



**CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS**  
**Committee of the Whole Agenda Communication**

**Meeting Date:** May 12, 2025

**Prepared By:** Jon Oliphant, AICP, Planning & Development Director

**Agenda Item:** Alderpersons and Mayor Term Limits Discussion

**Explanation:** A second reading ordinance to potentially adopt term limits for alderpersons and Mayor was tabled at the February 17 City Council meeting. Direction was given at that meeting to have this placed on the May Committee of the Whole agenda for further discussion following the seating of the new Council. Attached is the latest draft ordinance. As currently constructed, an alderperson or Mayor could hold office for no more than a cumulative maximum of three elected four-year terms. An alderperson or Mayor could serve the remainder of a prior term without it affecting the maximum three full terms.

**Fiscal Impact:** N/A

**Action Requested:** Staff requests further discussion on this at the May 12 Committee of the Whole meeting for use in a possible future code text amendment should that be the consensus of the Council.

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

(Approval of this ordinance would impose term limits for the elected offices of Alderpersons and the Mayor)

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF WASHINGTON CODE TO PROVIDE TERM LIMITS FOR ALDERPERSONS AND MAYOR**

WHEREAS, Section 3.1-10-17 of the Illinois Municipal Code permits the City Council of the City of Washington, Illinois to impose term limits upon elective offices by ordinance;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Washington now wishes to amend City Code to codify and impose term limits for Alderpersons and the Mayor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS, TAZEWELL COUNTY, IN THE EXERCISE OF ITS HOME RULE POWERS, AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** The foregoing recitals shall be and are hereby incorporated as findings of fact as if said recitals were fully set forth herein.

**Section 2.** That Section 2-22 of the City Code is hereby amended by adding the following underlined language:

Sec. 2-22. - Election of alderpersons; term and oath.

Two alderpersons shall represent each ward, one from each ward being elected every two years to serve four years and the eight alderpersons so elected shall comprise the city council. Alderpersons shall hold office for a term of four years, and until their successors are elected and have qualified. Effective prospectively only from [insert date of passage of ordinance] no person shall serve as an Alderperson for more than a cumulative maximum of three (3) elected four-year terms. An Alderperson appointed or elected to fill a vacancy shall serve the remainder of the term of the Alderperson he or she replaces and upon the completion of that term shall be eligible to serve three (3) elected four-year terms.

Before entering upon the duties of the office, each alderperson shall take the oath prescribed for all city officials.

**Section 3:** That Section 2-213(b) of the City Code is hereby amended by adding the following underlined language:

Sec. 2-213. - General provisions.

(b) *Qualifications, term.* The mayor shall have the qualifications set forth in [section 2-178](#). The mayor shall hold the office for four years and until the successor is elected and qualified. Effective prospectively only from [insert date of passage of ordinance] no

person shall serve as Mayor for more than a cumulative maximum of three (3) elected four-year terms. An individual appointed or elected to fill a Mayoral vacancy shall serve the remainder of the term of the Mayor he or she replaces and upon the completion of that term shall be eligible to serve three (3) elected four-year terms.

**Section 4.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed insofar as they are in conflict with this ordinance.

**Section 5.** If any provision of this ordinance is adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or of any portion not adjudged invalid.

**Section 6.** This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as required by law.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2025.

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

3567  
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**PASSED AND APPROVED** this 3rd day of February 2025.

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK