



CODE OF CONDUCT AD HOC COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 17, 2021 – 4:30 p.m.
Conference Call#: 1-929-205-6099; Access Code: 85770273827
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxDws_o-1voXBNOAZ17gZxw

AGENDA:

1. Presentation of a draft ordinance (attached) for review and discussion by Chip McQueeney, Assistant Corporation Counsel.
2. Discussion of draft ordinance by committee members, which may include proposed amendments to draft ordinance.
3. After discussion, the Committee will vote on whether to recommend approval of the draft ordinance, as drafted or as amended.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, people who need alternative formats, ASL (American Sign Language) Interpretation or other accommodation please contact Janet Schumacher at (843) 577-1389 or email to schumacherj@charleston-sc.gov three business days prior to the meeting.

AN ORDINANCE

TO AMEND DIVISION 1 OF ARTICLE II (CITY COUNCIL) OF CHAPTER 2 (ADMINISTRATION) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF CHARLESTON BY ADDING A NEW SEC. 2-29 (CODE OF CONDUCT), APPLICABLE TO MEMBERS CITY COUNCIL.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS OF CHARLESTON, IN CITY COUNCIL ASSEMBLED:

Section 1. That Division 1 of Article II (City Council) of Chapter 2 of the Code of the City of Charleston (Administration) is hereby amended by adding the following new Sec. 2-29 (Code of Conduct) thereto:

Sec. 2-29. – Code of Conduct.

- A. Code of Conduct. A member shall maintain decorum and set an example for conduct when the member represents the City. Members shall conduct themselves so as not to bring disgrace or embarrassment upon the City.
- B. Member. As used herein, the term “member” includes the mayor and individual members of council.
- C. Other Rules. This Section 2.29 applies in addition to the other substantive and procedural rules applicable to members contained in the City Code, and under state and federal laws, including, without limitation, state ethics laws.
- D. Compliance and Enforcement. Other members should point out to the offending member infractions of this Section 2.29. The matter should be referred to the mayor in private. If the mayor is the individual whose actions are being challenged, then the matter should be referred to the mayor pro-tem in private. It is the responsibility of the mayor (or mayor pro-tem) to initiate action if a member’s behavior may warrant sanction. The mayor (or mayor pro-tem) may take appropriate action, including without limitation the following: (a) discussing and counseling the individual on the violations; (b) recommending sanction to council to consider in a public meeting; or (c) forming an ad-hoc committee of council to review the allegations, make an investigation, and present a recommendation to council. If no action is taken by the mayor (or mayor pro-tem), the alleged violation(s) may be raised to council in a public meeting. Council may reprimand, formally censure, or remove an offending member’s seniority/committee status when the offending member (a) intentionally and repeatedly violates this Section 2.29; or (b) commits a serious infraction of this Section 2.29.
- E. Effect of Violation. A violation of this Section 2.29 shall not be considered a basis for challenging the validity of a council or committee decision, nor shall this Section 2.29 create additional rights in third parties or members of the public.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect upon ratification.

Ratified in City Council this _____ day of _____ in the Year of Our Lord, 2021, and in the 245th Year of the Independence of the United States of America.

By: _____
John J. Tecklenburg
Mayor, City of Charleston

ATTEST: _____
Jennifer Cook
Clerk of Council