

COUNTY COMMISSION AGENDA PROTOCOL:

Roberts Rules: The County Commission follows Roberts Rules of Order to govern its meetings as per the Town Code Charter.

Public Comment: Public Comment is to bring matters of public interest to the attention of the Commission. The Commission welcomes concise statements on matters that are within the purview of the County Commission. At the Commission's discretion, matters raised under Public Comment may be directed to County Administration or may be placed on a future agenda, allowing all viewpoints to be represented before the Commission takes action, if any. Except in emergencies, the Commission will not normally take any other action on Public Comment in its sole discretion.

To facilitate that any individual who wishes to provide Public Comment has the opportunity and to ensure the ability of the Commission to conduct its business in an orderly fashion, the following rules and procedures are adopted consistent with state and federal free speech laws:

- The agenda for regular County Commission meetings will include a Public Comment period at the beginning of the meeting unless there is more urgent business for the Commission to take up first. This time is reserved for speakers to address the Commission on matters that are not related to any other Agenda item. If a speaker wishes to address the Commission on a matter that is related to another Agenda item, the Chair will accept public comment when that Agenda item is reached during the meeting.
- All speakers are encouraged to present their remarks in a respectful manner.
- All remarks will be addressed through the Chair of the meeting.
- The Chair of the meeting may not interrupt speakers who have been recognized to speak, except that the Chair reserves the right to terminate speech which is not constitutionally protected because it constitutes true threats, incitement to imminent lawless conduct, comments that were found by a court of law to be defamatory, and/or sexually explicit comments made to appeal to prurient interests. Verbal comments may also be curtailed if they exceed three (3) minutes and to the extent they exceed the scope of the Commission's authority.

Disclaimer: Public Comment is not a time for debate or response to comments by the Commission. Comments made during the Public Comment period do not reflect the views or positions of the Commission. Because of constitutional free speech principles, the Commission

does not have authority to prevent all speech that may be upsetting and/or offensive made during the Public Comment period.

New Business: For topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting may be brought up for discussion in accordance with the Open Meeting Law.

Public Participation: The Commission welcomes valuable input from the public at appropriate times during the meeting with recognition from the Chair at his/her sole discretion. For appropriate agenda items, the Chair will introduce the item and take public input. Individual Commission Members may have questions on the clarity of the information presented. The Commission will hear any staff input and then deliberate on a course of action.

Commissions Reports and Comments: Individual Commission Members may have matters to bring to the attention of the Commission during a meeting. If the matter contemplates action by the Commission, Commission Members will consult with the Chair and/or County Manager in advance and provide any needed information by the Thursday before the meeting and/or schedule the matter for a future Commission meeting. Otherwise, except in emergencies, the Commission will not normally take action on County Commission Comment.

Approved on March 24, 2021