

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LEOTI, KANSAS, PROVIDING FOR REQUIREMENTS OF ATTENDANCE BY MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY AT REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF LEOTI, KANSAS.

WHEREAS, the City of Leoti is given the authority to adopt ordinances for the purpose of providing for the safety, preserving the health, and promoting the prosperity and welfare of the citizens of the City of Leoti.

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines that proper and efficient governance of the City requires that all of the elected or appointed members of the City Council attend all Regular Meetings of the City Council in order to fulfill each member's obligation to the citizens of the City and to fully participate in the process of government.

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that each member of the City Council has an obligation to his or her fellow members to be informed and attend the Regular Meetings of the City Council.

WHEREAS, K.S.A. 15-106 provides, among other things, that the City Council may compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as the City Council may prescribe by ordinance.

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines that it is in the best interests and welfare of the citizens of the City of Leoti and for the conduct of business of the City Council that attendance requirements for members of the City Council be defined and the penalties for failure to comply with the attendance requirements be clearly stated.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF LEOTI, KANSAS:

1. The Mayor and Council Members are expected to attend all meetings of the City Council; however, it is recognized that reasonable circumstances may prevent attendance at a City Council meeting, but that repeated absences from meetings of the City Council are detrimental to the business of the City Council and detrimental to the citizens of the City of Leoti.
2. As a courtesy and when time permits, a member shall notify the Mayor or the City Clerk that he or she will not be able to attend a meeting of the City Council.
3. If a member fails to attend at least fifty percent (50%) of the regular meetings during any continuous three (3) month period, for any reason, such member shall be notified in writing by the City Council that he or she shall be deemed to have resigned his or her position on the City Council. Such notice shall state that the City Council has found such member to be in violation of the attendance requirements for City Council meetings and provide the specifics of the violation, the consequences of such violation, as well as the date and time for such member to appear before the City Council to be heard on the matter.

4. At such hearing, the notified member shall have the opportunity to rebut the allegations of violation of the attendance requirement through his or her own statement, the testimony of other witnesses or by the presentation of documentary evidence. The notified member may be represented by legal counsel of his or her choice and at his or her own expense. Upon conclusion of the hearing, if a motion is made, seconded and passed by a majority vote of the other members of the City Council, the member may be sanctioned by removal from office as herein provided. If the motion fails or a motion is passed that there has been no violation of the attendance requirements at regular meetings, such member may still be subject to public censure by the City Council for his or her lack of attendance at regular meetings of the City Council.
5. If a vacancy in the City Council occurs by reason of removal from office pursuant to this Ordinance, the vacancy shall be filled pursuant to K.S.A. 15-201.
6. This Ordinance shall be in full force and take effect, from, and after, its publication once in the official newspaper of the City.

PASSED by the Council and approved by the Mayor this 17th day of June, 2024.

City of Leoti, Kansas

By: 

Chris Kreutzer, Mayor

ATTEST: 

Jeannine Hassell, City Clerk

