

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-30 OF THE CITY OF TUPELO CODE OF ORDINANCES TO STATE THAT A CITIZEN SHALL ONLY BE ALLOWED ONE REQUEST TO SPEAK CONCERNING THE SAME ISSUE OR A SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR ISSUE WITHIN ANY SIX (6) MONTH PERIOD.

WHEREAS, a municipality may adopt its own rules of procedure governing the conduct of its meetings including whether or not to allow citizens an opportunity to speak before the Council during its meetings; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to establish procedures for the orderly development of the agenda to be considered by the City Council of the City of Tupelo; and

WHEREAS, it is customary for the City Council of the City of Tupelo to allow members of the public to speak before the Council concerning matters of public concern in accordance with rules of procedure adopted by the Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION ONE. Section 2-30 of Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances, Tupelo, Mississippi, is hereby amended to read as follows:

2-30 Citizen Hearing

Any citizen of the City, business owner or property owner within the City, may request that a matter be placed on the agenda for the purpose of bringing a matter before the City Council for subsequent Council action provided that he or she submits a written and signed request to the Council President or the Mayor describing the nature of his or her request. Such request must be received before 5:00 p.m. on Thursday prior to the next scheduled Council meeting. A citizen, business owner or property owner is limited to one request regarding the same or substantially similar issue during any six (6) month period. Presentation of a citizen's request shall be limited to five (5) minutes each, unless otherwise voted upon by the Council, and questions and answers from the Council shall not count against the citizen's or owner's time. Any action desired as a result of such citizen hearing must be subsequently introduced by a Council member or the mayor as otherwise provided herein. If requests for citizen hearing are too numerous to be handled efficiently, the Council may: defer a portion or all of the requests (1) to the end of the meeting, (2) until a future meeting, or (3) may require written submission in lieu of a hearing, by majority vote.

SECTION TWO.

This ordinance shall be published and become effective as provided by law. The above and foregoing Ordinance, after having been first reduced to writing was proposed in a motion by Council Member _____ and seconded by Council Member _____, and was brought to a vote as follows:

Councilmember Mims _____
Councilmember Bryan _____
Councilmember Beard _____
Councilmember Davis _____
Councilmember Palmer _____
Councilmember Gaston _____
Councilmember Jones _____

Having received a majority of affirmative votes, the President thereupon declared that this Ordinance had been duly adopted, this the _____ day of June, 2022.

BUDDY PALMER, President of the City Council

ATTEST:

MISSY SHELTON, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

TODD JORDAN, Mayor

DATE