

ORDINANCE NO. 5840

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REENACTING DIVISION 4 (HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE) OF ARTICLE V (BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, ETC.) OF CHAPTER 2 (ADMINISTRATION) OF THE CITY OF MINOT CODE OF ORDINANCES

WHEREAS, the City of Minot is a political subdivision lawfully recognized in the state of North Dakota as a home rule city and possessing municipal powers and authority pursuant to its home rule charter and the provisions of North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) § 40-05.1, as well as statutory provisions codified in NDCC 40-05-01; and

WHEREAS, the City of Minot previously created a human relations committee/commission to promote equal opportunity and treatment for all citizens;

WHEREAS, the City of Minot now intends to modify existing ordinances relating to the human relations committee/commission in an effort to reestablish the committee/commission and clarify its purpose, goals, and authorities.

§1. That Chapter 2, Article V, Division 4 (Human Relations Committee) of the Code of Ordinances, City of Minot, North Dakota, is hereby repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

DIVISION 4. – HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

2-210. – Creation of Human Relations Committee.

There is created and established, by the authority of the city council, a human relations committee.

2-211. – Purpose.

The purpose of the human relations committee is to promote the acceptance and respect for diversity through educational programs and activities and to discourage all forms of discrimination based on actual or perceived race, color, religious or philosophical beliefs, sex, pregnancy or parenthood status, political beliefs or affiliation, physical appearance, intimate partner violence or sexual assault survivor status, source of income, genetic information, prior arrest or conviction record, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, housing status, military or veteran status, national origin, age, citizenship status, mental or physical illness or disability, and marital status.

2-212. – Goals and Objectives.

The goals and objectives of the human relations committee are:

- a. To provide leadership in the areas of civil rights;

- b. To educate and promote respect for diversity; and
- c. To identify issues of concern regarding civil rights in Minot and to make recommendations to the city council.
- d. To encourage adherence to federal and state laws regarding civil rights.

2-213. – Powers and Duties.

The powers and duties of the human relations committee are:

- a. To report to the city council regarding the activities of the human relations committee;
- b. To recommend to the city council action and programs in furtherance of the purpose of the human relations committee as described in this division;
- c. To consult and advise with public officials and agencies and with private individuals and organizations to provide education regarding civil and human rights; and
- d. To assist aggrieved individuals by offering information and guidance.

2-214. – Membership; Appointment; Term; Vacancy.

- a. The human relations committee shall consist of seven members. The members should reflect the diversity of the community.
- b. The mayor, subject to the confirmation by the city council, shall appoint the members. The mayor shall also appoint the city manager and/or a member of the city council, subject to the confirmation by the city council, to serve in an advisory capacity to the human relations committee.
- c. Of the initial appointees, four shall serve for one year and three shall serve for two years. Thereafter, all terms should run for two years.
- d. If a vacancy occurs, an appointment to fill the unexpired term shall be made in the manner in which original appointments are made.

2-215. – Meetings; Chair; Subcommittees.

- a. Meetings of the human relations committee may be held as often as deemed necessary by the chair or vice-chair.
- b. The city clerk shall keep a record of the human relations committee's minutes, resolutions, findings, recommendations, and determinations.
- c. The human relations committee shall elect its chair and vice-chair for a term of one year. The chair shall approve the agenda prior to the meeting and preside over the meetings of the human relations committee. In the absence of the chair, the vice-chair shall assume the duties of the chair during the chair's absence.
- d. Committees may be established as necessary. The chair shall appoint committee members, subject to the confirmation by the human relations committee.

2-216. – Advisory in nature.

The human relations committee shall be advisory in nature and shall submit all reports and determinations to the city council. Final authority shall be with the city council.

Secs. 2-217 – 2-224. – Reserved.

§2. This Ordinance shall become effective upon final passage and approval.

PASSED FIRST READING: April 17, 2023

PASSED SECOND READING: May 1, 2023

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Mikayla McWilliams, City Clerk

Tom Ross, Mayor