ORDINANCE NO. 4183

AN ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Kent, Washington, amending Section 2.34.050 of the Kent City Code regarding municipal judge salaries and costs.

RECITALS

A. State law provides that the office of the administrator for the courts may fund a portion of the salary of the municipal court judges in qualifying jurisdictions, and in turn, when funding is provided, requires that the city pay its municipal judges at the rate authorized by the administrator for the courts. RCW 2.56.030 (22).

B. The city has complied with these requirements since the law was enacted in 2005, but the office of the administrator for the courts has required that the city affirmatively modify its code to clearly state the practice it has implemented since 2005.

C. Pursuant to the direction of the administrator for the courts, the city codifies its past practice regarding municipal judge salaries, and will affirmatively state that the city will automatically adjust Kent Municipal Court judge salaries automatically to reflect future adjustments made by the Washington Citizens' Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials.

Amend KCC 2.34.050 - Re: Municipal Judge Salary-Costs
NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT, WASHINGTON, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS Follows:

ORDINANCE

SECTION 1. - Amendment. Section 2.34.050 of the Kent City Code is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 2.34.050. Municipal judge salary – Costs.

A. The salary of each full-time or part-time municipal judge shall be fixed by passage of the ordinance adopting the city’s annual budget. If serving as a pro tem judge, he or she shall be compensated at the rate of sixty dollars ($60) per hour; provided, however, that a traffic pro tem magistrate or other pro tem magistrate shall be compensated at the rate of forty dollars ($40) per hour. Commencing September 1, 2016, and thereafter on the first day of September of each successive year, the city will automatically adjust the salary paid the to all Kent Municipal Court Judges who meet the requirements of RCW 2.56.030(22) shall automatically be adjusted to an amount equal to 95% of the salary of district judges as set by the Washington Citizens’ Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials for the succeeding year.

B. All costs of operation of the municipal court, including but not limited to salaries of judges and court employees, dockets, books of records, forms, furnishings and supplies shall be paid wholly out of the funds of the city. Jurors shall be paid a fee of fifteen dollars ($15) per day and mileage allowance pursuant to RCW 43.03.060. The city shall provide a suitable place for holding court and pay all expenses of maintaining it.

SECTION 2. – Severability. If any one or more section, subsection, or sentence of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such
decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this ordinance and the same shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. - Corrections by City Clerk or Code Reviser. Upon approval of the city attorney, the city clerk and the code reviser are authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including the correction of clerical errors; ordinance, section, or subsection numbering; or references to other local, state, or federal laws, codes, rules, or regulations.

SECTION 4. - Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days from and after its passage, as provided by law.

ATTEST:

RONALD F. MOORE, MMC
RONALD F. MOORE, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

TOM BRUBAKER, CITY ATTORNEY

PASSED: 8th day of December, 2015.
APPROVED: 8th day of December, 2015.
PUBLISHED: 11th day of December, 2015.

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of Ordinance No. 4183 passed by the City Council of the City of Kent, Washington, and approved by the Mayor of the City of Kent as hereon indicated.