

RULES FOR PUBLIC HEARING PARTICIPATION

(A) Rules of Decorum. All attendees at Common Council and Committee meetings are expected to maintain appropriate decorum during the meeting. Talking, shouting, outbursts, clapping and similar gestures are prohibited. Any attendee may be requested to cease any activities, signs, banners or displays that unduly disrupt a meeting consistent with applicable law. Citizens in the audience are not to audibly respond to comments being made during a meeting or to make demonstrations either in support of or in opposition to a speaker or idea. The Mayor is responsible for enforcing meeting decorum.

(B) Rules for Public Comment. The following rules apply to the period of public comment at this Common Council meeting:

1. Any person who wishes to address the Common Council during the “Public Hearing” portion of the agenda must provide their name and address prior to beginning comment.
2. A commenter may not speak longer than two (2) minutes and may only speak once per meeting. This provision will be strictly enforced.
3. All comments must be germane to the Utility Commission. Comments should be directed to the Council as a whole and not addressed to individual Alderpersons or City personnel.
4. A commenter should refrain from asking questions of the Council or individual Council Members.
5. Commenters should be courteous in their language, avoid personalized remarks and refrain from comments that are rude, obscene, profane, personally attacking, and which demonstrate a lack of respect for others.
6. The Mayor reserves the right to terminate an individual’s public comments if these rules are violated. As well, the Mayor has the authority to rule speakers out of order and may call a short recess in disorderly situations.