

02/16/99
Clerk 2/04/99
nlw 2/16/99

Introduced By: Pete von Reichbauer

Proposed No.: 1999-0067

ORDINANCE NO. **13411**

1
2 AN ORDINANCE related to rules of procedures for council
3 standing committees; and amending Ordinance 11683, Section
4 6, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.055, and declaring an
5 emergency.

6 PREAMBLE:

7 Motion 10419, section V, establishes the employment committee and
8 specifies that it shall consist of six members, three from the majority
9 party and three from the minority party. Because of conflicting
10 responsibilities common for councilmembers, it is not always possible
11 for all committee members to be present at each meeting. However,
12 as this committee is responsible for the hiring of council staff, it is
13 important to maintain a bipartisan decision-making body. Alternate
14 members will further bipartisan cooperation by ensuring that both
15 parties will be evenly represented.

16 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

17 SECTION 1. Ordinance 11683, Section 6, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.055 are
18 each hereby amended to read as follows:

19 **1.24.055 Rule 6: Standing committees.** The standing committees shall operate as
20 follows:

21 A. A majority of any committee shall constitute a quorum except for
22 committees with an even number of members, in which case one half of the committee
23 shall constitute a quorum. Committees shall be considered to have a quorum present
24 unless the question is raised by a member of a committee. If any member draws attention

1 to the absence of a quorum, the committee shall not conduct official business, except to
2 conduct a hearing. The appointment or use of alternate (pro tem or substitute) members
3 shall not be allowed for any standing committee other than the employment committee. If
4 a regular member of the employment committee cannot attend an employment committee
5 meeting, the other council members from the regular member's party may notify the
6 committee chair in writing before the meeting of an alternate member to serve in the
7 regular member's absence. Alternate employment committee members may be designated
8 for either a specific meeting or for any meeting at which an absence might occur in the
9 future.

10 B. During its consideration of a vote on any ordinance or motion the deliberations of
11 any committee of the council shall be open to the public.

12 C. Every vote to report an ordinance or motion out of committee shall be taken by
13 the "ayes" and "nos," with the committee clerk recording the names of the members
14 voting for and against, as well as the names of the members absent. On any matter,
15 including but not limited to amendments, votes shall be taken by oral roll call if requested
16 by any member of the committee. No standing committee shall vote by secret ballot on
17 any issue. Ordinances and motions may be voted out of committee subject to signature.

18 D. With the exception of legislation referred to committee-of-the-whole, ordinances or
19 motions reported to the council from a standing committee must have a majority
20 recommendation report, which shall be prepared upon a printed standing committee report
21 form and shall be signed by a majority of the committee with one of the following
22 recommendations:

- 23 1. Do pass.

- 1 2. Do pass with amendments.
- 2 3. Do pass substitute.
- 3 4. Do not pass.
- 4 5. Postpone indefinitely.
- 5 6. Pass out of committee with no recommendation.
- 6 7. Refer to another committee.
- 7 8. In the case of confirmations of appointments: do confirm, do reject, or no
- 8 recommendation.

9 A minority recommendation also may be issued in the same manner by any member
10 or members of a committee and the council agenda shall reflect any majority and minority
11 recommendations.

12 E. The rules and procedures contained in this chapter shall be observed, where
13 applicable, in all proceedings of any standing or special committee of the council.

14 F. The chair of the committee shall set the agenda for the committee, including
15 whether and when to include on a specific agenda for action any proposed legislation
16 referred to that committee by the council chair. Changes to the last distributed and posted
17 agenda made at a meeting shall be announced by the chair, and shall be subject to appeal to
18 the full committee present by any two members of the committee. Any such appeal shall be
19 decided by a majority of the members present.

20 G. No committee may meet at a time different than its regularly scheduled time unless
21 at least twenty-four hours notice has been given in writing to the chair of the council and the
22 members of the committee, with such notice also having been posted in the appropriate areas
23 of the courthouse by the clerk of the council. Up to six special meetings per calendar year

1 may be called at the discretion of the committee chair. Additional special meetings may
2 only be called upon the request of the chair and the written consent of either the vice-chair of
3 the committee or the chair of the council. Special meetings shall be called only when there is
4 either:

- 5 1. Time-sensitive legislation or information which cannot be presented and
6 considered in the ordinary committee meeting schedule,
- 7 2. A joint meeting of two or more committees is necessary to consider a matter, or
- 8 3. An unusual and extreme work load of a committee does not allow its full
9 consideration during the ordinary committee meeting schedule.

10 No committee may recess any meeting for longer than eight hours unless consent is
11 given consistent with this rule. Such a recess shall constitute a special meeting solely for
12 the purpose of counting the six discretionary special meetings provided for in this section.

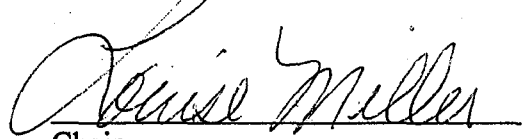
1 If recess is until the next day but less than twenty-four hours, then the maximum possible
2 notice shall be given. If recess is for greater than twenty-four hours, then at least twenty-
3 four hours notice shall be given.

4 SECTION 2. The employment committee is conducting a special meeting on
5 Wednesday, February 17, 1999 and not all of the regular members will be able to attend.
6 Thus, it is important to have this ordinance be effective prior to that time. Therefore, the
7 county council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency exists and that this ordinance
8 is necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, health, or safety or for the
9 support of county government and existing institutions.

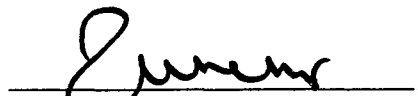
10 INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 8th day of February, 1999.

11 PASSED by a vote of 11 to 0 this 16th day of February
12 1999.

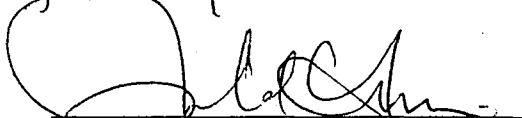
13 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
14 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

15 
16 Chair

17 ATTEST:

18 
19 Clerk of the Council

20 APPROVED this 25 day of February, 1999.

21 
22 King County Executive

23 Attachments: None