

ORDINANCE NO. 06-20

AN ORDINANCE of the City of Richland amending Section 2.16.010 of the Richland Municipal Code related to Planning Commission membership.

WHEREAS, the City has need, from time to time, to update the Richland Municipal Code to bring it into alignment with current practice, eliminate ambiguity, or reconcile conflict with state and/or federal law; and

WHEREAS, at a recent City Council workshop, Council discussed its desire to ensure consistency across various boards, commissions and committees by establishing terms of no more than four (4) years where possible; and

WHEREAS, terms for the City's various boards, commissions and committees are four (4) years in duration or less except for the City of Richland's Planning Commission, Board of Adjustment, and Richland Library Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the 5-year terms of the Richland Library Board of Trustees are established by state law and cannot be modified by local legislative action; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Adjustment's scope is limited such that 5-year terms are appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the City has the discretion, under RCW 35.63.030, to establish terms for Planning Commission members at either four (4) or six (6) years; and

WHEREAS, a code amendment is necessary to modify the Planning Commission terms of membership from six (6) years to four (4) years in the Richland Municipal Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Richland as follows:

Section 1. Richland Municipal Code Section 2.16.020, entitled Planning commission created – Membership, as first enacted by Ordinance No. 23, and last amended by Ordinance No. 54-18, is hereby modified as follows:

2.16.010 Planning commission created – Membership.

There is created a planning commission (hereinafter referred to as the “commission”) composed of seven members appointed by the city council. Members shall serve staggered ~~six~~ four-year terms and until their successors are appointed and confirmed. General requirements of participation on the planning commission include:

- A. General knowledge of the council's community priorities;
- B. A strong desire to be involved with land use development on behalf of the city of Richland;

C. The following backgrounds are desirable: urban planning, architecture, transportation, civil engineering, geology, or economic development;

D. Participation in community activities and time availability will also be considered.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect the day following its publication in the official newspaper of the City of Richland.

Section 3. Should any section or provision of this ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, that decision shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid.

Section 4. The City Clerk and the codifiers of this ordinance are authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including but not limited to the correction of scrivener's errors/clerical errors, section numbering, references, or similar mistakes of form.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Richland, Washington, at a regular meeting on the 7th day of April, 2020.


Ryan Lukson, Mayor

Attested by:


Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

Approved as to form:


Heather Kintzley, City Attorney

Date Published: April 12, 2020