



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

March 7, 2017

Ordinance 18473

Proposed No. 2017-0096.2

Sponsors McDermott

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to council rules and order of
2 business; amending Ordinance 11683, Section 4, as
3 amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.035 and Ordinance 11683,
4 Section 6, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.055 and declaring
5 an emergency.

6 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

7 SECTION 1. Findings:

8 A. Section 220.40 of the King County Charter requires the council to adopt by
9 ordinance rules of procedure governing the time, place and conduct of its meetings.

10 B. Consistent with the county charter, the council adopted by ordinance rules of
11 procedure, which are codified in K.C.C. chapter 1.24, and passed motions related to the
12 organization and administration of the council.

13 C. The rules ordinance and the organizational motion have been amended from
14 time to time to reflect desired changes in the council's rules of procedure and
15 organization.

16 D. Because the council is reorganizing the council and its committees by motion
17 effective March 6, 2017, including modifying committees, committee chair and vice-
18 chair positions, duties and committee meeting times, this ordinance must be enacted as an
19 emergency ordinance in order to be effective on that date to ensure that the regular

20 meeting times of the council's committees are effective contemporaneously with the
21 reorganization of the council.

22 SECTION 2. Ordinance 11683, Section 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.035 are
23 each hereby amended to read as follows:

24 A.1.a. The time of regular meetings of the council is 1:30 p.m. on Monday of
25 each week, or Tuesday if Monday is a state or county holiday or is a legislative branch
26 furlough day due to a county emergency budget crisis, unless otherwise ordered by the
27 chair or a majority of the council. However, the regular meetings of the council shall not
28 take place from ~~((August 1 through August 12, 2016, and from December 19 through~~
29 ~~December 30, 2016))~~ July 31 through August 11, 2017, and from December 19 through
30 December 30, 2017. All regular or special meetings of council committees shall be
31 regular or special council meetings, in accordance with subsection F. of this rule.

32 b. Each Wednesday, except the fourth Wednesday of April, July and October,
33 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. shall be reserved for special standing committee meetings
34 except when the health, housing and human services committee or the law and justice
35 committee regular meeting is rescheduled in accordance with subsection B.1.e. and f. of
36 this section and each fourth and fifth Wednesday of each month from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30
37 p.m. shall be reserved for special regional committee meetings as needed. In order to
38 allow each member sufficient time to review legislation and to meet with constituents,
39 staff and officials of other jurisdictions, no special committee meeting may be called for
40 any other time without the prior written consent of the council chair or the consent of a
41 majority of the members of the committee. If a special meeting for more than one
42 committee is called for the same time and location, the meeting for which the agenda was

43 first filed with the council clerk shall have precedence for use of the meeting location.
44 This subsection A.1.b. does not apply to special meetings of the budget and fiscal
45 management committee for purposes of considering the county executive's biennial
46 budget proposal, which shall be called by the chair of the budget and fiscal management
47 committee.

48 2.a. All regular meetings of the King County council and the council's
49 committees, except for the employment and administration committee, shall be held in
50 the council chambers on the tenth floor of the King County Courthouse in Seattle,
51 Washington. All regular meetings of the employment and administration committee shall
52 be held in the southwest conference room on the twelfth floor of the King County
53 Courthouse in Seattle, Washington.

54 b. Whenever, due to an emergency, as defined in K.C.C. 12.52.010, it is
55 imprudent, inexpedient or impossible to conduct the affairs of the council at the regular
56 or usual place or places, the council may meet at any place within or without the
57 territorial limits of the county on the call of the chair or any two members of the council.
58 After an emergency relocation, the affairs of the council shall be lawfully conducted at
59 the emergency location for the duration of the emergency.

60 B.1. Except as provided in subsection B.2. of this rule, the times for regular and
61 special committee meetings are as follows, unless the council is meeting at that time
62 because the preceding Monday was a state or county holiday:

63 a. Committee of the whole: the first and third Wednesdays of each month at
64 9:30 a.m. (~~However, from October 3, 2016, through November 23, 2016, the regular~~

65 ~~meeting of the committee of the whole shall occur on the first and third Mondays of each~~
66 ~~month at 9:30 a.m.);~~

67 b. Budget and fiscal management committee: the second and fourth
68 Wednesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

69 c. Employment and administration committee: the second and fourth Mondays
70 of each month at 10:00 a.m.;

71 d. Government accountability and oversight committee: the second and fourth
72 Tuesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

73 e. Health, housing and human services committee: the first and third Tuesday
74 of each month at 1:30 p.m. or the next Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. if the council's regular
75 meeting is rescheduled to Tuesday because Monday is a state or county holiday or is a
76 legislative branch furlough day due to a county emergency budget crisis, unless otherwise
77 ordered by the chair or a majority of the council;

78 f. Law and justice committee: the second and fourth, and fifth if one occurs,
79 Tuesdays of each month at 1:30 p.m. or the next Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. if the council's
80 regular meeting is rescheduled to Tuesday because Monday is a state or county holiday or
81 is a legislative branch furlough day due to a county emergency budget crisis, unless
82 otherwise ordered by the chair or a majority of the council;

83 g. Transportation, economy and environment committee: the first and third,
84 and fifth if one occurs, Tuesdays of each month at 9:30 a.m.;

85 h. Regional policy committee: the second Wednesday of each month at 3:00
86 p.m.;

87 i. Regional transit committee: the third Wednesday of each month at 3:00
88 p.m.; (~~and~~)

89 j. Regional water quality committee: the first Wednesday of each month at
90 3:00 p.m.; and

91 k. Special committee on alternatives to incarceration: the fourth Wednesday of
92 April, July and October at 1:30 p.m.

93 2. The regular meetings of the committees shall not take place during the first
94 and second weeks in August and the third and fourth weeks in December.

95 C. Council and committee meetings must be held in accordance with the Open
96 Public Meetings Act of 1971, chapter 42.30 RCW.

97 D. A meeting may be continued, in accordance with chapter 42.30 RCW, to
98 another date and does not conclude until adjourned in accordance with these rules.

99 E.1. An executive session may be held during a council or committee meeting if
100 one of the specific grounds under chapter 42.30 RCW for an executive session exists.

101 2. Before convening in executive session, the chair of the council or committee
102 shall publicly announce the purpose for excluding the public from the meeting place and
103 the time when the executive session will be concluded. The executive session may be
104 extended to a stated later time by announcement of the chair.

105 3. Only members of the council or committee, special invitees and those
106 employees or staff members the council or committee determines to be necessary are
107 allowed to remain in the room. Persons attending an executive session shall maintain the
108 confidentiality of the proceedings.

109 F.1. A legal analysis of the Open Public Meetings Act by the office of the
110 Attorney General, 2010 AGO No. 9, has advised that when a committee meeting is
111 attended by a quorum of the governing body it must be noticed not only as a committee
112 meeting but also as a meeting of the governing body. For this reason, all meetings of
113 council committees shall be noticed both as committee meetings and as council meetings
114 whose agenda is limited to the committee business.

115 2. In all committee meetings, which are council meetings in accordance with
116 subsection F.1. of this rule, only the rules and procedures applicable to committees apply,
117 and not those rules and procedures applicable to full council meetings. This includes, but
118 is not limited to:

119 a. only those members who serve on the committee have the right to exercise
120 parliamentary rights in the meeting, including, but not limited to, raising points of order,
121 making motions and voting;

122 b. attendance shall be recorded only for members serving on the committee,
123 and the quorum for the meeting shall be the committee quorum; and

124 c. committee meetings shall be chaired by the committee chair.

125 SECTION 3. Ordinance 11683, Section 6, as amended, and K.C.C. 1.24.055 are
126 each hereby amended to read as follows:

127 The standing committees shall operate as follows:

128 A. A majority of a committee constitutes a quorum. A committee is considered
129 to have a quorum present unless the question is raised by a member of the committee. If
130 a member objects to proceeding because of the lack of a quorum, the committee may not
131 conduct official business, except to conduct a hearing. The appointment or use of

132 alternate members is not allowed for a standing committee. Any member of the council
133 may attend and participate in any committee meeting by asking questions and offering
134 comments on any matter before the committee. Only members of the committee may
135 exercise parliamentary rights in the committee, including, but not limited to, raising
136 points of order, making motions and voting.

137 B. During its consideration of a vote on legislation, the deliberations of a
138 committee must be open to the public.

139 C. A vote to report legislation out of committee must be taken by the "ayes" and
140 "nos," with the committee clerk recording the names of the members voting for and
141 against, as well as the names of the members absent. On any matter, including but not
142 limited to an amendment, a vote must be taken by oral roll call if requested by a member
143 of the committee. A standing committee may not vote by secret ballot on an issue.
144 Except for a regional committee, legislation may be reported out of committee by less
145 than a quorum of the committee, subject to signature by a majority of the members of the
146 committee, unless a member present requests a vote on the recommendation by a quorum
147 of the committee. If a member so requests, the legislation may not be reported out of the
148 committee at that meeting without an affirmative vote by a majority of the quorum of the
149 committee. The committee's recommendation on legislation reported out of committee
150 subject to signature by a majority of the members of the committee is not effective unless
151 signed by a majority of the committee and delivered to the clerk by the close of the
152 second business day after the committee action. A vote in a committee must be recorded
153 and the vote must be preserved as prescribed by the clerk of the council.

154 D. Legislation reported to the council from a standing committee must have a
155 majority recommendation report, which must be prepared upon a printed standing
156 committee report form and must be signed by a majority of the committee with one of the
157 following recommendations:

- 158 1. Do pass;
- 159 2. Do pass -- consent;
- 160 3. Do pass substitute;
- 161 4. Do pass substitute -- consent;
- 162 5. Do not pass;
- 163 6. Postpone indefinitely;
- 164 7. Pass out of committee with no recommendation; or
- 165 8. Refer to another committee.

166 E. The rules and procedures contained in this chapter must be observed, when
167 applicable, in all proceedings of a standing or special committee of the council.

168 F. The chair of the committee shall set the agenda for the committee, including
169 whether and when to include on a specific agenda for action proposed legislation referred
170 to the committee by the council chair. A change to the last distributed and posted agenda
171 made at a meeting must be announced by the chair and is subject to appeal to the full
172 committee present by any two members of the committee. A majority of the members
173 present shall decide an appeal under this subsection.

174 G. Notice of a special meeting must be made in compliance with the Open Public
175 Meetings Act of 1971, chapter 42.30 RCW. The committee chair may call up to six
176 special meetings per calendar year. An additional special meeting may be called only

177 upon the request of the chair and the written consent of either the vice-chair of the
178 committee or the chair of the council before the meeting. A special meeting may be
179 called only when:

180 1. There is time-sensitive legislation or information that cannot be presented and
181 considered in the ordinary committee meeting schedule;

182 2. A joint meeting of two or more committees is necessary to consider a matter;
183 or

184 3. An unusual and extreme workload of a committee does not allow its full
185 consideration during the ordinary committee meeting schedule.

186 H. A committee may not recess a meeting for longer than eight hours unless
187 consent is given consistent with Rule 6.G, K.C.C. 1.24.055.G. Such a recess constitutes a
188 special meeting solely for the purpose of counting the six discretionary special meetings
189 provided for in this rule. If recess is until the next day but less than twenty-four hours,
190 then the maximum possible notice must be given. If recess is for greater than twenty-four
191 hours, then at least twenty-four hours' notice must be given.

192 I. For the special committee on alternatives to incarceration:

193 1. The cochairs shall jointly share the agenda setting responsibilities; and

194 2. The cochairs shall alternate presiding responsibilities at regular and special
195 meetings of the committee as mutually agreed upon by the cochairs.

196 SECTION 4. The county council finds as a fact and declares that an emergency
197 exists and that this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace,

198 health or safety or for the support of county government and its existing public
199 institutions.
200

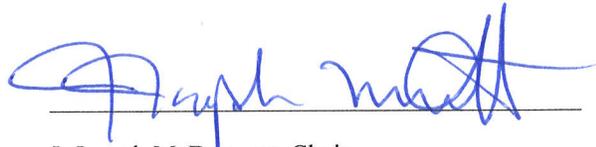
Ordinance 18473 was introduced on 3/6/2017 and passed as amended by the Metropolitan King County Council on 3/6/2017, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn,
Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Upthegrove, Ms. Kohl-Welles
and Ms. Balducci

No: 0

Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



J. Joseph McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:



Melani Pedroza, Acting Clerk of the Council

Attachments: None