



**Roll Call Number**

**Agenda Item Number**

**Date** May 10, 2021

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**AMENDING THE PROCEDURAL RULES OF THE DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council wish to conduct orderly and efficient meetings and to have items of significance before the City Council where the public has an opportunity to address the Council; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council wish to encourage public speaking by expanding the time for speakers both individually and collectively and to clarify its rules to ensure that meetings remain orderly and efficient; and

WHEREAS, amending the Procedural Rules of the Des Moines City Council is necessary to accomplish such objectives.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA:**

That the PROCEDURAL RULES OF DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL are hereby amended by amending the Rules to reflect the attached changes in the conduct of City Council meetings commencing immediately upon adoption and approval of these amendments.

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ to adopt.

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
BOESEN				
VOSS				
GATTO				
GRAY				
MANDELBAUM				
WESTERGAARD				
TOTAL				
MOTION CARRIED			APPROVED	

**CERTIFICATE**

I, P. Kay Cmelik, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

**Rule 16. Citizen Agenda Requests.**

Any citizen may request to have an item placed on the Agenda (including a request to speak) by filing such request in writing with the City Clerk on or after the date ten days preceding a regular Council meeting but prior to 5:00 P.M. on the Tuesday preceding a regular Council meeting. All such requests, up to a maximum of twenty items, shall be placed under a single item number, but last on the agenda, by lettered paragraph and limited collectively to no more than ~~one-half hour~~ forty minutes in duration. Each item shall receive up to two three minutes time and time shall not be recalculated or additional speakers recognized if the time used by any speaker is less than two minutes or the collective time for all speakers is less than forty-minutes. No other person may speak on any such item. Any requested item not included on the agenda due to the collective time limit and maximum number of items specified herein being exceeded, shall, subject to such time limit and maximum number of items applied to each Agenda for a subsequent regular meeting, move in the same order received by the City Clerk to the Agenda for the next regular meeting or, as necessary, the Agenda for the next subsequent meeting(s), with any new timely requests added to the end of the list of pending Citizen's Agenda items in the order received. Any person may have no more than one Agenda item request pending at a time and the City

Clerk shall not accept a new request from a person that has a request pending.

**Rule 30. Remarks of Citizens to be Germane.**

Citizen comments must be directed to the subject under consideration. The presiding officer shall rule on the germaneness of citizen comments. Citizens making personal, repetitive, slanderous or disruptive remarks or engaging in any action that otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of a council meeting shall not be recognized by the presiding officer ~~from further comment before the Council~~ during the remainder of the meeting. To ensure the meeting is conducted orderly and free from interference or interruption, the presiding officer is vested with exclusive discretion to review and determine whether remarks or actions meet any prohibited terms of this rule. Without limitation, arguing with the presiding officer about any determination will be considered per se disruptive. Persons who make or attempt to make non-germane remarks during any portion of the meeting ~~on more than one item~~ shall not be recognized by the presiding officer during the remainder of the meeting.