

**TOWN OF SEVERANCE, COLORADO
ORDINANCE NO. 2025-23**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SEVERANCE,
COLORADO, ADDING ARTICLE 7, YOUTH COUNCIL, TO CHAPTER 2 OF THE
SEVERANCE MUNICIPAL CODE**

WHEREAS, the Town of Severance, Colorado (the “Town”) is duly organized and validly exists as a Home Rule Town under Article XX, Section 6 of the Colorado Constitution and the Town’s Home Rule Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Severance Town Council (the “Council”) desires to establish and maintain a council of young people to advise and consult on the issues facing the community; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Severance (the “Council”) finds that providing opportunities for youth residents to participate in municipal government strengthens civic engagement, encourages leadership development, and fosters a greater sense of community responsibility; and

WHEREAS, the Council further finds that establishing a Youth Council will create a formal advisory body to represent the interests and perspectives of the community’s youth and promote communication between young residents and the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it in the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of the community to amend the Severance Municipal Code to establish such a Youth Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SEVERANCE, COLORADO:

Section 1. The above and foregoing findings are hereby incorporated by this reference as specific findings and determinations of the Council.

Section 2. Chapter 2 of the Severance Municipal Code is hereby amended by the addition of a new Article 7, to read in its entirety as follows:

ARTICLE 7 – YOUTH COUNCIL

Sec. 2-7-10. Creation.

There is hereby created and established a Youth Council for the Town of Severance, Colorado.

Sec. 2-7-20. Purpose.

The Youth Council shall serve as an advisory body to the Town Council by representing the interests and perspectives of the community’s youth. The Youth Council shall provide recommendations on policies, programs, and initiatives impacting young residents, promote civic engagement, leadership, and community service among youth, and foster communication between young people and local government.

Sec. 2-7-30. Composition.

The Youth Council shall consist of five (5) regular members appointed by majority vote of the Town Council. All members must be bona fide residents of the Town and must have resided in the Town for at least one (1) year.

Sec. 2-7-40. Membership requirements.

- (a) Members shall serve without compensation and at the pleasure of the Town Council.
- (b) Members must be at least thirteen (13) years of age and no older than seventeen (17) years of age.
- (c) Members must maintain a 2.0 or higher GPA.

Sec. 2-7-50. Term of office; vacancies; removal.

- (a) Each appointment shall be for a one (1) year term.
- (b) Vacancies shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term.
- (c) Attendance Expectations. All members are expected to regularly attend scheduled meetings and fully participate in their roles.
- (d) Definitions.
 - 1. Excused Absence: An absence is excused when a member notifies the Chair or staff liaison at least 24 hours in advance and provides a valid reason, including personal illness or family emergency, pre-approved vacation or travel, work or school-related conflict, or other extenuating circumstances approved by the Chair.
 - 2. Unexcused Absence: An absence is unexcused if no prior notice is given, the reason is not deemed valid by the Chair, or the member is habitually late or leaves early without good cause.
- (e) Removal for Attendance. A member shall be subject to removal if within a calendar year:
 - 1. The member accrues three (3) unexcused absences;
 - 2. The member accrues four (4) total absences (excused or unexcused), unless extenuating circumstances exist as determined by the Town Council; or
 - 3. The member fails to attend any required training or orientation sessions without prior approval.
- (f) Notice Requirement. After a second unexcused absence, the Mayor or Mayor's designee shall provide written notice outlining the attendance policy and warning that a subsequent unexcused absence may result in removal.
- (g) Removal Process. Any member meeting the above criteria may be removed by majority vote of the Town Council. Prior to removal, the member shall receive written notice at least seven (7) days in advance stating the reasons for removal and shall have an opportunity to respond in writing or in person before final action.
- (h) Discretion of the Council. Nothing in this section limits the Council's authority to remove members for other reasons, for any reason deemed in the public interest.

Sec. 2-7-60. Officers.

The Youth Council shall annually elect a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer from among its members.

Sec. 2-7-70. Meetings.

The Youth Council shall hold meetings as necessary. Three (3) members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3. Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable and the invalidity of any section, phrase, clause, or portion of the Ordinance as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the remainder of the Ordinance.

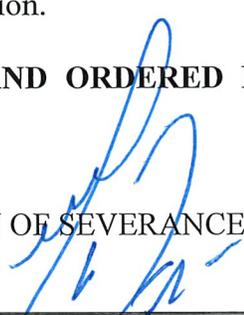
Section 4. All other ordinances or portions thereof inconsistent or conflicting with this ordinance or any portion hereof are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

Section 5. This ordinance is deemed necessary for the immediate protection of the health, welfare and safety of the community.

Section 6. In accordance with Section 6.03(6) of the Severance Home Rule Charter, this Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after publication.

INTRODUCED, READ, ADOPTED, APPROVED, AND ORDERED PUBLISHED IN FULL THIS 9TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025.

TOWN OF SEVERANCE, COLORADO



Matthew Fries, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sarah Jacobsen, Town Clerk

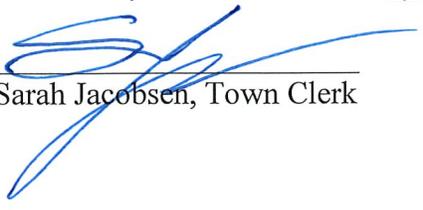


AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF COLORADO)
)
COUNTY OF WELD)

I, Sarah Jacobsen, Town Clerk for the Town of Severance, Colorado do solemnly swear and affirm that I published in full a true and correct copy of Ordinance No. 2025-23 enacted by the Town Council on September 9 2025, on the Town of Severance’s website, <https://www.townofseverance.org/255/Oridinances> , on the 12 day of September, 2025.

Witness my hand and seal this 12 day of September, 2025.



Sarah Jacobsen, Town Clerk

