

	CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA COUNCIL Agenda Item Summary	COUNCIL MEETING DATE: May 5, 2025
Requesting Agency (Initiator) Legal and Administration Department		Sponsor(s) City Attorney Dreyer & City Clerk Jewett
Item Title:	Council to discuss Rules of Public Comment.	
Requested Action (Identify appropriate Action or Motion, purpose, cost, timeframe, etc.) Council to discuss the Rules of Public Comment and decide if the full address of a speaker should be captured in the minutes or if the City and State should be captured.		
Requirement for Board Action (Cite specific Council policy, statute or code requirement.) None		
Is this Item Goal Related? (If yes, please describe how this Action meets the specific Board Focus Area or Goal.)		
Summary and Background: On April 14th, the Mayor and Council made a request for the City Attorney and City Clerk to investigate policy requiring a speaker during Public Comments to list or state their address, and whether this should be captured in the minutes. After some research, we could not find any requirements in the Charter and the Georgia Sunshine Open Meetings Laws, which makes this decision optional. Some municipalities do not allow public comments. We do it as a courtesy. Despite there being no law regarding capturing a speaker's address, Sec. 86-367, which only applies to zoning meetings, requires public comments and requires a sign-up sheet with the speaker's name and address. Also attached is the Charter, which permits, but does not require public comments. If you would like rules around public comments, attached is a draft document, entitled "Public Comment Rules," that could be posted in our lobby and on our website. Per Mayor Pro-Tem Messick's procedural question, we would likely need a resolution to implement this change.		
Fiscal Impact (Include projected cost, approved budget amount and account number, source of funds, and any future funding requirements.) N/A		
Exhibits Attached (Provide copies of originals, number exhibits consecutively.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafted Rules of Public Comment, Charter Sec. 86-367 Procedures for public hearings, and Charter Article 2, Division 2, Sec. 2-56 Conduct of spectators. 		
Staff Recommendation (Type name, Title, Agency and Phone number.) Staff is recommending a review of the drafted Rules of Public Comment.		

FOLLOW-UP APPROVAL ACTION (City Clerk)		
Typed Name and Title	Date	
Signature	City Clerk's Office	