

**Chapter 28****PLANNING COMMISSION****Sections:****28-1 ESTABLISHMENT; MEMBERSHIP****28-2 TERMS OF OFFICE****28-3 COMPENSATION****28-4 REMOVAL OF MEMBERS****28-5 POWERS AND DUTIES****28-6 CERTIFICATION**

Adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Front Royal 3-11-85. (*Chapter 20 of the 1965 Code*). Amendments noted where applicable.

**28-1 ESTABLISHMENT; MEMBERSHIP**

A. The Planning Commission of the Town of Front Royal, Virginia is hereby created, in accordance with the provisions of applicable state law.

B. There shall be five (5) members of such Planning Commission, appointed by the Town Council, all of whom shall be residents of the Town, qualified by knowledge and experience to make decisions on questions of community growth and development, provided that at least one-half of the members so appointed shall be owners of real property.

(Amended A & B 1-11-21-Effective Upon Passage)

**28-2 TERMS OF OFFICE**

Appointment of members to the Planning Commission shall be for terms of four (4) years each. The terms of office for members of the Planning Commission shall be staggered so that the term of no more than two (2) of the five (5) Commissioners shall expire in any given calendar year. Council may shorten the terms of any new appointment to a lesser number of years as may be required to accomplish this staggering of terms. Members may be reappointed to succeed themselves. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term only.

(Amended 1-11-21-Effective Upon Passage)

**28-3 COMPENSATION**

Members of the Planning Commission shall each be compensated in an amount determined by the Town Council.

(Amended 7-13-98-Effective Upon Passage)

**28-4 REMOVAL OF MEMBERS**

Members may be removed for malfeasance in office. Notwithstanding the foregoing provision, a member of the Planning Commission may be removed from office by the Town Council without limitation in the event that the commission member is absent from any three consecutive meetings of the commission or is absent from any four meetings of the commission within any 12-month period. In either such event, a successor shall be appointed by the governing body for the unexpired portion of the term of the member who has been removed.

(Amended 7-13-98-Effective Upon Passage)

**28-5 POWERS AND DUTIES**

The functions, powers and duties of the Planning Commission shall be such as are provided for by applicable state law.

**28-6 CERTIFICATION**

A. As a condition of appointment each member of the Planning Commission, shall become a certified planning commissioner, through the Virginia Certified Planning Commissions Program operated by the Virginia Institute for Planning Commissioners within one year of appointment. Town Council, by motion, may grant a six (6) month extension of the certification requirement in the event a commissioner is unable to complete the certification program within one year due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the commissioner and is enrolled to complete the certification by the end of the said extension.

(Amended 1-11-21-Effective Upon Passage)

B. Failure to meet the requirements for this condition of appointment as outlined in this section shall result in the automatic forfeiture and vacation of said individual from office. When removed from office, the seat vacancy by appointment of the Town Council.

(Added Entire Section 1-26-04-Effective Upon Passage)

(Amended B 6-27-05-Effective Upon Passage; Amended B 1-11-21-Effective Upon Passage)