

ORDINANCE 1499

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GIG HARBOR, WASHINGTON, REVISING CHAPTER 2.47 OF THE GIG HARBOR MUNICIPAL CODE REQUIRING AN OATH OF OFFICE FOR POLICE OFFICERS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City has traditionally required its police officers to take an oath of office; and

WHEREAS, the City has never formally adopted an oath of office or procedures for police officers, other than the chief of police, to take an oath of office;

WHEREAS, Gig Harbor police officers are not authorized to uphold the laws of Pierce County and should not reference such laws in their oath of office;

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor, Washington, do ordain as follows:

Section 1. Section 2.47.030 – Revised. Section 2.04.030 of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code is hereby revised as follows:

2.47.030 Chief of police – Oath.

A person seeking appointment to the office of chief of police shall provide a sworn statement to the city, which shall be under penalty of perjury, stating that he/she meets the requirements of RCW 35.21.333, as the same now exists or may hereafter be amended. Before entering upon the performance of his/her duties, the chief of police shall be required to take the following oath:

I, _____, solemnly swear that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the United States of America, the State of Washington, Pierce County and the City of Gig Harbor, and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully, and that I will obey the orders of the officers appointed over me according to the law and the rules and regulations of the Police Department, and that I will uphold the Constitution of the United States, the State of Washington, the laws of the State of Washington, ~~Pierce County~~ and the City of Gig Harbor.

The oath shall be taken in the presence of the mayor or the mayor's designee and may be retaken at a regular meeting of the city council at the earliest convenience of the chief of police. The oath shall be filed with the county auditor.

Section 2. Section 2.47.070 – Created. Section 2.04.070 of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code is hereby created to read as follows:

2.47.070 Commissioned police officer – Oath.

Before entering upon the performance of his/her duties, all commissioned police officers shall be required to take the following oath:

I, _____, solemnly swear that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the United States of America, the State of Washington, Pierce County and the City of Gig Harbor, and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully, and that I will obey the orders of the officers appointed over me according to the law and the rules and regulations of the Police Department, and that I will uphold the Constitution of the United States, the State of Washington, the laws of the State of Washington and the City of Gig Harbor.

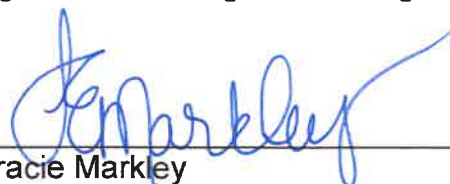
The oath shall be taken in the presence of the mayor or the mayor's designee and may be retaken at a regular meeting of the city council at the earliest convenience of the chief of police.

Section 3. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

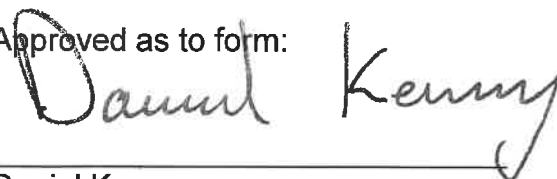
Section 4. Correction of Errors. The City Clerk and codifiers of the ordinance are authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener/clerical errors, references, ordinance numbering, section/subsection numbers and any references thereto.

Section 5. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect five days after passage and publication of an approved summary consisting of the title.

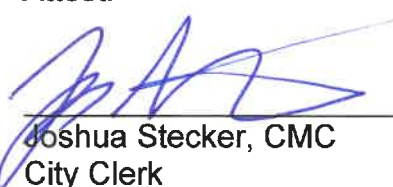
ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Gig Harbor at a regular meeting thereof, held this 10th day of October, 2022.



Tracie Markley
Mayor

Approved as to form: 

Daniel Kenny
City Attorney

Attest: 

Joshua Stecker, CMC
City Clerk