

RULES COMMITTEE
June 13, 2023
To begin immediately following the conclusion
of the Ordinance Review Committee meeting
Council Chambers

Mayor Gatt called the meeting to order at 5:22 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Gatt, Mayor Pro Tem Staudt, Council Member Crawford (absent)

ALSO PRESENT: Thomas Schultz, City Attorney
Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda was unanimously approved

AUDIENCE COMMENT: None

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Approval of Minutes from September 7, 2022.

RCM 23-06-01 Moved by Staudt, seconded by Gatt; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:

To approve the Rules Committee meeting minutes from September 7, 2022.

2. Consideration of amending Council Organization Rules and Order of Business

Clerk Hanson explained this matter was before the Committee to receive guidance on issuing proclamations. The City has been inconsistent in denying and issuing proclamations, so we are looking to be consistent.

Mayor Gatt said the City of Novi is in the business of protecting residents. The Council talks about roads, sewers, police, fire, etc. He said what happens in Washington D.C. and Lansing shouldn't concern the 7 elected officials. We focus on making Novi a better community and we do a great job of it. We live in a very political word right now and it's getting worse. You can't make everybody happy. To be safe, and to concentrate on City business, his recommendation is that we stop issuing proclamations. If we say no to everyone, then no one can get mad and say they are favoring one side over the other. He is suggesting we recommend to City Council that we stop doing proclamations, including our City proclamations like Arbor Day.

Mayor Pro Tem Staudt said he didn't know that anyone other than the Mayor made the decision to issue a proclamation. The proclamation the other week was not chosen by the Mayor and that was a first. Local government is being used more and more for purposes that are not local government. A lot of this came about because of a controversial request and it was denied by the Mayor. Both sides were offended.

RCM 23-06-02 Moved by Staudt, seconded by Gatt; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:

**To recommend to City Council that no proclamations or resolutions
that aren't City related business get issued.**

City Attorney Schultz said it would be appropriate to put it in Council Rules. Mayor Gatt agreed and asked that a draft of that change to Council Rules be brought back to the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Recorded by: Cortney Hanson, City Clerk