Committee or Commission meeting or any subcommittee thereof.

Sec. 2-261. Special rule on quorum.

A quorum of the entire board or commission shall be necessary for the conduct of business. A quorum may be reached by the in-person presence of individuals or by virtual participation so long as notice has been properly provided for virtual participation. In the event that less than a majority but more than two members are present, a Board or Commission may hear reports and presentations and take public comments. No votes or other actions may take place during such meetings with only a minority present. The Chair or Acting Chair shall adjourn the meeting immediately following such reports, presentations or

public comments. An action letter shall be prepared by the City Clerk or Staff Liaison and it shall indicate that only a minority of the board or commission was present.

Sec. 2-262. Election and Duties of the Chair.

The Chair shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the Board or Commission. The Chair shall, with the assistance of staff, cause an Agenda to be prepared that will advise the public generally of the topics to be discussed and / or acted upon. The Chair of any new or reorganized Board or Commission shall be appointed by the Mayor; thereafter, the Chair of each Board or Commission shall be elected by the members of the Board or Commission at the first meeting of such body during the month of July of each year or as soon thereafter as is practical. In the event of the absence of the Chair, the Committee shall select from the members present, a quorum being found, a temporary Chair who shall preside during that meeting. In the event that for any reason the previously elected Chair is unable to serve, then the Board or Commission shall elect a new Chair to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

Sec. 2-263. Code of Conduct.

Members of the City of Lee's Summit Boards and Commissions should:

- A. Practice civility, professionalism and decorum in discussions and be fair, impartial and respectful with one another as well as guests and citizens.
- B. Listen carefully to community opinions, attitudes, and needs.
- C. Not engage in shouting or physical actions that could be construed as threatening will be tolerated. Board and Commission members should conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.
- D. Avoid dominating the conversation, agenda and decision-making process.
- E. Honor the role of the Chair in maintaining order.
- F. Be punctual and keep comments relative to the topics discussed.
- G. Each member should participate in the group's discussion and work assignments.

Sec. 2-264. Liaisons

A. Council Liaison

A member of the City Council may be appointed to each board or commission as a non-voting City Council liaison. Council liaisons shall not be counted for purposes of quorum. The role of the Council liaison is to communicate the City Council's needs, policies, and interest to the members of the board or commission and to assist with communicating recommendations from the board or commission to the City Council.

B. Staff Liaison

Each board or commission may have a staff liaison assigned by the City manager. Staff liaisons are members of the administrative staff and have knowledge and expertise in the subject area of the board or commission. The staff liaison may not vote and shall not be counted for purposes of quorum. Staff liaisons shall serve to provide factual information for the board or commission, facilitate the meeting process by working with the Chair, coordinate with other staff members to meet the needs of the board or committee and to advise the City Manager and staff of the activities of the board or commission.

Sec 2-265. Subcommittees

Subcommittees shall consist of members of the main Board or Commission appointed by the Chair at his or her discretion. Notwithstanding anything herein, the Chair shall have the discretion to appoint persons who are not members of the main Board or Commission to serve as ex officio members of the subcommittee, when, in the opinion of the Chair, outside expertise or perspective will be advantageous to the subcommittee. Ex officio members shall not have the right to vote but shall have the right to notice of meetings and the right to be heard. The number of members of any subcommittee shall be determined by the Chair of the main committee except that in no event shall the number of subcommittee members on any given subcommittee be equal to or greater than the number required for quorum of the main committee. Ex officio members shall not count toward quorum.