

CITY COUNCIL RULES & PROCEDURES MEETING  
June 10, 2013

6:30 P.M.—CALL TO ORDER IN THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of the Committee Meeting Minutes
  - a. April 1, 2013
  - b. May 7, 2013
- III. Discussions on revisions to the City Council Rules and Procedures as suggested by the City Clerk in Memorandum No. 13-26 (please see attached).
  - a. Proclamations
    - i. Denial Measure
    - ii. Submission Deadline
    - iii. Authorization
  - b. Agenda Deadlines
    - i. City Council Work Sessions and Miscellaneous Meetings
    - ii. City Council (voting) Meetings
- IV. Adjournment

**MINUTES OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL RULES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE**

April 1, 2013

The regular meeting of the City Council Rules and Procedures Committee convened at 1:30 p.m. on April 1, 2013 in the Mayor's Chambers of the Municipal Building.

Present: Rules and Procedures Committee  
Councilmember David N. Mosby  
Councilmember Trina Baughn

Also Present: Diana R. Stanley, City Clerk  
Kenneth R. Krushenski, City Attorney  
Councilmember Charlie Hensley

**APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 18, 2013 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Committee Chair Baughn moved, seconded to approve the March 18, 2013 Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Committee member Mosby and passed by unanimous voice vote with those present voting "Aye."

**FINAL SUGGESTIONS AND AMENDMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL RULES AND PROCEDURES WITH EMPHASIS ON PROCLAMATION GUIDELINES**

*Review of proclamation material provided by City Clerk's Office*

The Committee briefly reviewed and discussed the proclamation data and reports provided by the City Clerk in the agenda packet. Following discussions on the material, the City Clerk referenced proclamation guideline of various cities in the nation that were sent to the Committee for their review, such as City of Cleveland, Ohio; City of Gainesville, Georgia; Town of Cary, North Carolina; City of Omaha, Nebraska; City of Centennial, Colorado; City of Baytown, Texas; and City of St. Louis, Missouri.

The City Clerk proceeded to highlight some of the guidelines that she found to be beneficial to the City, such as:

"Submission of a proclamation request does not guarantee issuance."

"Proclamations which are political, religious, or controversial in nature, or that would not likely enjoy a high level of community interest and support, are discouraged."

"[Proclamations are issued] to proclaim certain events, causes, or achievements when such proclamations positively impact the community and convey an affirmative message. . ."

"[Requests] received after the deadline will be prepared based upon staff availability."

"A brief summary and/or background of the event or organization should be provided. . .including the 'whereas' clauses."

"National organizations that do not have a local contact person—proclamation requests must be made by Oak Ridge residents."

"If a request does not meet the guidelines for a proclamation. . . other type of recognitions, such as letters or certificates can be considered."

The Rules Committee briefly discussed some additional suggestions and provisions, as well as provided some additional suggestions in addition to those guidelines provided above, such as:

"Proclamations are issued to proclaim certain events, causes, or achievements that positively impact the community and convey an affirmative message *to the City of Oak Ridge residents.*"

"Proclamations will not be backdated after the event date for that year."

Discussions were also held regarding a deadline to which the City Clerk recommended a fourteen (14) day advance notification. Additionally, the Committee agreed to have all proclamations, including those that were previously presented, on the Consent Agenda for informational and historical record keeping purposes, as well as to have the consent of all of Council. Following the discussion on proclamations, Committee Chair Baughn moved to accept the recommendations discussed by the Committee and allow the City Clerk to use those discussions to draft a final version of proclamation guidelines. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Mosby and approved by unanimous voice vote with all committee members present voting "Aye."

The City Clerk noted that she would send a draft of the proclamation guidelines to the Rules Committee for their review prior to inclusion in the final City Council Rules and Procedures document.

*Draft Final Version of City Council Rules and Procedures (informational purposes only)*

The City Clerk noted that two (2) corrections needed to occur in the final version of City Council's Rules and Procedures for clarification: that the language under "Finished Agenda" under "Order of Business" clarify that the "agenda will usually be available one week in advance of the meeting" and that the second sentence under "Appointments to Boards and Commissions, 3. Conduct of Elections" would include the verbiage "if an incumbent" following "the applicant's information" for clarification purposes and to allow the agenda to be published based the one week deadline for unforeseen circumstances.

Councilmember Baughn recommended that the language read that the Finished Agenda will be available "one (1) week prior to the meeting" and that if a problem was being experience that hindered the publication of the agenda at the one week deadline that staff could advise City Council of the circumstances. The Committee agreed to accept Councilmember Baughn's language.

Councilmember Mosby moved to accept the two new changes as presented, as well as the attached Rules and Procedures document as presented with the understanding that the City Clerk would provide proclamation guidelines at a later date. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Baughn and approved by unanimous voice vote with all committee members present voting "Aye."

**DISCUSSIONS ON DRAFTING MEMO FOR INCLUSION IN THE APRIL 8, 2013 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA PACKET**

The Committee Chair provided suggestions to the City Clerk on the content to include in the Rules and Procedures Committee Memo that would be included in the April 8, 2013 City Council Agenda Packet which included provided two to three general paragraphs on the process and changes of the Committee, as well as highlighting some of the major changes that were proposed to the Rules and Procedures document.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

---

Diana R. Stanley, City Clerk  
Secretary for City Council Rules and Procedures Committee

APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL RULES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE  
[TDB], 2013

---

Trina Baughn, Chair  
City Council Rules and Procedures Committee, 2013

**MINUTES OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL RULES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE**

May 7, 2013

The regular meeting of the City Council Rules and Procedures Committee convened at 11:30 a.m. on May 7, 2013 in the Mayor's Chambers of the Municipal Building.

Present: Rules and Procedures Committee  
Councilmember David N. Mosby  
Councilmember Trina Baughn

Also Present: Diana R. Stanley, City Clerk  
Kenneth R. Krushenski, City Attorney  
Councilmember Anne Garcia Garland

**FINAL SUGGESTIONS AND AMENDMENTS OF CITY COUNCIL RULES AND PROCEDURES**

The City Clerk noted that she had not received any comments or suggestions from Councilmembers in relation to the City Council Rules and Procedures document. The City Clerk distributed a copy of an e-mail sent by Mayor Pro Tem D. Jane Miller on April 10, 2013 (after the April 8, 2013 City Council meeting) with the following comments:

"1. I think it is going to be too difficult for the City staff to provide an agenda on Monday (one week ahead) of meetings. Receiving on Wed. is plenty of time for council members.

2. I think taking minutes of work sessions that sometimes last 2-3 hours is way to labor intensive for the ROI. I just don't see the point in taking minutes in non-voting meetings. I think writing down every word someone says may even inhibit communication between council members. Anything that would keep us from communicating freely with one another is not positive as long as we are in the sunshine."

The Committee briefly reviewed the suggestions and no changes to the current Rules and Procedures were initiated as a result of the above comments.

Councilmember Garcia Garland discussed her suggestions in relation to the proclamation guidelines. Committee Chair Baughn briefed Councilmember Garcia Garland on the Committee's process for establishing proclamation guidelines, which included a mechanism to reduce the number processed, better definition of their purpose, and establish a procedure for requestors to follow to reduce staff's proclamation processing time.

First, Councilmember Garcia Garland wished to replace the word "ceremonious" with "ceremonial." Next, Councilmember Garcia Garland discussed that she wished to have City Council authorization on all proclamations prior to the proclamation being issued over the Mayor's signature. The Committee Members and Councilmember Garcia Garland proceeded to discuss the authorization component of proclamations at length. The Committee determined to add the verbiage "upon approval of City Council" following the last sentence in the proclamation overview that begins "The Mayor will be the signatory of all proclamations. . ." to add the City Council's approval of proclamations. Committee Chair Baughn moved, seconded by Committee Member Mosby to accept the replacement of the word "ceremonious," and to add the additional verbiage of "upon approval of City Council" following the last sentence of the second paragraph in the proclamation overview. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote with those committee members present voting "Aye."

Lastly, the Committee and Councilmember Garcia Garland discussed a new timeline that would allow for proclamation requestors to be placed on the City Council Agenda with ample time to also have the proclamation presented at the following month's Council meeting or at the requestor's event. Councilmember Garcia Garland recommended sixty (60) days advance notification from the requestor so as to allow agenda processing time. Following discussions among the Committee Members and Councilmember Garcia Garland regarding the sixty (60) days advance notification, Committee Chair

Baughn moved, seconded by Committee Member Mosby to change the notification to sixty (60) days advance notice. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote with those committee members present voting "Aye." Committee Chair Baughn moved, seconded by Committee Member Mosby to omit Guideline No. 5 regarding placing all proclamations presented outside of a City Council meeting on the Consent Agenda given that all proclamation would now require City Council approval before issuance. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote with those committee members present voting "Aye."

Councilmember Garcia Garland had a few inquiries to ask the Committee Members regarding the proposed changes presented by the Rules Committee for the Rules and Procedures document. Specifically, she inquired about the new verbiage under "Sergeant-At-Arms" and "Members of the Public, Right to Speak." Committee Chair Baughn explained that, as written, a Sergeant-At-Arms will be available at all Council meetings. Committee Member Mosby explained that the language regarding the public's right to speak at Council meetings was altered from a "right" to speak to an "opportunity" so that it was more in line with state statute and to clarify that it was an *opportunity*, not an automatic right.

The City Clerk advised that recently she had received some suggestions from the City's Risk Manager regarding adding a clause to the "Transportation" section of the Rules regarding other parties allowed in city vehicles for liability purposes. The statement presented during the meeting read: "The only passengers allowed in City vehicles are employees, official candidates for City positions and their families, and persons officially engaged in city services or operations. Exceptions for a spouse may be made only with the City Manager's approval; however, when employees wish to have family members accompany them on City business, a private vehicle should be used if possible." The Committee Members discussed the statement and advised that they wished to have the language clarified so that it was clear representation of liability based on their roles and business situations as City Council. The City Clerk suggested collaborating with the Legal Department to amend the statement and provide a revision for the Committee's review. Committee Member Mosby moved, seconded by Committee Chair Baughn to include the aforementioned statement, with suggested revisions, to the "Transportation" portion of City Council's Rules. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote with those committee members present voting "Aye." The Committee asked that the new language be submitted electronically and individual members could provide their suggestions to the City Clerk for incorporation into the Rules and Procedures document.

#### **DISCUSSIONS ON DRAFTING MEMO FOR INCLUSION IN THE MAY 28, 2013 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA PACKET**

The Committee Chair provided suggestions to the City Clerk on adding additional content to the existing memo drafted regarding the Rules and Procedures document. Once completed the memo would be submitted to the Chair for final revisions.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

---

Diana R. Stanley, City Clerk  
Secretary for City Council Rules and Procedures Committee

APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL RULES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE  
[TDB], 2013

---

Trina Baughn, Chair  
City Council Rules and Procedures Committee, 2013

## CITY CLERK MEMORANDUM

13-26

**DATE:** May 31, 2013

**TO:** Rules and Procedures Committee  
Councilmember Trina Baughn, Chair  
Councilmember David Mosby

**FROM:** Diana R. Stanley, City Clerk

**SUBJECT:** REVISIONS TO THE RULES AND PROCEDURES OF CITY COUNCIL

Upon final review and thought of the Rules and Procedures of City Council, the City Clerk would like to propose some suggested changes to the document:

### Proclamations

Amend the sentence beginning "Proclamations which are political, religious, or controversial in nature. . ." to "Political, religious, or controversial positions will not be supported by the City of Oak Ridge."

The original intent of adding such a statement months earlier was to allow a mechanism to deny requests or alter language that would be controversial. As currently written, the statement is more *exclusive* and would not allow for proclamation requests that both Council and Oak Ridge citizens may wish to support in the future.

Amend the sixty (60) day advance submittal of proclamation for inclusion in a City Council agenda back to the following or equivalent: "Requests not received in the fourteen (14) business day timeframe will be prepared based upon staff availability."

It is the Clerk's opinion that organizations will not plan far in advance in either the submission of the request or in drafting the necessary information to put in the proclamation. Additionally, placing the proclamations may appear counterproductive in establishing efficiencies with the City's proclamation and the City's agendas.

Depending on the situation above, the Committee may also need to revisit the authorization of issuing proclamations.

### Agenda Deadlines

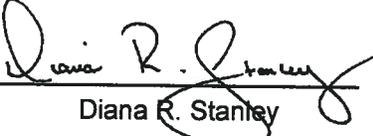
The City Clerk would also recommend that the deadlines for both the City Council Meetings and the Miscellaneous Meetings coincide with one another given that they are related to the same governing body. Currently, City Council Agendas are due one (1) week before and Miscellaneous Meetings are three (3) business days.

Per discussions with the City Manager, staff would request that City Council address inquiries and information gathering prior to the voting meeting if the agenda is received one (1) week in advance, so that staff has time to research the information to submit to City Council, address inquiries, and ultimately help to improve meeting productivity.

In order to achieve these discussions in the most time efficient manner, the City Clerk proposes holding a meeting on Monday, June 10, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss these issues. The information related to City Council's Rules and Procedures could still plan to go on the June 10 Agenda with a communication included in the June 10 Agenda that the Committee is meeting prior to the Council meeting to finalize remaining details and based on the outcome of the Rules Committee Meeting, the document could be

amended on the floor. The Committee would also be approving the minutes from the May 7, 2013 meeting.

Please contact me individually to discuss this matter.

  
Diana R. Stanley

cc: Mark S. Watson, City Manager  
Kenneth R. Krushenski, City Attorney

# RULES AND PROCEDURES

## OF THE OAK RIDGE CITY COUNCIL

# Table of Contents

<b>Meetings</b> .....	<b>3-6</b>
Meetings Open to the Public .....	3
Voting Record of Council .....	3
Minutes of Meetings .....	3-4
Publication of Minutes .....	4
Types of Meetings .....	4
Regular Meetings .....	4
Special Meetings .....	4
Work Sessions and Other Miscellaneous Meetings of City Council .....	4
Quorum of Council .....	4
Official Council Business .....	4
Appointments to Boards and Commissions .....	5
Election Notice .....	5
Filing Deadline .....	5
Conduct of Elections .....	5
Notification of Election Results .....	5
Ordinances .....	5
Proclamations .....	6
<b>Conduct of Meetings</b> .....	<b>7-8</b>
Maintaining Order .....	6
Sergeant-At-Arms .....	7
Permission to Speak Before Council .....	7
Right to Speak .....	7
Discussion of Motion .....	7
Call for the Questions .....	7
City Manager and City Attorney .....	7
Right to Appeal .....	7
Right to Speak Uninterrupted .....	8
Temporary Recess (Break) .....	8
Signs Not Allowed in Chambers .....	8
Use of Tobacco Prohibited at Council Meetings .....	8
<b>Order of Business</b> .....	<b>8-10</b>
Agenda Format .....	8

Preparation of the Agenda .....	9
Material for Agenda .....	9
Council Requests for New Business Items .....	9
Emergency Items .....	10
The Finished Agenda .....	10
<b>Motions.....</b>	<b>10-11</b>
Motion to Adjourn .....	10
To Lay Question on the Table .....	10
Motion Asking for Previous Questions.....	10
To Postpone to Another Time .....	10
To Refer to Committee or Individual.....	10
Motions to be Stated by the Chair .....	10
Withdrawal of Motion.....	10
Public Hearing .....	11
<b>Officers and Committees of Council .....</b>	<b>11-12</b>
Mayor .....	11
Mayor Pro Tem .....	11
Committees.....	11
Appointment of Members to Non-City Committees.....	12
<b>Expenses Incurred in the Conduct of Official Business.....</b>	<b>12-14</b>
Prior Approval or Notification .....	12
City Council .....	12
Members of Boards, Commissions, or Committees .....	12
Transportation .....	12
Lodging.....	13
Food .....	13
Registration and Special Event Fees at Meetings and Conventions .....	13
Receipts.....	14
Spousal Expense.....	14
Advances .....	14
Accounting .....	14
City Council.....	14
Members of Boards, Commissions, or Committees .....	14
<b>Amendments to Rules of Council.....</b>	<b>15</b>

**RULES AND PROCEDURES  
OAK RIDGE CITY COUNCIL**

I. Meetings

A. Meetings Open to the Public

All Council meetings shall be open to the public and citizens shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard. The Council shall exercise its powers only at public meetings. [Charter, Article II, Section 3]

1. Voting Record of Council

A vote upon all proposed ordinances and resolutions shall be taken by "yea" and "nay" vote, indicated either orally or by use of the electronic voting system. The vote of each Council member shall be entered upon the journal (minutes). The journal shall also report the names of the council members present and absent, each motion considered, and the title of each ordinance or resolution considered.

[Charter, Article II, Section 8]

a. Use of the Electronic Voting System

It is acceptable for all questions (ordinances, resolutions, and motions) to be put to a voice vote; however, in the event the voice vote is not unanimous, the Chair may choose to use the electronic (roll call) voting system. The Chair activates the system by depressing the "ready ballot" button and the members of Council then present may vote "yea" or "nay" during the time the lamp is on. A Council member may have the opportunity to change his/her vote if the request is made prior to recording of the results. If a Council member fails to cast an electronic vote, the Chair shall ascertain if it is his/her desire to abstain.

b. Clearing the Electronic Voting Board

After votes have been recorded, the electronic voting board shall be cleared.

2. Minutes of Meetings

There shall be a journal of proceedings (minutes) of all Council meetings signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and to which the public shall have access at all reasonable times. The journal (minutes) shall report the names of the Council members present and absent, each motion considered, and the title of each ordinance or resolution considered.

[Charter, Article II, Section 8]

In accordance with T.C.A. § 8-44-104, minutes shall be recorded of all City Council meetings, including those meetings in which no action is taken, and will have the appropriate signatures.

An indexed audio recording of each regular City Council meeting shall be maintained for a ten-year period of time and video recording shall be maintained for one year. A copy of the approved minutes shall be distributed to each member of City Council.

3. Publication of Minutes

A summary of Council proceedings shall be published in the official city newspaper within 15 days after a meeting, showing the substance of each Council action.

[Charter, Article II, Section 8]

B. Types of Meetings

1. Regular Meetings

The Council shall hold regular meetings in Oak Ridge at least once monthly. Increased frequency, time of day, and place of its meetings shall be established by resolution.

[Charter, Article II, Section 1]

2. Special Meetings

Special meetings shall be called by the City Clerk on the written request of the Mayor, the City Manager, or any two (2) Council members by providing each Council member with twenty-four (24) hours written notice served personally or left at his or her usual place of residence. Business transacted at any special meeting shall be limited to subjects recited in the notice of such meetings.

[Charter, Article II, Section 2]

3. Work Sessions and Other Miscellaneous Meetings of City Council

The Council may hold regular miscellaneous meetings as scheduled by the City Manager. These meetings are scheduled on an as needed basis as a means to allow for discussions and interactions of City Council on particular subjects, updates, and for the exchange of information. No official action shall be taken at work sessions. An agenda shall be made available to all Council members, along with supporting information/documentation at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

C. Quorum of Council

At least a majority of the members of the Council then in office shall be a quorum for the transaction of business at all Council meetings, but in the absence of a quorum, two (2) members may adjourn the meeting to a later date.

[Charter, Article II, Section 4]

D. Official Council Business

The affirmative vote of at least a majority of the members of the Council then in office shall be required to approve any proposed action other than those listed in Sections B.2 and C of these Rules and Procedures.

[Charter, Article II, Section 8]

When voting for any contested appointment, the vote shall be taken by written ballot, each of which shall be invalid unless signed by the voting member who marked it.

E. Appointments to Boards and Commissions

1. Election Notice

City Council and the public shall be notified of current and end-of-year vacancies through the City Clerk's Office. The City Clerk shall prepare an election notice either via a legal notice to the paper or as a press release prior to the scheduled election. Terms shall be determined, reviewed, and established by City Council.

2. Filing Deadline

A resident of the City desiring to be a candidate for Council appointment to a board or commission shall submit the required application to the City Clerk. Additionally, the applicant(s) may submit resumes, cover letters, and other documents. All material must be submitted to the City Clerk's Office by the deadline specified in the notice.

3. Conduct of Elections

The applicant's information shall be placed in the agenda packet for the meeting at which the election is to occur, along with a ballot, if needed, which lists the names of all candidates and offers the opportunity to abstain. The applicant's information, if an incumbent, shall be accompanied by a report indicating the incumbent's total time in office and his/her attendance record for at least the most recent term of office.

Applicants are encouraged to attend the election meeting and may be given an opportunity to speak.

4. Notification of Election Results

Following the election, appropriate letters shall be sent to all applicants and outgoing board members from the City Clerk.

F. Ordinances

Each ordinance, before being adopted, shall be read at least by title at two meetings not less than one (1) week apart, and shall take effect ten (10) days after its adoption, except that, where an emergency exists and the public safety and welfare requires it, an ordinance containing a full statement of the facts and reasons for the emergency may be made effective upon its adoption if approved by a majority of the members of the Council on two (2) readings on successive days. At least the title of each ordinance, except an emergency ordinance, shall be published in the official city newspaper at least one (1) week before its adoption and within ten (10) days after its adoption, either separately or as part of the published proceedings of the Council. The newspaper publication shall include locations where the ordinance is available for public review. The entire ordinance shall be published on the City's web site at least one (1) week before its adoption and shall remain on the website for a minimum of 30 days after its adoption.

[Charter, Article II, Section 12]

If an ordinance is amended on first reading, it shall be presented in its amended form at the time of second reading. City Council also has the option to defer the ordinance on second reading.

## G. Proclamations

Overview: Proclamations are issued to proclaim certain events, causes, or achievements that positively impact the community and convey an affirmative message to the City of Oak Ridge residents. Proclamations which are political, religious, or controversial in nature, or that would not likely enjoy a high level of community interest or support will not be supported by the City of Oak Ridge. Submission of a proclamation request does not guarantee issuance.

Proclamations issued by the City are ceremonial in nature and not considered an official endorsement by the City of Oak Ridge. The Mayor will be the signatory of all proclamations issued by the City of Oak Ridge upon approval of City Council.

### Guidelines:

- 1) National organizations that do not have a local contact person, i.e. Oak Ridge affiliation, will not be granted.
- 2) The City Clerk's Office reserves the right to modify (change and/or delete) any language provided for a proclamation.
- 3) Requests for proclamations should be submitted sixty (60) days in advance to the City Clerk's Office for inclusion in a City Council agenda.
- 4) A requesting party does not have exclusive rights to the day, week, or month of the proclamation.
- 5) Proclamations will not be processed after the event date for that year.
- 6) Other means of individual recognition, such as honorary letters or certificates will be considered as an alternative to proclamations.

### Preparation:

- 1) Requests should be submitted in writing to the City Clerk's Office sixty (60) days prior to the event.
- 2) The request should specify if the proclamation is expected to be presented during a City Council meeting or at a non-city event, although a request to be on the City Council meeting agenda is not guaranteed.
- 3) The request should include the requestor's first and last name, address, telephone number, and organizational name (if warranted).
- 4) A brief summary and/or background of the event or organization should be provided, as well as draft text for the proclamation, including, but not limited to the "whereas" clauses.
- 5) The requestor should provide a date when the proclamation is needed, as well as the name of the day" and date of the day, week, month that the event is proclaimed.

## II. Conduct of Meetings

### A. Maintaining Order

Council members shall preserve order and shall do nothing to interrupt or delay the proceedings of Council.

### B. Sergeant-At-Arms

The City Manager shall designate a police officer to serve as the Sergeant-At-Arms of the Council.

### C. Permission to Speak Before Council

#### 1. Right to Speak

##### a. City Council Members

The Chair shall recognize the right of City Council members to speak before the body. A Council member shall initiate his/her right to speak by depressing the "call for floor" button. The Chair shall maintain a sequential list of the callers.

##### b. Members of the Public

The Chair shall recognize a citizen's opportunity to comment on items that are under consideration by the Council as part of the formal agenda. A citizen will raise his/her hand and/or proceed to the public lectern and, after recognition by the Chair, stating his/her name and address.

The Chair shall recognize members of the public after all Council members have been given an opportunity to be heard on the subject. Upon recognition by the Chair, members of the public may speak for up to three (3) minutes. Written statements may also be filed with the City Clerk who shall distribute them to the Council at the earliest possible time.

#### 2. Discussion of Motion

The Council member proposing a motion that has been duly seconded has the right to open the debate. Other members may then address the issue upon recognition by the Chair. Council members should strive to maintain reasonable time limits and to keep their discussion germane to the motion under consideration.

#### 3. Call for the Question

Council members may indicate that they are ready to vote by depressing the "call for the question" button. The Chair is allowed a voting opportunity for the "Call for the question." When a majority of those members present have called for the questions, the Chair may close the discussion and put the questions to a vote.

#### 4. City Manager and City Attorney

The City Manager and City Attorney may speak on any subject when recognized by the Chair. They may answer questions raised by members of City Council or ask another officer to answer for them. All questions about the internal operation of the municipal corporation shall be directed to the City Manager.

#### 5. Right of Appeal

Council members shall have the right to appeal from a decision of the Chair. The Chair will give its reasons for the decision and the injured party will defend his/her position. A majority of the Council will determine the matter.

D. Right to Speak Uninterrupted

A Council member, duly recognized, shall be allowed to speak on the topic under discussion and may be interrupted only if a point of order is raised. If the Council member is judged to be in order he/she may continue on the subject. If determined to be out of order, the Council member must change his/her remarks or surrender the right to continue speaking.

E. Temporary Recess (Break)

Following completion of a business item, the Chair may call for a recess. A recess may not be called prior to a vote.

F. Signs Not Allowed in Chambers

Signs, posters, and placards may be carried outside the Council's meeting room, but shall not be allowed within, unless it is necessary for official business related to the agenda.

G. Use of Tobacco Prohibited at Council Meetings

The use of tobacco in any form shall not be allowed during the course of a City Council meeting regardless of location. This rule shall apply to all meetings of the Council.

III. Order of Business

A. Agenda Format

Each item of the agenda will have an abstract after the title when such an abstract is clearly indicated. The order of business shall be as follows:

- I. Invocation
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Appearance of Citizens (See Note 1)
- V. Proclamations and Public Recognitions
- VI. Special Reports
- VII. Consent Agenda (See Note 2)
- VIII. Resolutions
- IX. Public Hearings and First Reading of Ordinances
- X. Final Adoption of Ordinances
- XI. Elections/Appointments, Announcements, and Scheduling (See Note 3)
- XII. Council Requests for New Business Items or Future Briefings
- XIII. Summary of Current Events
  - a. City Manager's Report
  - b. City Attorney's Report
- XIV. Adjournment

In order to allow flexibility to conduct city business, the City Clerk, with approval from the City Manager, may reorder the above agenda format on a per meeting basis.

Note 1: Appearance of Citizens: Citizens shall be permitted to address City Council about matters that are not on the formal agenda. For the city record, the City Clerk may require a sign up card for citizen appearances. Any citizen wishing to do so shall raise his/her hand and/or proceed to the public lectern and, after recognition by the Chair, state his/her name and address, and the purpose for his/her appearance before the Council. Comments shall generally be limited to three (3) minutes and shall relate to matters of City business. They shall not generally result in a formal response or action at the time of presentation because in most cases neither the Council nor the staff will be prepared to respond effectively; however, the Chair may answer questions or direct the City Manager to do so, or the City Manager may be requested to work with the citizen to effect resolution of the matter.

Statements that are purely political in nature will not be allowed, such as campaign speeches or announcements of candidacy for office, nor will announcements of a civic or social event that is unrelated to City business.

Note 2: Consent Agenda: Those items on the Council agenda which are considered routine by the City Manager – e.g., approval of minutes; certain standard form resolutions such as those extending the time for the oath of office; confirmation of certain appointments such as Council committees, the Oak Ridge Utility District, and the Youth Advisory Board, and routine purchases; shall be listed on the Consent Agenda and, unless a member of Council has *specifically* requested that an item be removed therefrom and Council action taken separately, these items shall be approved, adopted, accepted, etc., by a single motion of the Council followed by a roll call vote.

A City Councilmember will be afforded an opportunity following approval of the Consent Agenda to comment on any of the business items approved.

Note 3: Elections/Appointments, Announcements, and Scheduling: Nomination, elections, and appointments related to city and non-city boards, Council committees, and etc. shall occur under the "Elections/Appointments" category. "Announcements" will provide City Councilmembers with an opportunity to discuss attendance at recent and/or future conferences, participation at community events, or to express appreciation for recent volunteer efforts or community participation.

B. Preparation of the Agenda

The agenda will be prepared by the City Manager

1. Material for Agenda

All items for action shall be checked with the City Attorney for legality and with the administrative staff for adequacy where necessary.

2. Council Requests for New Business Items

The Mayor and City Council are urged to advise the City Manager of New Business Items prior to the posting of the agenda. If the items are not provided in advance then City Council can use this opportunity to provide direction to the City Manager regarding business requests and briefings during the City Council meeting. Those items will advance with a consensus from the Council.

3. Emergency Items

Materials concerning emergency items shall be furnished Council members at the earliest time possible.

4. The Finished Agenda

The finished agenda with associated material for regular Council meetings will usually be available in an electronic medium by close of business one (1) week prior to the meeting. The agenda packet shall be placed on the City's website immediately upon completion and the City Clerk' Office will distribute copies of the agenda to the media.

IV. Motions

City Council adheres to Robert's Rules of Order except for the following:

A. Motion to Adjourn

A motion to adjourn is out of order prior to three (3) hours following commencement of the meeting if all items on the agenda have not been completed. An unqualified motion to adjourn shall not be debatable.

B. To Lay Question on the Table

A motion to lay on the table is not debatable and precludes amendments or debate of the subject under consideration. If the motion prevails, consideration of the matter tabled resumes only if a member of the majority voting in favor of the motion to table makes a motion to bring the matter off the table and it is seconded, and a majority of the members vote in favor of it.

C. Motion Asking for Previous Question

This motion is not debatable. When the previous question is called for there shall be no further amendments or debate and pending amendments shall be taken in their order before the main question.

D. To Postpone to Another Time

This motion is debatable and may be amended as to time.

E. To Refer to Committee or Individual

This is debatable.

F. Amendments

An amendment may be amended but further amendments are out of order. Any amendments must be germane to the original motion.

G. Motions to be State by the Chair

When debate is completed, the motion shall be restated by the Chair before voting.

H. Withdrawal of Motion

1. A motion may be withdrawn by the person making the motion with the consent of the person seconding the motion if debate has not begun.
2. A motion may be withdrawn after debate with consent of the majority of Council.

I. Public Hearing

Public hearings shall occur in the order as indicated in the above Agenda Format. A motion must be made each time for both the opening and the closing of a public hearing, followed by a vote of City Council.

V. Officers and Committees of Council

A. Mayor

The Council, at its first regular meeting following a regular city election and after all newly-elected members have been duly qualified, shall elect one of its members Mayor for a term of two (2) years. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of the Mayor, the Council shall elect one of its members to serve until the time fixed herein for the regular election of Mayor. The Mayor shall preside at meetings of the Council, shall have a vote on all matters but no veto power, shall have the same right as any other Council member to speak on an issue, shall be the ceremonial head of the City, shall sign ordinances and resolutions on their final passage, shall sign deeds, bonds and contracts when authorized by the Council to do so, shall be the officer to accept process against the City, shall not have any regular administrative duties, and shall perform only such duties as shall be specifically conferred or required by law.

[Charter, Article II, Section 6]

B. Mayor Pro Tem

The Council shall choose one of its members Mayor Pro Tem who shall act in the temporary absence or disability of the Mayor.

[Charter, Article II, Section 7]

The Mayor Pro Tem shall be chosen immediately following the election of the Mayor.

C. Committees

1. The Mayor or any member of Council, with the advice and consent of Council, may appoint committees whose membership may include persons not on Council. Officers of appointed committees shall be determined by appointed members of that committee unless City Council specifies otherwise.
2. Committees will be appointed to study specific matters. They shall be provided with a defined charge and a time limit shall be placed on the length of the study. The committee will make a report to the Council at a predetermined time. All committee reports upon which action is expected shall be in written form and copies shall be made available to each member of the Council. A committee shall cease to exist following acceptance of its report unless the Council takes action to extend its term for a defined period.

3. The affirmative vote of a majority of the members of Council then in office shall be required to make any authorized appointment or to remove such appointees. [Charter, Article II, Section 8]
4. Committee appointees shall be residents of the City unless otherwise specified by City Council.
5. There shall be no standing committee of the Council. [Charter, Article II, Section 8]  
(This section does not relate to Boards and Commissions who will convene in accordance with their enabling legislation.)

D. Appointment of Members to Non-City Committees

The Mayor, with the advice and consent of Council, may appoint members to other established bodies, as desired or deemed necessary.

VI. Expenses Incurred in the Conduct of Official Business

It shall be the policy of the Council to maintain the cost of all phases of Council operations at the most economical level consistent with satisfactory conduct of City affairs. To this end, City money shall be used to reimburse Council members and board, commission or committee members elected or appointed by the Mayor or City Council for expenses incurred in the conduct of City business. The City budget shall determine availability of funding for City reimbursed travel. While it shall be the policy of the Council to assume all reasonable costs associated with the conduct of such business, the following considerations shall be the basis for determining the reasonableness of such costs:

A. Prior Approval or Notification

1. City Council

Overnight travel shall be subject to prior approval or notification in the following manner:

- a. Submission of a request for approval at a Council meeting before the planned trip, or
- b. A councilmember must complete a Travel Notification Form and distribute to all members of City Council via the City Clerk with at least 24-hour advance notice.

The request for travel approval or advance notification shall contain an explanation of the purpose of the trip and the benefit to accrue to the City.

2. Members of Boards, Commissions, or Committees

Overnight travel shall be subject to budget and prior approval of the City Manager. The request for travel approval shall contain an explanation of the purpose of the trip and the benefit to accrue to the City.

B. Transportation

City vehicles should be the first consideration when used for transportation while on official City business unless consideration of time or distance would indicate that such use would be unreasonable or a vehicle is unavailable. When other modes of travel are to be used, the City shall provide or pay for tickets for rail, air or bus transportation. When

transportation tickets are secured by an individual, advantage must be taken of all tax exemptions allowed the City.

Cost of bus, taxi or limousine service from Oak Ridge to railway station or airport and return and at destination from airport, railway or bus terminal to hotel and return shall be an allowable expense. After reaching the hotel at destination, local transportation facilities shall be used, and costs of such use shall be borne by the City. Taxi fares will be allowed if justified on the basis of (1) unavailability of other means of transportation, (2) urgencies due to time schedules, (3) economic advantages to the City. The cost of rental car use may be assumed by the City when justified by the same considerations.

Use of personal automobiles for travel on City business shall be allowed with prior approval by the City Clerk. Only the driver of a personal car shall be reimbursed for such travel, and reimbursement shall be at the rate established by the City Manager for all other officers and employees of the City or an amount not to exceed economy airfare, whichever is less expensive. Passengers in such automobile shall not be paid any transportation allowance for such travel. Storage or parking charges resulting from the authorized use of either City or private automobile shall be at the expense of the city. The total transportation expense to be borne by the City when a personal car is used for official travel shall not exceed the amount of expense incurred had commercial air transportation been used when such transportation is available.

The only passengers allowed in City vehicles are City employees (including elected officials) and community representatives (with City Manager pre-approval) who are engaged in the conduct of city business. Exceptions for traveling with a spouse may be made only with the City Manager's prior approval; however, when employees wish to have other family members accompany them on City business, a private vehicle must be used.

C. Lodging

Actual cost of occupancy of hotel or motel room for the Council or Board member shall be at the expense of the City. When a room is occupied by more than one person and the additional occupants are not on official City business, then reimbursement for lodging will be made in the amount that would have been charged for single occupancy of the hotel or motel room.

D. Food

Actual cost of meals while conducting or traveling on City business is reimbursable; however, such costs shall be maintained at the most economical level possible. In lieu of submission of actual expenses for food, the maximum allowed for reimbursement shall be at the daily per diem rate established by the City Manager for all other officers and employees of the City. When traveling, the permissible food reimbursement shall be limited to the food reimbursement amount that would be given using the fastest method of transportation available. For example, when a slower method of transportation is used, such as vehicle travel instead of air travel, the permissible food reimbursement amount will be limited to the number of travel days had air travel been used.

E. Registration and Special Event Fees at Meetings and Conventions

Registration and special event fees shall be paid for in advance by the City whenever possible or if paid by the attendee, shall be reimbursable by the City.

F. Receipts

Routinely, all claims for expenses shall be accompanied by paid receipts. However, when traveling on City business, receipts are not required when the item is less than \$10 or the actual food charges are less than the daily rate established by the City Manager for all other officers or employees of the City.

G. Spousal Expense

All expenses for an accompanying spouse or guest shall be at the expense of the Council member or Board member.

H. Advances

Advance payments for travel expenses can only be made to the provider (airline, hotel, conference provider, etc.), but the traveler may be reimbursed after the trip if direct payment to a provider was not made.

[Tennessee Code Annotated §6-54-901-907]

I. Accounting

1. City Council

An accounting of travel expenses (Travel Expense Report) shall be filed with the City Clerk within twenty (20) business days after completion of such travel at which time any money properly due the traveler shall be authorized for payment by the City. All such accounting shall be made over the signature of the person making the accounting and an accompanying statement that such accounting is true and accurate. This accounting of expenses shall be signed by the City Manager, and shall be processed in accordance with administrative regulations and made a part of the financial record of the City.

The City Clerk shall prepare an annual report enumerating the travel expenses of each Council member. Copies of the report shall be distributed to the Council.

2. Members of Boards, Commissions, or Committees

An accounting of travel expenses (Travel Expense Report) shall be filed with the City Manager within twenty (20) business days after completion of such travel at which time any money properly due the traveler shall be authorized for payment by the City. All such accounting shall be made over the signature of the person making the accounting and an accompanying statement that such accounting is true and accurate. This accounting of expenses shall be signed by the City Manager, and shall be processed in accordance with administrative regulations and made a part of the financial record of the City.

VII. Amendments to Rules of Council

The rules of Council may be amended by a resolution adopted by a two-thirds vote of the entire membership of City Council. The resolution shall specify the effective date of the amended rules.

If an unusual occasion arises that a question is not specifically covered by the foregoing fundamental rules, the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order will apply as interpreted by the City Clerk.

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_ Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_ Effective: \_\_\_\_\_