

Zeeland

DIVISION 5. - YOUTH COUNCIL

Sec. 2-228. - Establishment and purposes.

The city hereby establishes a youth council. The youth council shall serve in an advisory capacity to the city council, to administrators, and to other boards and commissions of the city. The purposes of the youth council include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Representing the concerns of the youth within the city and the Zeeland Public School District to the city council and to its various boards, commissions, and committees;
- (2) Learning, understanding, and practicing the functions of government; and
- (3) Developing good citizenship, leadership, and planning skills in our youth.

(Ord. No. 769, § 1(1), 8-19-2002; Ord. No. 890, § 1(1), 9-8-2009)

Sec. 2-229. - Composition; appointment of members.

The youth council shall consist of not less than five nor more than nine members who shall be appointed and approved by the majority of the members of the city council. Prior to such appointment, youth shall file an application with the city clerk's office. Such applications shall be reviewed by the youth liaison committee. In addition, the youth liaison committee may interview applicants for a position, if such interviews are determined to be necessary. Following the review of the applications and/or interviewing of applicants, the youth liaison committee shall make appointment recommendations to the city council.

(Ord. No. 769, § 1(2), 8-19-2002; Ord. No. 890, § 1(2), 9-8-2009)

Sec. 2-230. - Qualifications.

A member of the youth council must reside within the Zeeland Public School District, and a majority of the members must reside within the city limits. Members of the youth council must be not less than age 13 years nor more than 19 years of age, and must be enrolled and in regular attendance in a public or private high school.

(Ord. No. 769, § 1(3), 8-19-2002; Ord. No. 890, § 1(3), 9-8-2009)

Sec. 2-231. - Term.

The term of an appointment shall be for one year. A term shall begin on or about October 1 and shall end on the following June 30. No individual may serve more than two terms on the youth council.

(Ord. No. 769, § 1(4), 8-19-2002; Ord. No. 890, § 1(4), 9-8-2009)

Sec. 2-232. - Liaison committee and coordinator.

The youth council liaison committee shall be a committee consisting of the mayor, a second city councilmember, and the city clerk. In addition, the city manager shall appoint a city staff member to serve as the youth council coordinator and to be responsible for providing guidance and support to the youth council. Such coordinator or a member of the liaison committee shall attend all regular meetings of the youth council.

(Ord. No. 769, § 1(5), 8-19-2002; Ord. No. 890, § 1(5), 9-8-2009)

Sec. 2-233. - Officers and minutes.

The youth council shall elect its own chair person, vice-chairperson, and clerk. Minutes of a youth council meeting shall be filed with the youth council coordinator and shall be reviewed and approved for

accuracy by the youth council. Upon approval of the minutes, such minutes shall be submitted to the city council for information.

(Ord. No. 769, § 1(6), 8-19-2002; Ord. No. 890, § 1(6), 9-8-2009)

Sec. 2-234. - Functions.

The youth council shall meet monthly between the months of October and June of each year, and at such other times as they shall determine. As a part of its meetings, youth councilmembers shall seek to identify projects and programs which may be of benefit to the community. As a part of any recommendation for a project or a program, the cost of such a project or program shall be estimated and the burden of any tax increase shall be estimated for the average homeowner. In addition, the input of and recommendations from the youth council may be sought on any issue which has been referred to it by the city council, or by another board or commission of the city. Upon direction of the city council, the youth council may also administer programs and projects on behalf of the city.

(Ord. No. 769, § 1(7), 8-19-2002; Ord. No. 890, § 1(7), 9-8-2009)

Sec. 2-235. - Meetings.

All meetings of the youth council shall be open to the members of the general public.

(Ord. No. 769, § 1(8), 8-19-2002; Ord. No. 890, § 1(8), 9-8-2009)

Sec. 2-236. - Compensation.

For each monthly youth council meeting which was attended, a youth councilmember will receive \$15.00 as a meeting fee for such attendance, provided that no youth councilmember shall be compensated for attending more than one such meeting per month. At the end of the youth council term, an award of \$100.00 shall be given to those youth members who have performed outstanding service on the youth council. Such outstanding service shall be determined by the youth council liaison committee.

(Ord. No. 769, § 1(9), 8-19-2002; Ord. No. 890, § 1(9), 9-8-2009)

Sec. 2-237. - Vacancies and removals.

In the event of a resignation or a vacancy, a replacement member shall be appointed for the unexpired term. A member of the youth council may be removed by a majority of the youth council liaison committee. If an individual fails to attend meetings for two or more consecutive months and if his absences have not been excused by the youth council, then such individual shall be deemed to have resigned from his position.

(Ord. No. 769, § 1(10), 8-19-2002; Ord. No. 890, § 1(10), 9-8-2009)

Secs. 2-238—2-267. - Reserved.