

RECOMMENDED BY: THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

SUBMITTED BY: THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

ORDINANCE NO. 18-125

An Ordinance to amend Title 2, Chapter 5 of the General Code of the City of Birmingham to add a new article to create the Birmingham Youth Leadership Council to provide a formal opportunity for the youth of the community to act in an advisory capacity to the Mayor and Council on City issues from the youth perspective, thereby bridging the gap between the youth and local government, to advise on programs or approaches the City may consider to address local problems and providing a legacy of youth contributions to the advancement of the City.

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Birmingham provides the Birmingham City Council Internship Institute to allow student interns to work with the City Council during the summer to explore issues of importance to the youth of the City and make recommendations to address those concerns; and,

WHEREAS, the Council Internship Institute allows students to observe the operations of City government and fosters interest in youth to participate in local government; and,

WHEREAS, the Birmingham City Council Internship Institute of 2018 requests that the Council provide a way for youth to stay engaged with the City throughout the year and to contribute advice to the Mayor and Council on matters of concern to the youth of the City; and,

WHEREAS the 2018 Birmingham City Council Interns, Cody Carroll, Kristian Davis, Kamil Goodman, Jasmyn Jacobs, Courtlan Kelow, A’Niyah Moore, Talia Moore, Remington Patterson, Amber Spencer, Ronald Strothers, Ashley Tate, Tykenya Todd, and Madison White, initiated, drafted and introduced the ordinance for adoption by the Council to amend Title 2, Chapter 5 of the General Code of the City of Birmingham to add a new article to create the Birmingham Youth Leadership Council; and,

WHEREAS, the Council finds it to be in the best interest of the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City to connect with and listen to the voice of the youth in addressing City issues including, but not limited to, reading programs, tutoring programs, non-violence initiatives, urban gardening, lunch programs, improving the environment, inclusion and diversity programs and economic opportunities for youth in the city.

SECTION 1.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Birmingham that Title 2, Chapter 5 of the General Code of the City of Birmingham is hereby amended to add a new article as follows:

(a) Creation.

- (1) There is hereby created the Birmingham Youth Leadership Council (hereafter referred to as "BYLC"). BYLC shall act in an advisory capacity to the mayor and city council regarding City of Birmingham issues from a youth perspective thereby connecting youth to local government and providing a legacy of youth contributions to the advancement of the city.
- (2) BYLC shall not have the right to sue or be sued or to have or to hold property, and all property or money acquired by it shall be vested in the name of the city and be the property of the city of which such money shall be paid into the general fund.

(b) Powers and duties generally.

- (1) The BYLC shall adopt bylaws which may from time to time be amended.
- (2) BYLC shall submit an annual report to the city council of the city and the mayor of findings, advice and recommendations on addressing city issues. The BYLC shall advise on proposed programs, ordinances and other measures that the city may take to solve problems and to be used for the improvement of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the city. These proposals may include, but are not limited to, matters such as reading programs, tutoring programs, non-violence initiatives, urban gardening, lunch programs, improving the environment, inclusion and diversity programs and economic opportunities for youth in the city.
- (3) The BYLC may review information relevant to the issues it is considering, including researching programs adopted by other jurisdictions, consult with other organizations and citizens in the city and may request information from City department heads in evaluating existing or proposed programs.
- (4) The BYLC may make recommendations on funding for programs proposed by the BYLC.
- (5) BYLC shall make quarterly reports to the mayor and city council regarding the issues being considered and any recommendations developed during the preceding quarter.
- (6) A member or members of the BYLC may serve as youth representative(s) at the National League of Cities Youth Council or for youth-related activities of other civic engagement organizations of which the city is a member, provided that the travel is approved by the mayor and council pursuant to subsection (c) (6) of this ordinance. Travel approval shall be subject to parental consent for minors.

(c) Membership.

- (1) *Generally.* BYLC shall consist of 13 members. The initial BYLC shall be the members of the 2018 Birmingham City Council Internship Institute. All successor members shall be residents of the city; provided, however, attendance at a college or university outside the city shall not disqualify a student from the city from participation in the BYLC.
- (2) *Term.* The term of office shall be two years. Successors shall be recommended by a majority of the members of the BYLC and appointed by the city council. If the city council should fail to appoint any person who has been recommended by the BYLC within 60 days after the recommendation has been received by it, the board shall recommend to the city council another person for its consideration, which process shall continue until a person is recommended to the city council who is acceptable to it and is appointed by it. Appointees are eligible for reappointment to a full two-year appointment upon completion of the initial appointment.
- (3) *Qualifications.* After the initial term, successor members shall be no less than 16 and no more than 25 years old. Candidates shall have completed the Birmingham City Council Internship Institute to gain an understanding of local government operations or shall have demonstrated a significant interest in local government issues.
- (4) *Vacancies; removal.* In the event any vacancy shall occur more than six months before the expiration of a term, the BYLC shall submit a name to the council for a person to fill the unexpired term. If the vacancy occurs within six months of the expiration of a term, the vacancy shall be filled at the expiration of the term. The city council may at any time by an affirmative vote of six members thereof remove any regular member from the BYLC for any cause deemed sufficient by it.
- (5) *Mayor and council office support.* A representative from the mayor's office and from the city council's office selected by the mayor and council respectively shall attend all meetings of the BYLC and shall be nonvoting members.
- (6) *Compensation.* The members of the BYLC shall receive no compensation whatever for their services, nor shall they receive compensation or per diem for attending meetings. No traveling expense or other expense incurred by a member of the BYLC or anyone acting therefor while out of the city shall be paid by the city except for travel related to the powers and duties of the BYLC and approved by the city council upon recommendation of the mayor. The BYLC shall have no authority to act for or obligate the city or any official or agency thereof in any matters whatsoever.

(d) Officers.

- (1) *Duties.* The officers of the BYLC shall perform those duties prescribed by this article or by formal city council resolution or ordinance.

- (2) *Chairperson.* A chairperson shall be elected from the regular membership to serve a term of one year beginning with the date of election and shall be eligible for reelection. The chairperson shall preside at the meetings of the BYLC and may appoint any subcommittees deemed necessary to investigate any matter before it.
- (3) *Vice-chairperson.* A vice-chairperson shall be elected by the BYLC from among its regular members in the same manner and for the same term as the chairperson. He or she shall serve as acting chairperson in the absence of the chairperson, and at such other times he or she shall have the powers and duties as the chairperson.
- (4) *Secretary.* The secretary shall be elected in the same manner and for the same term as the chairperson. The secretary shall perform the administrative and clerical functions of the BYLC and shall keep all records, make all reports, and handle all correspondence and notices for the BYLC with the assistance of the ex officio members.

(3) Quorum; meetings.

Seven members of the BYLC shall constitute a quorum for any meeting. The BYLC shall hold regular meetings at least once every three months. Special meetings may be called by the chairperson on written notice to the members, which notice shall be sufficient if mailed, postage prepaid, addressed to each member six days prior to such special meetings. Special meetings may be held at any time upon written waiver of notice executed by each member of the board. The chairperson shall coordinate with the mayor and council staff appointees to reserve the council chamber or other suitable meeting location at city hall for any regular or special called meeting of the BYLC.

Adopted by the Council July 31, 2018 and Approved by the Mayor August 3, 2018



A CERTIFIED COPY
Lee Frazier, City Clerk
Birmingham, AL
Lee Frazier