

Council Communication

Ordinance Amending AMC Chapter 2.36 Initiatives and Referendums

Meeting Date:	January 6, 2009	Primary Staff Contact:	Richard Appicello
Department:	City Attorney's Office	E-Mail:	appicelr@ashland.or.us
Secondary Dept.:	City Recorder's Office	Secondary Contact:	Barbara Christensen
Approval:	Martha Bennett	Estimated Time:	10 Minutes

Question:

Should the Council approve First Reading of an ordinance titled, "An Ordinance Amending the Ashland Municipal Code Chapter 2.36.030 Initiatives and Referendums – Deposit Required" and move the ordinance on to Second Reading?

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends Council approval of First Reading by title only and move the Ordinance on to Second Reading set for January 20, 2009.

Background:

The City Recorder's Office requested an amendment to the City's initiative and referendum code section to update the deposit amount required for initiatives and referendums. The current ordinance was adopted in 1962, and requires a \$200 deposit to help cover the election costs for an initiative or referendum that is placed on the ballot. However, the Jackson County elections office charges the City of Ashland an estimated one dollar for each registered voter in Ashland when it bills the City for the cost of an election on an initiative or referendum petition. The deposit amount should be increased to better reflect the City's costs of placing an initiative or referendum on the ballot.

A Resolution to set the deposit amount will be provided for approval at the second reading of this ordinance.

Related City Policies:

City Charter Article 10, Ordinance adoption provisions

Council Options:

Move to approve First Reading and continue the matter to January 20, 2009 for Second Reading.

Potential Motions:

Staff: [Conduct First Reading of Ordinance by Title only]

Council: Motion to approve First Reading and set Second Reading for January 20, 2009.

Attachments:

Proposed ordinance amendment

