

## CONSENT AGENDA

Prior to the Council's consideration of the Consent Agenda, members of the public are invited to comment on any Consent Agenda items. After public comment, any Councilmember may remove Consent Agenda items from the Consent Agenda. Items which remain on the Consent Agenda will be acted upon by the Council pursuant to a single motion. Items removed from the Consent Agenda will be considered after the Council vote on the Consent Agenda. Members of the public may comment on removed Consent Agenda items prior to the Council action on these items.

## DECORUM IN COUNCIL MEETINGS

### *Requirements*

1. While the Council is in session, all persons shall preserve order and decorum. Any person disrupting the Council meeting shall be barred by the presiding officer from further attendance at said meeting unless permission for continued attendance is granted by a majority vote of the Council. Any member of the public who fails to comply with the rules of order and decorum after being warned by the presiding officer, thereby requiring the presiding officer to interrupt the meeting once again to restore order, shall be considered to be disrupting the Council meeting.
2. Every member of the public and every Councilmember desiring to speak shall address the presiding officer, and upon recognition by the presiding officer, should confine comments to the question under debate, avoiding all indecorous language and references to personalities and abiding by the following rules of civil debate. Members of the public addressing a council meeting shall speak from the public lectern and speak into the microphone so that comments can be broadcast and recorded.
  - a) We may disagree, but we will be respectful of one another;
  - b) All comments will be directed to the issue at hand;
  - c) Personal attacks should be avoided.
3. No persons other than Councilmembers and necessary City staff are permitted on the Council dais.
4. Except as otherwise set forth below, No audio/visual recording devices may be left unattended at the speaker's lectern or elsewhere in the Council Chambers. Cell phones, beepers, and similar devices shall be turned off or inaudible in Council Chambers during Council meetings.

## DECORUM IN COUNCIL MEETINGS *cont'd*

5. Individuals may place, and leave unattended, audio recording devices at the designated location in Council Chambers on the window ledge adjacent to the "Press Box" sign.
  
6. Individuals shall not be allowed to bring furniture into Council Chambers, or other items that might obstruct free passage within or ingress to or egress from Council Chambers, or to place any such obstructions in Council Chambers aisles or passage ways, or to bodily obstruct Council Chambers aisles or passage ways.

### *Enforcement*

The chief of police (or representative) shall act as ex-officio sergeant-at-arms of the Council. The police chief shall carry out all orders and instructions of the presiding officer for the purpose of maintaining order and decorum inside and outside of the Council Chambers.

Persons who disrupt a Council meeting while in session are subject to arrest and prosecution. Upon instructions of the presiding officer it should be the duty of the sergeant-at-arms or any police officer present to eject from the Council Chambers any person in the audience who uses boisterous or profane language, or language tending to bring the Council or any Councilmember into contempt, or any person who interrupts and refuses to keep quiet or take a seat when ordered to do so by the presiding officer or otherwise disrupts the proceedings of the Council meeting.

### *Announcements*

The Mayor or Councilmembers may make announcements of general interest to other Councilmembers or members of the public. These announcements may include, but not be limited to, meeting schedule information, meetings of general community interest, or other general information. No written material will be presented, no recommendations will be made, and no actions will be taken, although the Council may direct staff to report back with regard to an item that is the subject of an item for future discussion at a regular or special meeting.

### *Continued Meetings (if necessary)*

If a Council meeting is continued to consider unfinished business, a notice of continuance will be posted within 24 hours. Oral Communications will be heard once, not in each session of the continued meeting. Members of the public will be allowed to comment on continued agenda items at one session, but not a second time at a continued session.