

## REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

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**DATE:** March 7, 2017

**TITLE:** Ordinance Increasing the Salary for Planning Commissioners and Adding a Salary for City Commissioners and Committee Members

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**Sponsored by:** Russell Betts, Council Member

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

Introduce for First Reading, read by title only, "An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Desert Hot Springs: 1) Amending Section 2.32.050 of Chapter 2.32 of the Desert Hot Springs Municipal Code increasing the salary of City Planning Commissioners; 2) Adding Section 2.36.050 to Chapter 2.36, Section 2.40.050 to Chapter 2.40, and Section 2.44.060 to Chapter 2.44 of the City's Municipal Code adding a salary for City Commissioners and Committee Members.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Currently, the City of Desert Hot Springs Municipal Code ("DHSMC") provides that the City's Planning Commissioners receive a salary of \$50 per month, and the City's other commissioners and committee members do not receive a salary for attending meetings. The City Council recently expressed that it wished to increase the salary of the Planning Commissioners to \$50 per meeting attended, and implement a salary of \$50 per meeting attended for the City's other commissioners and committee members.

In the past few months, the City has seen an increase in development, causing an increase in entitlement applications, many of which need to be reviewed and acted upon by the Planning Commission. Due to this increase in development, the Planning Commission has not only held its regular meetings, but has holding Special Meetings in order to accommodate the increased demand. Accordingly, Planning Commissioners have been working longer hours in the course of reviewing the projects that come before them. Additionally, the other City commissioners and committee members, including the Architectural and Landscape Review Committee, the Police Commission, and the Community and Cultural Affairs Commission have also been working longer hours as a result of the increase in development.

The commissioners' and committee members' service and dedication to the community should be recognized by amending their salaries to better reflect the actual work performed by all commissioners and committee members.

### **ORDINANCE:**

The proposed Ordinance provides for \$50 to be paid as a salary to Planning Commissioners, Architectural and Landscape Review Committee members, Police Commissioners, and the Community and Cultural Affairs Commissioners per each meeting actually attended.

If this proposed Ordinance becomes effective, payment of salaries to commissioners and committee members shall be retroactive to February 7, 2017.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

- \$50 per Planning Commissioner per meeting
- \$50 per Architectural and Landscape Review Committee member per meeting
- \$50 per Public Safety Commissioner per meeting
- \$50 per Community and Cultural Affairs Commissioner per meeting

The fiscal impact for each Commission is \$250 per month (assuming one meeting per month and all commissioners attend).

**ATTACHMENT:**

- 1) Draft Ordinance