

Ordinance 0001-25 – Common Council Committee Structure
AS APPROVED MARCH 4, 2025

An ordinance to amend Chapter 2, Article II, Divisions 3, 4, and 5 of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine, Wisconsin.

The Common Council of the City of Racine, Wisconsin, do ordain as follows:

Part 1: Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-61(a) of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine is amended as follows:

The time “7:00 p.m.” shall be deleted and the time “6:00 p.m. shall be substituted therefor.

Part 2: Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-61(b) of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine is amended as follows:

The words “and vice president” shall be inserted following the word “president” in the title, and the words “and one of its members to be vice president” shall be inserted between the words “to be president” and the words “for the ensuing year.”

Part 3: Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-61(b)(4) and (5) of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine are created as follows:

(4) Following the election of the council president, the procedures set forth in (1), (2), and (3) above shall be followed for the election of council vice president.

(5) No council president or vice president may serve more than two consecutive one-year terms.

Part 4: Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-65 of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine is repealed and recreated as follows:

The mayor, or in the event of his absence or inability to act, the president, or in the event of both the mayor’s and the president’s absence or inability to act, the vice president, shall, at the hour of meeting, call the common council to order. The presiding officer shall preserve order and decorum, and decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the common council. In the case of the absence of the mayor, the president, and the vice president at the time of the meeting, the clerk shall call the common council to order; thereupon, the common council shall elect one of its own number president pro tem.

Part 5: Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-76 of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine is amended as follows:

The words “Except for the committee of the whole, which shall be comprised of all the aldermanic members of the common council” shall be inserted before the word “All” and modify the word “All” to replace the upper case “A” with a lower case “a.”

The word “mayor” shall be deleted and the words “president of the common council” shall be substituted therefore.

Part 6: Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-77(5) of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine is created as follows:

(5) Committee of the whole.

Part 7: Chapter 2, Article II, Division 4, section 2-79 of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine, Wisconsin is repealed and recreated as follows:

At the first standing committee meeting for each of the finance and personnel committee, the public works and services committee, and the public services and licensing committee following the common council’s organizational meeting, each committee shall select the committee chair and vice chair for the ensuing year. No alder may serve as chair or vice chair for more than two consecutive one-year terms.

Part 8: Chapter 2, Article II, Division 4, section 2-80 of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine, Wisconsin is amended by adding the following language as a second sentence:

All alders shall be ex officio members of all standing committees to which they have not been appointed and shall have all of the privileges of membership except the right to vote.

Part 9: Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-80(d) of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine is created as follows:

(d) Notwithstanding anything else in this section, the committee of the whole shall meet pursuant to section 2-83.

Part 10: Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-119(c) of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine is amended as follows:

The sentence “Proposed amendments to the Code of Ordinances may be directed to the committee of the whole or may be referred to the committee of the whole by another standing committee or by the common council.” shall be added to the end of Section 2-119(c).

Part 7: This ordinance shall take effect upon passage by a majority vote of the members-elect of the City of Racine Common Council and publication or posting as required by law.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes section 62.09(8)(c), the mayor shall have the veto power as to all acts of the common council, except such as to which it is expressly or by necessary implication otherwise provided. All such acts shall be submitted to the mayor by the clerk and shall be in force upon approval evidenced by the mayor’s signature, or upon failing to approve or disapprove within 5 days, which fact shall be certified thereon by the clerk. If the mayor

disapproves, the mayor's objections shall be filed with the clerk, who shall present them to the council at its next meeting. A two-thirds vote of all the members of the council shall then make the act effective notwithstanding the objections of the mayor.

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