

Amendment No. C-15 -- as Amended June 1, 2016

Proposed Amendment to the Pierce County Charter

Proposed by Commissioner Tim Farrell

April 12, 2016

Section 2.45 -- Ordinances

(1) Every legislative act shall be by ordinance except as provided for resolutions and referenda.

(2) The subject of every ordinance shall be clearly stated in the title, and no ordinance shall contain more than one subject. Ordinances, or summaries of them, the places where copies are filed, and the times when they are available for inspection, shall be published when the ordinances are proposed and again upon enactment.

(3) Ordinances may, by reference, adopt Washington State statutes, or any recognized, printed codes or compilations in whole or in part.

(4) No ordinance shall be amended unless the new ordinance sets forth each amended section or subsection at full length.

(5) At least 13 days shall pass between the introduction and the final passage of every ordinance, except emergency ordinances. Every ordinance shall be introduced in its entirety in writing. All amendments must be introduced and posted online no later than 24 hours before the amendment is voted on and enrolled. Exemptions are made for scrivener's errors that do not substantially change the text or purpose of the underlying ordinance. The final ordinance must be made available online 24 hours before final passage.

(6) Every ordinance which passes the Council must be presented to the Executive. If approved by the Executive, the ordinance shall be signed by the Executive and become law as provided in this Section. If not approved by the Executive, the entire ordinance shall be vetoed and returned with the Executive's written objections, which shall be entered in the journal of Council proceedings. If, within 30 days after being returned to the Council, the ordinance receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the entire Council it shall become law. If the Executive does not either sign or veto an ordinance within ten days, Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays excepted, after presentation of the ordinance by the Council, it shall become law without the Executive's signature.

(7) Except as otherwise provided in this Charter, all ordinances shall take effect ten days after the date they are signed by the Executive or otherwise enacted, or at a later date if stated in the ordinance.

(8) Opportunity for public testimony shall be provided prior to final passage of every ordinance and for every amendment. ~~, except emergency ordinances.~~

(Originally Adopted November 4, 1980)