



Missouri Ethics Commission

Elizabeth L. Ziegler
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Final Action: MEC No. 23-0035-I, City of Blackjack, Mayor Arnold Hinkle, Tina Thames, Donald Krank, Bill Miller, Angela Lawson, Karen Robinson, A.J. White, Ronald Pointer, Rodney Grady

Date: 8/21/2023

The Missouri Ethics Commission took final consideration of the complaint filed against City of Black, Mayor Arnold Hinkle, and the Council Board: Tina Thames, Donald Krank, Bill Miller, Angela Lawson, Karen Robinson, A.J. White, Ronald Pointer, Rodney Grady at its August 21, 2023, meeting.

The complaint filed with the Commission alleged that the Council failed to follow proper procedure regarding the approval of Ordinances 1205 and 1206 affecting their compensation during their term of office in violation of the city's code and state law.

The City of Blackjack is a third-class city governed by Chapter 77 of the Missouri Revised Code. Section 77.440, RSM states that compensation of all officers and employees of a third-class city rests solely with the City Council. Documentation confirmed that the Council acted in accordance with City Code and State law when they enacted these ordinances. The language of both Ordinances 1205 and 1206 clearly states that the increased compensation only applies to officials taking office after passage of the legislation as allowed by Art. VII, Sec. 13 of the Missouri Constitution.

From the facts presented, the Commission found no reasonable grounds exist to support a violation of state statute or local ordinance and dismissed the complaint.

Elizabeth L. Ziegler
Executive Director