

## CHAPTER 4

# HOURS & ATTENDANCE

### 4.1 WORKING HOURS

The City's standard work week consists of 40 hours with an unpaid lunch period. Due to the nature of the City's operation, longer hours may be necessary in some instances.

A normal working schedule for regular, full-time employees consists of forty (40) hours each work week. Different work schedules may be established by the City to meet job assignments and provide necessary City services. Each employee's department head will advise the employee regarding his/her specific working hours.

Flexible scheduling will be considered with the approval of the appropriate department head and City Administrator. All requests will be evaluated against the need for continuity in access by and service to the citizens and the facilitation of staff teamwork.

Part-time and temporary employees will work hours as specified by their department heads.

### 4.2 HOURS OF WORK AND OVERTIME

All City positions are designated as either "exempt" or "non-exempt" according to the Fair Labor Standards Act ("FLSA") and Washington Minimum Wage Act regulations. You will be informed of your status by the City.

For most City employees, the established work period is forty (40) hours within a seven (7) day work week. In some instances under the City's flexible scheduling the department head may define a work week/work period as something other than the standard Monday through Sunday. All personnel are responsible for accurately reporting all hours worked on forms supplied by the City. Employees failing to accurately record time worked are subject to discipline.

Non-exempt employees are entitled to additional compensation, either in cash or compensatory time off, when they work more than the maximum numbers of hours during a work period. All overtime must be authorized in advance by the employee's department head. Overtime pay is calculated at one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay for all time worked beyond the established work period. When computing overtime, *time taken as compensatory time off*, is not counted as hours worked.

Neither the federal FLSA nor the state Minimum Wage Act (Ch 49.46) requires payment of overtime for work on a holiday. It is the City's practice to allow on call field staff to charge a minimum of two (2) hours of overtime for any call outs when on call. When that call out is on a holiday the person on call out is allowed a minimum of four (4) hours

overtime for the first regular callout on that holiday. Additional call outs will be compensated at normal overtime compensation practices.

Exempt employees are not covered by the FLSA or Washington Minimum Wage Act overtime provisions and do not receive either overtime pay or compensatory time in lieu of overtime pay except as otherwise approved by City Council.

#### 4.3 COMPENSATORY TIME

Non-exempt employees entitled to overtime pay may request compensatory time off instead of cash payment. This is approved on a case-by-case basis by the employee's department head. The City is not required to grant comp time instead of overtime pay. If the compensatory time option is exercised, the employee is credited with one and one-half times the hours worked as overtime. Annual maximum accruals of compensatory time shall be limited to forty (40) hours acquired from July 1 through June 30. A maximum of 40 hours can be taken in a comp time year. After maximum accrual, overtime compensation shall be paid.

Employees may use compensatory time after getting approval from his/her department head. The use of comp time may be denied if such time used would disrupt City operations.

Employee comp time balances must be reviewed at least annually as part of the City's budget process.

#### 4.4 ATTENDANCE

Punctual and consistent attendance is a condition of employment. Each department head is responsible for maintaining an accurate attendance record of his/her employees.

Employees unable to work or unable to report to work on time should notify their supervisor as soon as possible, ordinarily before the work day begins or within thirty (30) minutes of the employee's usual starting time. If an absence continues beyond one day, the employee is responsible for reporting in each day. If the supervisor is unavailable, the employee may leave a message on the answering machine stating the reason for being late or unable to report for work.

An employee who is absent without authorization or notification is subject to disciplinary action, including possible termination.

#### 4.5 UNUSUAL CONDITIONS

WEATHER During times of inclement weather or natural disaster, it is essential that the City continue to provide vital public services. Therefore, it is expected that employees make every reasonable effort to report to work without endangering their personal safety.