
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

November 30, 2011

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Common Council Approves Continuing Salary Freeze

Common Council members voted today to continue a pay freeze that has locked their salaries at 2008 levels.

Alderman Michael J. Murphy, chair of the Finance and Personnel Committee, said the full Council today approved file #110108, which was recommended for approval by the Finance and Personnel Committee on November 23. The measure freezes the pay of the mayor and all 15 Council members for the next four years.

The move, Alderman Murphy said, keeps the mayor and Council members in line with what other city employees are facing. “Three years ago, we froze our salaries based on 2008 rates because we felt strongly that the economy demanded that of us and also to set an example for other city employees,” he said. “The tough economic situation is still with us, so continuing the pay freeze is the right thing to do.”

Alderman Robert J. Bauman, vice chair of the Finance and Personnel Committee, said the vote by the Council is also “in recognition of the economic hardship being experienced by many of our constituents.”

“The Great Recession has required major changes and cutbacks in the lives of our constituents, and we are acknowledging that by setting an example and saying ‘we too should serve without an increase,’” Alderman Bauman said.

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Council Pay Freeze/ADD ONE

The pay freeze for Council members, the mayor and the Common Council president would lock in the pay they have received since 2008.

The pay freeze, coupled with three unpaid furlough days city employees will take next year, represents “a significant hit,” said Alderman Murphy, who spearheaded the 2008-2012 Council pay freeze legislation as chair of the Finance and Personnel Committee.

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