

# **COUNCIL RULES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**June 1, 2015**

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- ◆ Fairness
- ◆ Courtesy
- ◆ Respect
- ◆ Order

## **CITIZEN PARTICIPATION**

### **CITIZEN COMMENT / NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Citizens are invited to briefly address City Council regarding relevant topics that are not scheduled on the business agenda.
2. Each person addressing the Council will give their name and address for the record, and shall state the subject of their comments. It shall be understood that certain topics may require more research before presentation to Council; to provide balance and reasoning. Accordingly, complex issues may be deferred to a future Council agenda.
3. Upon recognition by the Chair, citizens shall be allowed to speak uninterrupted, for a limit of three (3) minutes, unless a longer period is permitted by Council.
4. If several people wish to speak to the same issue, the Mayor may limit the total amount of time dedicated to that issue to fifteen (15) minutes.
5. Following citizen comment, immediate response or discussion by Council is not expected; typically, the Chair will refer the matter to city staff for further review and follow-up.
6. Group presentations/requests should be prearranged with, or referred to City Administrator, in order to allow responsible review of all pertinent factors.

### **BUSINESS AGENDA ITEMS**

Comments will not be allowed from the public during the order of business items.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Formal procedures are followed for public hearings, in accordance with Connell Municipal Code, which include opportunity for public comment.

## **COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

Council Members are encouraged to discuss items fully and openly during decision-making process; by best efforts to listen, respect other viewpoints, and build consensus despite difference of opinion.