

O-09-21

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-48 OF THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING CALLING OF SPECIAL MEETINGS OF CITY COUNCIL; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Section 2-48 of the North Little Rock Municipal Code (“NLRMC”) addresses the calling of special meetings for the North Little Rock City Council; and

WHEREAS, at the present time, notice of special call meetings are served in person by a North Little Rock Police Officer, taking time away from other duties they could be performing; and

WHEREAS, better use of Police Department time could be made if notice of special call meetings could be given via electronic mail (“e-mail”) which is available to all members of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to amend the NLRMC allow service and notification of special call meetings by e-mail.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That Section 2-48 of the NLRMC is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-48. Calling of special meetings.

(A) The mayor or any three regularly elected and qualified aldermen may call the council in special session by giving each member ~~elect 24 hours~~’ notice thereof. Notice shall be made:

- (1) by delivering the call for a special meeting with copies of any and all proposed ordinances or resolutions to be considered by a duly qualified officer of the North Little Rock Police Department no less than 24 hours prior to the meeting; or
- (2) by transmitting the call for a special meeting with copies of any and all proposed ordinances or resolutions to be considered through the city electronic mail system (“e-mail”) no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting; or

(3) by waiver.

(B) The call for a special meeting shall disclose the subject or subjects to be considered by the council in such special session, and no other business than that mentioned in the call or notice shall be considered. The call shall have attached thereto a copy of any and all proposed ordinances or resolutions, without which the subject or subjects shall not be considered. No special meeting may be held unless all members shall have received notice in accordance with subsection (A). Evidence of service for special meetings shall be preserved in the record.

(C) Regardless of the method of service, a printed copy of any and all proposed ordinances or resolutions to be considered shall be placed on each member's desk prior to the special meeting.

SECTION 3: That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 4: That the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable and if any section, phrase, or provision shall be declared or held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remainder of the sections, phrases or provisions.

SECTION 5: It is hereby found and determined that the amendment to the North Little Rock Municipal Code as provided for herein is immediately necessary in order to insure the proper and orderly growth of this land and the proper and orderly growth of the City of North Little Rock, Arkansas, and being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare, THEREFORE, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED:

APPROVED:

Mayor Patrick H. Hays

SPONSOR:

ATTEST:

Mayor Patrick H. Hays

Diane Whitbey, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

C. Jason Carter, City Attorney

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY/b