
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

July 22, 2014

Ald. Ashanti Hamilton

(414) 286-3779

Ald. Nik Kovac

(414) 286-3765

Ald. Milele A. Coggs

(414) 286-2994

Council approves minimum hourly wage ordinance

Today the full Common Council adopted an ordinance (**Council file #131627 - attached**) establishing a minimum hourly wage of \$10.10 for all city employees and employees paid under city service contracts.

The \$10.10 rate will be in effect for this year, and will then increase to \$10.80 per hour -- as adjusted by the City Clerk on March 1, 2015 -- to what will be the federal U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' guideline for a family of 3.5 in the 48 contiguous states.

Alderman Ashanti Hamilton, chair of the Council's Judiciary and Legislation Committee, and the primary sponsor of file #131627, said the city's previous living wage was at \$9.51 per hour -- the poverty guideline for a family of three. He said the Council considers the wage approved today and the bump to \$10.80 next year a significant increase over the next two years.

"Approving this 'living wage ordinance,' as it has been called, was the right thing to do," he said. "The Council and the city are taking a proactive and positive approach to ensuring decent pay for our workers. Our city is one of the poorest large cities in the U.S., and it is our duty as city leaders to help improve the lives of our citizens, and establishing this minimum wage requirement for city workers and others working on city-related and supported projects is just one way we can help fight back against poverty while helping working families.

-More-

Living Wage/ADD ONE

Alderman Nik Kovac, chair of the Council’s Finance and Personnel Committee and a co-sponsor of the wage measure, said for far too many Milwaukeeans, working full-time also means living in poverty. “No one who works full-time should be doing so at a rate that will leave their family in poverty,” he said.

“The average family size in the Milwaukee area is 3.3, so by raising the minimum for every person who works for a company which contracts with the city to a rate consistent with a family size bigger than our average, we are increasing the buying power and quality of life for workers – and the children of workers – in Milwaukee,” Alderman Kovac said.

Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs, a member of the Council’s Finance and Personnel Committee and also a co-sponsor of the measure, said the Council’s action today is in step with President Obama’s national move to increase the minimum wage. “With additional money in their pockets workers can buy more goods and services, which helps their families and also helps stimulate our local economy,” she said.

The other co-sponsors on file #131627: **Alderman Michael J. Murphy; Alderman Robert J. Bauman; Alderman Tony Zielinski; Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II; and Alderman José G. Pérez.**



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 131627 **Version:** 1

Type: Ordinance **Status:** In Council-Passage

File created: 3/4/2014 **In control:** FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

On agenda: **Final action:**

Effective date:

Title: A substitute ordinance relating to city wage requirements.

Sponsors: ALD. HAMILTON, ALD. ZIELINSKI, ALD. MURPHY, ALD. PEREZ, ALD. COGGS, ALD. KOVAC, ALD. WADE, ALD. BAUMAN, Russell Stamper

Indexes:

Attachments: 1. Motion by Ald. Kovac and Living Wage Proposal Comparison, 2. Living Wage Fiscal Note, 3. Cost Estimate Revisions, 4. Cost to Implement, 5. Living Wage Proposal Comparison, 6. Hearing Notice List 7-16-14, 7. Hearing Notice List 7-22-14

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result	Tally
3/4/2014	0	COMMON COUNCIL	ASSIGNED TO		
5/22/2014	0	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	HEARING NOTICES SENT		
5/22/2014	0	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	HEARING NOTICES SENT		
5/27/2014	1	CITY CLERK	DRAFT SUBMITTED		
5/28/2014	1	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	HEARING NOTICES SENT		
7/10/2014	1	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	HEARING NOTICES SENT		
7/10/2014	1	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	HEARING NOTICES SENT		
7/10/2014	1	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	HEARING NOTICES SENT		
7/10/2014	1	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	HEARING NOTICES SENT		
7/10/2014	1	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	HEARING NOTICES SENT		
7/10/2014	1	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	HEARING NOTICES SENT		
7/16/2014	1	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR	Pass	5:0
7/17/2014	1	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	HEARING NOTICES SENT		
7/17/2014	1	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	HEARING NOTICES SENT		
7/17/2014	1	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	HEARING NOTICES SENT		
7/22/2014	2	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	RECOMMENDED FOR PASSAGE	Pass	4:1
7/22/2014	1	FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE	AMENDED	Pass	5:0

131627
SUBSTITUTE 1

ALD. HAMILTON, ZIELINSKI, MURPHY, PEREZ, COGGS, KOVAC, WADE, BAUMAN AND STAMPER

A substitute ordinance relating to city wage requirements.

310-13-2-a am

310-13-3 am

355-13-3 cr

This ordinance establishes a minimum hourly wage of \$10.10 for all city employees, employees paid under city service contracts, or employees paid by developers receiving \$1,000,000 or more of city financial support. Beginning on March 1, 2015, this hourly wage shall be calculated based on the amount required to produce, for 2,080 hours worked, an annual income equal to the U.S. department of health and human services' most recent poverty guideline for a family of 4 in the 48 contiguous states, as adjusted by the city clerk on March 1 of each following year.

The Mayor and Common Council of the City of Milwaukee do ordain as follows:

Part 1. Section 310-13-2-a of the code is amended to read:

310-13. Service Contract Wage Requirements.

2. DEFINITIONS. In this section:

a. "Living wage" means >>, prior to March 1, 2015, \$10.10 per hour. Effective March 1, 2015, and each subsequent March 1, it means<< the amount required to produce, for 2,080 hours worked, an annual income equal to the U.S. department of health and human services' most recent poverty guideline for a family of ~~[[3]]~~ >>4<< in the 48 contiguous states, as determined by the city clerk ~~[[on March 1 of each year]]~~.

Part 2. Section 310-13-3 of the code is amended to read:

3. LIVING WAGE REQUIREMENT. Unless contrary to federal, state or local law, all workers, whether permanent or temporary, full-time or part-time, employed in any work performed as part of a service contract, as defined in sub. 2-c, shall receive and be paid a sum of not less than the living wage >>in effect at the time a contract is awarded<<. No contractor may use the living wage requirement of this subsection to reduce the wage paid to any person employed by the contractor.

Part 3. Section 355-13-3 of the code is created to read:

355-13. Other Requirements.

3. WAGE REQUIREMENTS. A development agreement shall include provisions requiring, unless precluded by s. 66.0903, Wis. Stats., that an employee who performs work that is funded by financial assistance from the city receive, at a minimum, a living wage as defined in s. 310-13-2-a. The department of administration shall monitor compliance with this subsection.

Part 4. Employees of the city shall receive, at a minimum, a living wage as defined in s. 310-13-2-a. The Department of Employee Relations is directed to update the Salary Ordinance to implement this requirement beginning October 10, 2014.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Legislative Reference Bureau

Date: _____

IT IS OUR OPINION THAT THE ORDINANCE
IS LEGAL AND ENFORCEABLE

Office of the City Attorney

Date: _____

LRB150977-2

Mary E. Turk

5/27/2014