

ORDINANCE 4474

AN ORDINANCE TO REAFFIRM PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE INSURANCE BENEFITS PROGRAM FOR COUNCILMEMBER COVERAGE AND TO AMEND HARTSVILLE CODE CHAPTER 2 "ADMINISTRATION", ARTICLE 2 "COUNCIL", DIVISION I "GENERALLY", SECTION 2-40(b) "COMPENSATION OF COUNCILMEMBERS".

WHEREAS, pursuant to state code elected officials are required to pass an ordinance setting their compensation; and

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA) is the state agency responsible for the administration and management of the state's retirement systems and employee insurance programs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hartsville participates in the State Insurance Benefits Program and the South Carolina Retirement System administered by PEBA; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Hartsville reaffirms and elects that members of the Council will be considered Active Employees of the City of Hartsville for the purposes of participation in the State Insurance Benefits Program; and

WHEREAS, PEBA is the sole authority to determine retiree eligibility for retirement benefits and retiree group insurance eligibility.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Hartsville that Chapter 2 Article 2 Section 2-40 (b) of the City of Hartsville, South Carolina City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 2-40. Compensation of Council members.

(b) The mayor and city councilmembers shall be allowed to participate in the city's health insurance program and retirement plan as set forth in such retirement plan.

- (1)** An eligible councilmember per South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA) guidelines who retires ~~with at least 12 years of service~~ with the city may continue ~~his- their~~ coverage under the city's health insurance program.
- (2)** The city reserves the right to change or modify its health insurance program ~~participation from time to time~~ and continue coverage as is available under the health insurance program. ~~as modified from time to time.~~
- (3)** A former councilmember's election to continue coverage under the city's health insurance program must be made at the time of the member's retirement when the member is first eligible to elect continued health insurance coverage. If the member fails to elect to continue coverage under the city's health insurance program at the time the member is first eligible, the former member may not later elect to participate. Also, if the former member elects to participate in the city's health insurance program after retirement and later stops participating

or the coverage ceases due to the member's failure to pay the required premiums, the member shall not be allowed to rejoin or re-elect health insurance coverage under the city's program.

(4) The mayor and city councilmembers shall be responsible ~~for 100 percent of any dependent coverage for health insurance~~ for any health insurance premiums as per City Policy HR-39.

BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED IN MEETING DULY ADVERTISED AND ASSEMBLED on the ____ day of _____ 2024 and to become effective upon final reading.

Casey Hancock, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Andrea D. Crenshaw, CMC, City Clerk

First Reading:
Public Hearing:
Final Reading: