

CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 6662

AN ORDINANCE amending Sections 3.55.030, 3.56.030, 3.61.030, 3.62.030, 3.63.030, and 3.64.030 of the Bellevue City Code to reinstate limitations on members of commissions and boards attending meetings remotely.

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2020, the City Council adopted Ordinance 6516, amending the Bellevue City Code (BCC) to eliminate the restrictions that prevented all members of the Environmental Services Commission, Arts Commission, Human Services Commission, Parks and Community Services Board, Transportation Commission, and Planning Commission from participating remotely in board or commission meetings; and

WHEREAS, this amendment was intended to be temporary, to allow the boards and commissions to meet fully remotely while in-person meetings were not available due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in-person attendance by board and commission members is now possible; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires more flexible parameters than previously existed in the BCC for remote participation by board and commission members, to accommodate all abilities to attend meetings, and also desires consistency between all boards and commissions; and

WHEREAS, the Council intends to revisit these parameters in a year to determine their effectiveness, now, therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 3.55.030 of the Bellevue City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

A. The commission shall meet at least once a month, with the exception that, critical or time-sensitive work permitting, the commission may recess for either the month of August or December.

B. All meetings shall be open to the public; provided, the commission may hold executive sessions as permitted by law. Commission business shall be conducted in compliance with the requirements, as applicable, of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 42.30 RCW, and the Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW, as they exist now or may be hereafter amended.

C. A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum. Action may be taken by a majority of the members present when a quorum exists.

D. Affirmative votes from a majority of members present and voting shall be necessary to carry any proposition. A member who fails to vote without a valid disqualification is declared to have voted in the affirmative.

E. *Remote Participation.*

1. Commission members are encouraged to attend meetings in person when practicable. A member not able to be physically present for a meeting may participate remotely using approved teleconferencing equipment. Remote participation must be approved by the commission in advance of the meeting.

2. The presiding officer must be physically present for a meeting. If the presiding officer is unable to be physically present, the presiding officer must pass the presiding officer role to a commission member who is physically present at the meeting.

3. No more than three members may participate remotely during any one commission meeting. Such remote participation will be considered attendance at the meeting and shall be counted toward determination of a quorum.

Section 2. Section 3.56.030 of the Bellevue City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

A. The commission shall meet at least once a month, with the exception that, critical or time-sensitive work permitting, the commission may recess for either the month of August or December.

B. All meetings shall be open to the public; provided, the commission may hold executive sessions as permitted by law. Commission business shall be conducted in compliance with the requirements, as applicable, of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 42.30 RCW, and the Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW, as they exist now or may be hereafter amended.

C. A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum. Action may be taken by a majority of the members present when a quorum exists.

D. Affirmative votes from a majority of members present and voting shall be necessary to carry any proposition. A member who fails to vote without a valid disqualification is declared to have voted in the affirmative.

E. *Remote Participation.*

1. Commission members are encouraged to attend meetings in person when practicable. A member not able to be physically present for a meeting may participate remotely using approved teleconferencing equipment. Remote participation must be approved by the commission in advance of the meeting.

2. The presiding officer must be physically present for a meeting. If the presiding officer is unable to be physically present, the presiding officer must pass

the presiding officer role to a commission member who is physically present at the meeting.

3. No more than three members may participate remotely during any one commission meeting. Such remote participation will be considered attendance at the meeting and shall be counted toward determination of a quorum.

Section 3. Section 3.61.030 of the Bellevue City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

A. The commission shall meet at least once a month, with the exception that, critical or time-sensitive work permitting, the commission may recess for either the month of August or December.

B. All meetings shall be open to the public; provided, the commission may hold executive sessions as permitted by law. Commission business shall be conducted in compliance with the requirements, as applicable, of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 42.30 RCW, and the Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW, as they exist now or may be hereafter amended.

C. A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum. Action may be taken by a majority of the members present when a quorum exists.

D. Affirmative votes from a majority of members present and voting shall be necessary to carry any proposition. A member who fails to vote without a valid disqualification is declared to have voted in the affirmative.

E. *Remote Participation.*

1. Commission members are encouraged to attend meetings in person when practicable. A member not able to be physically present for a meeting may participate remotely using approved teleconferencing equipment. Remote participation must be approved by the commission in advance of the meeting.

2. The presiding officer must be physically present for a meeting. If the presiding officer is unable to be physically present, the presiding officer must pass the presiding officer role to a commission member who is physically present at the meeting.

3. No more than three members may participate remotely during any one commission meeting. Such remote participation will be considered attendance at the meeting and shall be counted toward determination of a quorum.

Section 4. Section 3.62.030 of the Bellevue City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

A. The board shall meet at least once a month, with the exception that, critical or time-sensitive work permitting, the board may recess for either the month of August or December.

B. All meetings shall be open to the public; provided, the board may hold executive sessions as permitted by law. Board business shall be conducted in compliance with the requirements, as applicable, of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 42.30 RCW, and the Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW, as they exist now or may be hereafter amended.

C. A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum. Action may be taken by a majority of the members present when a quorum exists.

D. Affirmative votes from a majority of members present and voting shall be necessary to carry any proposition. A member who fails to vote without a valid disqualification is declared to have voted in the affirmative.

E. *Remote Participation.*

1. Board members are encouraged to attend meetings in person when practicable. A member not able to be physically present for a meeting may participate remotely using approved teleconferencing equipment. Remote participation must be approved by the board in advance of the meeting.

2. The presiding officer must be physically present for a meeting. If the presiding officer is unable to be physically present, the presiding officer must pass the presiding officer role to a board member who is physically present at the meeting.

3. No more than three members may participate remotely during any one board meeting. Such remote participation will be considered attendance at the meeting and shall be counted toward determination of a quorum.

Section 5. Section 3.63.030 of the Bellevue City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

A. The commission shall meet at least once a month, with the exception that, critical or time-sensitive work permitting, the commission may recess for either the month of August or December.

B. All meetings shall be open to the public; provided, the commission may hold executive sessions as permitted by law. Commission business shall be conducted in compliance with the requirements, as applicable, of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 42.30 RCW, and the Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW, as they exist now or may be hereafter amended.

C. A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum. Action may be taken by a majority of the members present when a quorum exists.

D. Affirmative votes from a majority of members present and voting shall be necessary to carry any proposition. A member who fails to vote without a valid disqualification is declared to have voted in the affirmative.

E. *Remote Participation.*

1. Commission members are encouraged to attend meetings in person when practicable. A member not able to be physically present for a meeting may participate remotely using approved teleconferencing equipment. Remote participation must be approved by the commission in advance of the meeting.

2. The presiding officer must be physically present for a meeting. If the presiding officer is unable to be physically present, the presiding officer must pass the presiding officer role to a board member who is physically present at the meeting.

3. No more than three members may participate remotely during any one commission meeting. Such remote participation will be considered attendance at the meeting and shall be counted toward determination of a quorum.

Section 6. Section 3.64.030 of the Bellevue City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

A. The commission shall meet at least once a month, with the exception that, critical or time-sensitive work permitting, the commission may recess for either the month of August or December.

B. All meetings shall be open to the public; provided, the commission may hold executive sessions as permitted by law. Commission business shall be conducted in compliance with the requirements, as applicable, of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 42.30 RCW, and the Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW, as they exist now or may be hereafter amended.

C. A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum. Action may be taken by a majority of the members present when a quorum exists.

D. Affirmative votes from a majority of members present and voting shall be necessary to carry any proposition. A member who fails to vote without a valid disqualification is declared to have voted in the affirmative.

E. *Remote Participation.*

1. Commission members are encouraged to attend meetings in person when practicable. A member not able to be physically present for a meeting may participate remotely using approved teleconferencing equipment. Remote participation must be approved by the commission in advance of the meeting.

2. The presiding officer must be physically present for a meeting. If the presiding officer is unable to be physically present, the presiding officer must pass the presiding officer role to a board member who is physically present at the meeting.

3. No more than three members may participate remotely during any one commission meeting. Such remote participation will be considered attendance at the meeting and shall be counted toward determination of a quorum.

Section 7. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force five (5) days after its passage and legal publication.

Passed by the City Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 and signed in authentication of its passage this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

(SEAL)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynn Robinson, Mayor

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn L. Gerla, City Attorney

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Charmaine Arredondo, City Clerk

Published \_\_\_\_\_