

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF EDGEFIELD )

ORDINANCE NO: 21-23-784

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-21 OF THE EDGEFIELD COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES**

WHEREAS, Section 2-21 of the Edgefield County Code of Ordinances provides for the compensation of county council members; and,

WHEREAS, the Code does not provide allowances for cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) for said compensation; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to SC Code Ann. §4-9-100, an “ordinance changing the salary is not effective until the day of commencement of term of at least two members of council elected at the next general election following the enactment of the ordinance affecting the salary changes at which time it will become effective for all members.”;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE EDGEFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL THAT:

**Section One:** Section 2-21 of the Edgefield County Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to add a second paragraph stating:

**Any cost-of-living increase approved in an annual budget for county employees shall also apply to councilmembers’ salary. However, the effective date of any such cost-of-living increase for all members of council shall be the first of January following a general election where two or more members of council have been elected. Specific reference to any cost-of-living increase shall be made in the annual budget ordinance. The combined cost of living increase during the two years prior to the January following a general election will be capped at two percent.**

**Section Two:** Under the pending ordinance doctrine, this ordinance will be effective after advertisement for the public hearing.

**Section Three:** All provisions in other County Ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

**Section Four:** If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application and to this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are severable.

**Edgefield County Council**

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Dean Campbell, Chair

ATTEST:

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Aretha Eubanks, Clerk to Council

First Reading: November 7, 2023

Public Hearing: December 5, 2023

Second Reading: January 2, 2024

Third Reading: February 6, 2024

## **ARTICLE II. COUNTY COUNCIL**

### **DIVISION 1. GENERALLY**

#### **Sec. 2-19. Council-administrator form of government adopted.**

In accordance with S.C. Code 1976, § 4-9-10(a), the county hereby adopts the council-administrator form of government.

(Code 1999, § 30.01; Res. of 6-21-1976)

State law reference(s)—Council-administrator form of county government, S.C. Code 1976, § 4-9-610 et seq.

#### **Sec. 2-20. Composition.**

Under the provisions of federal and state statutes and interpretations thereof, it is the responsibility of local government to reapportion itself once each ten years using data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.

(Code 1999, § 30.02)

#### **Sec. 2-21. Compensation.**

Each member of the county council shall receive an annual salary as set from time to time by ordinance, and the chairperson of the county council shall receive annually such amount in addition to the regular salary as is set from time to time by ordinance.

[Cost of living.] Any cost-of-living increase approved in an annual budget for county employees shall also apply to councilmembers' salary. However, the effective date of any such cost-of-living increase for all members of council shall be the first of January following a general election where two or more members of council have been elected. Specific reference to any cost-of-living increase shall be made in the annual budget ordinance. The combined cost of living increase during the two years prior to the January following a general election will be capped at two percent.

(Code 1999, § 30.03; Ord. of 9-23-1976)

#### **Sec. 2-22. Officers.**

The county council shall elect a council chairperson and a council vice chairperson from among its members for terms as hereinafter set forth at the initial meeting of the county council in January of each year. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term of any office vacated in the same manner as for the initial selection of an officer for that office. All elections shall be by majority vote of the quorum present. Officers may succeed themselves.

(Ord. No. 09-10-625, § 1(30.04), 8-10-2010)