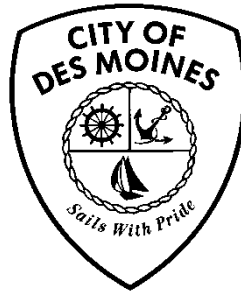


# DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL

## RULES OF PROCEDURE



**Adopted Pursuant to DMMC 4.12.010**

Updated 7/89  
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**DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<u>Page No.</u>
<b><u>SECTION I</u></b> <b><u>COUNCIL MEETINGS</u></b>	
RULE 1. COUNCIL MEETING - LOCATION	1
RULE 2. COUNCIL MEETING - TIME	1
RULE 3. COUNCIL MEETINGS - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC	1
RULE 4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS	1
RULE 5. PRESIDING OFFICER	2
RULE 6. QUORUM	3
RULE 7. ATTENDANCE, EXCUSED ABSENCES	3
RULE 7.1. PARTICIPATION BY TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATION	3
RULE 8. SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS	4
RULE 9. COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA	5
RULE 10. STUDY SESSIONS	5
RULE 11. CITY MANAGER	6
RULE 12. CLERK	6
<b><u>SECTION II</u></b> <b><u>DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS</u></b>	
RULE 13. FORMS OF ADDRESS	7
RULE 14. SEATING ARRANGEMENT	7
RULE 15. APPEARANCE OF FAIRNESS DOCTRINE	7
RULE 16. DISSENTS AND PROTESTS	9
RULE 17. ADMINISTRATIVE INTERFERENCE BY COUNCILMEMBERS	9

**DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS (CONTINUED)**

**SECTION III**  
**COUNCIL PROCEDURES**

	<u>Page No.</u>
RULE 18. RULES OF ORDER	10
RULE 19. MOTIONS	10
RULE 20. ORDER OF BUSINESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT RULES	10
RULE 21. ACTIONS FOR A PUBLIC HEARING	14
RULE 22. VOTING	17
RULE 23. COMMITTEES	17
RULE 24. ENACTED ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS	18
RULE 25. RESOLUTIONS	18
RULE 26. ORDINANCES	18
RULE 27. PERMISSION REQUIRED TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL	19
RULE 28. RECONSIDERATION	19
RULE 29. LEGISLATIVE PROCESS, PREPARATION, INTRODUCTION AND FLOW OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS	19
RULE 30. COUNCIL RELATIONS WITH BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COUNCIL CITIZEN ADVISORY BODIES	20
RULE 31. COMPLAINTS AND SUGGESTIONS TO COUNCIL	20
RULE 32. ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINTS MADE DIRECTLY TO INDIVIDUAL COUNCILMEMBERS	20
RULE 33. FILLING COUNCIL VACANCIES	20
RULE 34. PHOTOGRAPHS, MOTION PICTURES, VIDEO TAPE -- PERMISSION REQUIRED FOR ARTIFICIAL ILLUMINATION	21
RULE 35. AUDIO RECORDINGS OF MEETINGS	21

	<u>Page No.</u>
RULE 36. VIDEO RECORDING AND BROADCAST OF REGULAR MEETINGS	21
RULE 37. “ <i>SPIRIT OF DES MOINES AWARD</i> ” PROGRAM	21
REFERENCES TO DES MOINES MUNICIPAL CODE (DMMC) AND REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON (RCW)	22
REFERENCES TO RESOLUTION NO. 1118 - POLICIES GOVERNING CITY COUNCIL PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC CONTRACTS	27
APPENDIX "A" - <i>THE SPIRIT OF DES MOINES AWARDS PROGRAM POLICY</i>	32

**SECTION I  
COUNCIL MEETING - LOCATION**

**RULE 1.** All meetings of the City Council shall be held at the location specified in DMMC 4.04.010. (Ord. 329 §1, 1973).

**COUNCIL MEETING - TIME**

**RULE 2.** The regular meetings of the City Council shall be held at the times specified in DMMC 4.04.020. (Ord. 1039 §1, 1993).

**COUNCIL MEETINGS - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**RULE 3.** All meetings of the City Council and of committees thereof shall be open to the public, except as provided for in RCW 42.30.110 or RCW 42.30.140. (Res. 525 §1, 1988).

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**RULE 4.** Procedures for electing officers are as follows:

(a) Biennially, at the first meeting of the new Council, the members thereof shall choose a Presiding Officer from their number who shall have the title of Mayor. In addition to the powers conferred upon him/her as Mayor, he/she shall continue to have all the rights, privileges and immunities of a member of the Council. If a permanent vacancy occurs in the Office of Mayor, the members of the Council at their next regular meeting shall select a Mayor from their number for the unexpired term. Following the election of the Mayor, there shall be an election for Deputy Mayor. The term of the Deputy Mayor shall run concurrently with that of the Mayor.

(b) The election for Mayor shall be conducted by the City Clerk. The City Clerk shall call for nominations. Each member of the City Council shall be permitted to nominate one (1) person who has previously served on the Council for a minimum of two years, and nominations shall not require a second. A nominee who wishes to decline the nomination shall so state at this time. Nominations are then closed. The election for Deputy Mayor shall be conducted by the newly-elected Mayor, and nominations shall be made in the manner previously described for the election of the Mayor. Candidates for Deputy Mayor shall have previously served on the Council for a minimum of one year. The minimum experience condition for candidacy for Mayor or Deputy Mayor may be waived by the vote of five councilmembers.

(c) Except when there is only one nominee, election shall be by written ballot. Each ballot shall contain the name of the Councilmember who cast it. Each ballot shall include the name of all Councilmembers nominated (unless they have withdrawn). Voting shall continue until a nominee receives a majority of the votes. The City Clerk shall publicly announce the results of the election by reading each ballot into the record, stating the name of each voting Councilmember and the manner in which the Councilmember voted. Thereafter, the City Clerk shall record in the minutes of the meeting the manner in which each voting member of the Council cast his or her ballot.

(d) In the event the Council is unable to agree on a Mayor by majority vote of members present, the Office of Mayor shall be temporarily filled by an Acting Mayor. The Acting Mayor shall be the Councilmember who just previously served as Mayor; or if such person is not a member of the Council, the Councilmember who just previously served as Deputy Mayor; or if such person is not a member of the Council, the Councilmember with the highest seniority as determined by the City Attorney. Ties shall be resolved in a contest by chance. The office of Acting Deputy Mayor shall be filled by the Councilmember who just previously served as Deputy Mayor; or if such person is not a member of the Council, by the Councilmember with the next highest seniority. The Acting Mayor and Acting Deputy Mayor shall continue in office and exercise such authority as is described in Chapter 35A.13 RCW until the members of the Council agree on a Mayor, at which time the Office of Acting Mayor and Acting Deputy Mayor shall cease and terminate. (Res. 525 §1, 1988, amended by Res. 594 §1, 1989, amended by Res. 672, 1991, amended by Res. 754 §1, 1994, amended by Res. 1140, 2011, amended by Res. 1189, 2012, amended by Res. 1356, 2017.)

## **PRESIDING OFFICER**

**RULE 5.** The Mayor shall preside at meetings of the Council, and be recognized as the head of the City for all ceremonial purposes. The Mayor shall have no regular administrative or executive duties. In case of the Mayor's absence or temporary disability the Deputy Mayor shall act as Mayor during the continuance of the absence. When the Deputy Mayor acts as Mayor by participating in preparation of a Council meeting agenda or study session worksheet, or by presiding at a meeting of the Council, the Deputy Mayor shall have authority only to approve the Council meeting agenda or study session worksheet as to form without introducing or deleting items of business, and to preside at the meeting by following the approved agenda or study session worksheet as written. In case of the absence or temporary disability of the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor, a Deputy Mayor selected by members of the Council shall act as Mayor during the continuance of the absences or disabilities. The Mayor, or Deputy Mayor, is referred to as "Presiding Officer" from time to time in these Rules of Procedure.

(a) The Mayor and the Council have authority to introduce proclamations for a variety of purposes, as approved by the Council. No proclamation shall constitute official City actions unless approved or authorized by a majority of the City Council.

(b) To promote a favorable image of the City and pursue resources that will benefit the community, the Mayor, or another Councilmember designated by the City Council, may take the lead in representing the Des Moines City Council to those from outside the community who are interested in joint ventures and efforts to bring economic development and investments to the City, including other local governments, regional organizations, and federal, state, and international government representatives. Neither the Mayor, nor a Councilmember, can commit the City without authorization of a majority of the City Council.

(c) The Mayor, or another Councilmember designated by the City Council, is the spokesperson on actions taken by the Council. On behalf of the City Council, the Mayor or designated Councilmember may inform the public, media, and staff about issues affecting the community.

(Res. 525 §1, 1988, amended by Res. 961 §1, 2003, Res. 1140, 2011, amended by Res. 1356, 2017).

## QUORUM

**RULE 6.** At all meetings of the Council, four Councilmembers who are present and eligible to vote shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A lesser number may adjourn from time to time, provided that written notice of said adjournment is posted on the exterior Council Chamber doors per RCW 42.30.090. Council meetings adjourned under the previous provision shall be considered a regular meeting for all purposes. (Res. 525 §1, 1988).

## ATTENDANCE, EXCUSED ABSENCES

**RULE 7.** RCW 35A.12.060 provides that a Councilmember shall forfeit his/her office by failing to attend three consecutive regular meetings of the Council without being excused by the Council. Members of the Council may be so excused by complying with this section. The member shall contact the Presiding Officer prior to the meeting and state the reason for his/her inability to attend the meeting. If the member is unable to contact the Presiding Officer, the member shall contact the City Manager or City Clerk, who shall convey the message to the Presiding Officer. Following roll call, the Presiding Officer shall inform the Council of the member's absence, state the reason for such absence, and inquire if there is a motion to excuse the member. This motion shall be non-debatable. Upon passage of such motion by a majority of members present, the absent member shall be considered excused and the Clerk will make an appropriate notation in the minutes. (Res. 525 §1, 1988).

## PARTICIPATION BY TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATION

**RULE 7.1.** A Councilmember may participate telephonically in all or part of a Council meeting under the following conditions:

(1) Prior approval shall be given by the Mayor for good cause, whose approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(2) "Good Cause" is defined as:

(a) Medical reasons that prevent a Councilmember from attending the meeting in person.

(b) Family emergency.

(c) Unexpected travel.

(d) Additional unanticipated event that prevents a Councilmember from attending the meeting in person through no fault of the Councilmember.

(3) Telephonic participation for each Councilmember shall be limited to three (3) Council meetings in a calendar year.

(4) Telephonic participation shall be limited to one (1) Councilmember per meeting. Priority will be given to the first Councilmember to request prior approval and who meets the requirements under this Rule.

(5) A Councilmember participating telephonically in the meeting must be able to hear and be heard.

(6) The Councilmember participating telephonically shall have reviewed all of the applicable material and participated in the relevant portion of the Council Meeting related to the topic to which the Councilmember is voting on. Any technical prohibitions or difficulties that prevent all parties present at the Council meeting from adequately communicating with one another will negate any authorization previously given by the Mayor.

(7) The Councilmember attending telephonically shall notify the Council if he or she is about to disconnect from the call.

(8) A Councilmember who is attending telephonically shall be considered to be actually present at the meeting for the period of time he or she is connected, and that presence shall count toward a quorum of the Council for all purposes and shall also entitle the Councilmember to vote. A Councilmember voting telephonically may be polled separately to ensure their vote is tallied correctly.

(9) In the event the Mayor seeks to attend a meeting telephonically, the Mayor shall seek prior approval from the Deputy Mayor. If approval is granted, the Deputy Mayor shall act as the Presiding Officer for the meeting. (Res. 1356, 2017)

### **SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**RULE 8.** It is the intent of the Des Moines City Council that the procedures of this Council Rule 8 are enforceable to the same extent as RCW 42.30.080, as the City's implementation of the Open Public Meetings Act special meeting requirements set forth at RCW 42.30.080. Procedures for setting a special meeting are as follows:

(a) A special meeting may be called by the Mayor or any four members of the Council.

(b) Notice of the special meeting shall be prepared in writing. The notice shall contain the following information about the meeting: time, place, and business to be transacted. The notice shall be reviewed by the City Attorney for proper legal form. After the preliminary agenda has been approved by the Presiding Officer, a copy of the agenda and supporting materials shall be prepared for Councilmembers, the City Manager, and the press by close of business Friday prior to the Special Council Meeting, except in case of an emergency.

(c) (1) The notice shall be delivered by mail, by electronic mail to an address designated by the receiver of the email, or personally to each Councilmember, the City Manager, and the business office of each local newspaper and radio and television station which has on file a written request for notice of special meetings. The notice must be delivered at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.

(2) When email notice is given to Councilmembers, the City Clerk shall provide confirming follow up of such email notice by making a personal telephone call directly to each Councilmember who has made a standing written advance request to the City Clerk for such follow



up telephone call. The City Clerk shall document the date and time of such follow up telephone call.

(d) The notices provided in this section may be dispensed within the circumstances provided by RCW 42.30.080; that is:

(1) As to any member who at, or prior to the time the meeting convenes files with the Clerk a written waiver of notice,

(2) As to any member who was actually present at the meeting at the time it convenes, and

(3) In the event a special meeting is called to deal with an emergency involving injury or damage to persons or property or the likelihood of such injury or damage, when time requirements of such notice would make notice impractical and increase the likelihood of such injury or damage. (Res. 525 §1, 1988, amended by Res. 788, 1995, amended by Res. 1011, 2006, amended by Res. 1140, 2011).

## **COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**

**RULE 9.** This rule specifies the method of preparation of a Council meeting agenda for meetings other than study sessions. The Presiding Officer, three (3) Councilmembers, or the City Manager may introduce a new item to the preliminary agenda. The Presiding Officer shall have the option of deleting any item, other than those items introduced by three (3) Councilmembers, from the preliminary agenda until the next regular Council meeting when the full Council shall vote on whether to introduce the item on the agenda for a subsequent Council meeting. The City Clerk, under the direction of the City Manager, shall arrange a list of such matters according to the order of business and prepare a preliminary agenda for the Council. After the preliminary agenda has been approved by the Presiding Officer, a copy of the agenda and supporting materials shall be prepared for Councilmembers, the City Manager, and the press by close of business Friday prior to the Regular Council Meeting, except in case of an emergency. (Res. 525 §1, 1988, amended by Res. 961 §2, 2003, amended by Res. 1140, 2011).

## **STUDY SESSIONS**

**RULE 10.** Regular Council meetings that are held during the first and third week of each month in accordance with Rule 2, may be designated as Study Sessions by the Presiding Officer. Study Sessions need have no formal agenda and may be conducted informally so long as such informality is not in conflict with these rules. Comments from the public, limited to the items of business on the Study Session agenda, may, at the discretion of the Presiding Officer, be allowed so long as the comments are in accordance with Council Rule 20(f). The purpose of Study Session discussions is to allow Councilmembers to be made aware of impending business and allow informal discussion of issues that might be acted on at a future meeting. These conditions will allow the Councilmembers to communicate informally about these impending issues. No final Council action shall be taken on ordinances and resolutions at Study Sessions. The City Clerk, under the direction of the City Manager, shall arrange a Council Study Session worksheet for the Study Session. The Council Study Session worksheet shall, for each item, contain the Discussion Item, the Discussion Item Moderator, and the Discussion Goal. After the proposed Council Study Session worksheet has been approved by the Presiding Officer, a copy of it along with any supporting materials shall be prepared for Councilmembers, the City Manager, and the press by close of business Friday prior to the Council Study Session, except in an emergency.

During the Council Study Session the Discussion Item Moderator may: 1) introduce the subject and give background information; 2) identify the discussion goal; 3) act as facilitator to keep the discussion focused to the eventual discussion goal; 4) alert the Presiding Officer when it is appropriate to call for a motion or other official direction of the Council. The Presiding Officer retains the option of assuming the function of the Discussion Item Moderator in order to keep the discussion properly focused. (Res. 525 §1, 1988, amended by Res. 659, 1991, amended by Res. 754 §2, 1994, amended by Res. 961 §3, 2003, amended by Res. 1140, 2011).

## **CITY MANAGER**

**RULE 11.** The City Manager, as the chief executive officer and head of the administrative branch of City government or his/her designee, shall attend all meetings of the City Council, unless excused by the Presiding Officer or Council. The City Manager shall be responsible to the Council for the proper administration of all affairs of the City. The City Manager shall recommend for adoption by the Council such measures as he/she may deem necessary or expedient; prepare and submit to the Council such reports as may be required by that body or as the City Manager deems it advisable to submit; keep the Council fully advised as to the business of the City; and shall take part in the Council's discussion on all matters concerning the welfare of the City. In the event that both the City Manager and Assistant City Manager are unable to attend a Council meeting, the City Manager or Assistant City Manager shall appoint a key staff member to attend the meeting as the representative of City Administration. (Res. 525 §1, 1988, amended by Res. 1189, 2012).

## **CLERK**

**RULE 12.** The City Clerk shall be ex-officio Clerk of the Council and shall keep minutes as required by the Revised Code of Washington and Robert's Rules of Order, including a specific action item section, and shall perform such other and further duties in the meeting as may be required by the Council, Presiding Officer, or City Manager. In the absence of the City Clerk, the City Manager shall appoint a replacement to act as Clerk of the Council. (Res. 525 §1, 1988, Amended by Res. 949, 2003, amended by Res. 1140, 2011).

**SECTION II  
DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS**

**FORMS OF ADDRESS**

**RULE 13.** The Mayor shall be addressed as "Mayor (surname)" or "Your Honor". The Deputy Mayor shall be address as "Deput Mayor (surname)". Members of the Council shall be addressed as "Councilmember (surname)". (Res. 525 S1, 1988, amended by Res. 1356, 2017).

**SEATING ARRANGEMENT**

**RULE 14.** Councilmembers shall occupy the respective seats in the Council Chamber assigned to them by the Mayor. (Res. 525 S1, 1988).

**APPEARANCE OF FAIRNESS DOCTRINE**

**RULE 15.** Appearance of Fairness Doctrine and its Application. (Res. 571 S1, 1989).

(a) Appearance of Fairness Doctrine Defined. "When the law which calls for public hearings gives the public not only the right to attend but the right to be heard as well, the hearings must not only be fair but must *appear* to be so. It is a situation where appearances are quite as important as substance. The test of whether the appearance of fairness doctrine has been violated is as follows: Would a disinterested person, having been apprised of the totality of a boardmember's personal interest in a matter being acted upon, be reasonably justified in thinking that partiality may exist? If answered in the affirmative, such deliberations, and any course of conduct reached thereon, should be voided." Zehring v. Bellevue, 99 Wn.2d 488 (1983).

(b) Types of Hearings to Which Doctrine Applies. The appearance of Fairness Doctrine shall apply only to those actions of the Council which are quasi-judicial in nature. Quasi-judicial actions are defined as actions of the City Council which determine the legal rights, duties, or privileges of specific parties in a hearing or other contested proceeding. Quasi-judicial actions do not include the legislative actions adopting, amending, or revising comprehensive, community, or neighborhood plans or other land use planning documents of the adoption of area-wide zoning ordinances or the adoption of a zoning amendment that is of area-wide significance. RCW 42.36.010. Some examples of quasi-judicial actions which may come before the Council are: rezones or reclassifications of specific parcels of property, appeals from decisions of the Hearing Examiner, substantive appeals of threshold decisions under the State Environmental Protection Act, subdivisions, street vacations, and special land use permits.

(c) Obligations of Councilmembers, Procedure.

(1) Councilmembers should recognize that the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine does not require establishment of a conflict of interest, but whether there is an appearance of conflict of interest to the average person. This may involve the Councilmember or a Councilmember's business associate or a member of the Councilmember's immediate family. It could involve ex parte communications, ownership of property in the vicinity, business dealings with the proponents or opponents before or after the hearing, business dealings of the Councilmember's employer with the proponents or opponents, announced predisposition, and the like.

Prior to any quasi-judicial hearing, each Councilmember should give consideration to whether a potential violation of the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine exists. If the answer is in the affirmative, no matter how remote, the Councilmember should disclose such facts to the City Manager who will seek the opinion of the City Attorney as to whether a potential violation of the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine exists. The City Manager shall communicate such opinion to the Councilmember and to the Presiding Officer.

(2) Anyone seeking to disqualify a Councilmember from participating in a decision on the basis of a violation of the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine must raise the challenge as soon as the basis for disqualification is made known or reasonably should have been made known prior to the issuance of the decision; upon failure to do so, the Doctrine may not be relied upon to invalidate the decision. The party seeking to disqualify the Councilmember shall state with specificity the basis for disqualification; for example: demonstrated bias or prejudice for or against a party to the proceedings, a monetary interest in outcome of the proceedings, prejudgment of the issue prior to hearing the facts on the record, or ex parte contact. Should such challenge be made prior to the hearing, the City Manager shall direct the City Attorney to interview the Councilmember and render an opinion as to the likelihood that an Appearance of Fairness violation would be sustained in superior court. Should such challenge be made in the course of a quasi-judicial hearing, the Presiding Officer shall call a recess to permit the City Attorney to make such interview and render such opinion.

(3) The presiding Officer shall have sole authority to request a Councilmember to excuse himself/herself on the basis of an Appearance of Fairness violation. Further, if two (2) or more Councilmembers believe that an Appearance of Fairness violation exists, such individuals may move to request a Councilmember to excuse himself/herself on the basis of an Appearance of Fairness violation. In arriving at this decision, the Presiding Officer or other Councilmembers shall give due regard to the opinion of the City Attorney.

(4) Notwithstanding the request of the Presiding Officer or other Councilmembers, the Councilmember may participate in any such proceeding.

(d) Specific Statutory Provisions.

(1) Candidates for the City Council may express their opinions about pending or proposed quasi-judicial actions while campaigning. RCW 42.36.040.

(2) A candidate for the City Council who complies with all provisions of applicable public disclosure and ethics laws shall not be limited under the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine from accepting campaign contributions to finance the campaign, including outstanding debts. RCW 42.36.050.

(3) During the pendency of any quasi-judicial proceeding, no Councilmember may engage in ex parte (outside the hearing) communications with proponents or opponents about a proposal involved in the pending proceeding, unless the Councilmember: (a) places on the record the substance of such oral or written communications; and (b) provides that a public announcement of the content of the communication and of the parties' right to rebut the substance of the communication shall be made at each hearing where action is taken or considered on the subject. This does not prohibit correspondence between a citizen and his or her elected official if the correspondence is made a part of the record, when it pertains to the subject matter of a quasi-judicial proceeding. RCW 42.36.060. (Amended Res. 1140, 2011).

## **DISSENTS AND PROTESTS**

**RULE 16.** Any Councilmember shall have the right to express dissent from or protest against any ordinance or resolution of the Council and have the reason therefore entered in the minutes. (Res. 525 S1, 1988).

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INTERFERENCE BY COUNCILMEMBERS**

**RULE 17.** Neither the Council, nor any of its committees or members shall direct or request the appointment of any person to, or his/her removal from, any office by the City Manager or any of his/her subordinates. Except for the purpose of inquiry, the Council and its members shall deal with the administrative branch solely through the City Manager and neither the Council nor any committee or member thereof shall give any orders to any subordinate of the City Manager, either publicly or privately; provided, however, that nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the Council, while in open session, from fully and freely discussing with the City Manager anything pertaining to appointments and removals of City officers and employees and City affairs. (RCW 35A,13.120) (Res. 525 S1, 1988, Amended by Res. 1140, 2011, amended by Res. 1189, 2012).

## SECTION III COUNCIL PROCEDURES

### RULES OF ORDER

**RULE 18.** Rules of order not specified by statute, ordinance, or resolution shall be governed by the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

(a) **Courtesy.** Members of the Council, in the discussion, comments, or debate of any matter or issue, shall be courteous in their language and demeanor and shall not engage in derogatory remarks or insinuations in respect to any other member of the Council, or any member of the staff or the public, but shall at all times confine their remarks to those facts which are germane and relevant, as determined by the Presiding Officer, to the question or matter under discussion.

(b) **Interruption.** No member of the Council shall interrupt or argue with any other member while such member has the floor.

(Res. 525 S1, 1988, Amended by Res. 618 1990, amended by Res. 1140, 2011).

### MOTIONS

**RULE 19.** All items of business placed before the Council that require the expenditure of Council and/or administration resources, shall be in the form of an affirmative motion.

(a) **Rule 19(a) – Speaking to Motion.** No member of the Council shall speak more than twice on the same motion except by consent of the majority of the Council Members present at the time the motion is before the Council. After the motion is put and before the next item is read, a member shall be able to speak briefly to the previous motion. Questions and answers by members of the Council are not considered as speaking to the motion.

(b) **Rule 19(b) – Time Limit.** Each member of the Council shall speak for no more than ten (10) minutes unless granted an exemption by the majority of the Council.

(c) **Rule 19(c) – Donation of Time.** No member of Council may give his allotted time to another member unless there is approval of the majority of the Council.

(Res. 525 S1, 1988, amended by Res. 1140, 2011).

### ORDER OF BUSINESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT RULES

**RULE 20.** The business of all regular meetings of the Council shall be transacted as follows; provided, however that the Presiding Officer may, during a Council meeting, rearrange items on the agenda to conduct the business before the Council more expeditiously. Any ruling by the Presiding Officer relative to rearrangement of items on the agenda may be overruled by a vote of a majority of members present.

- (a) Call to order by the Presiding Officer.
- (b) Pledge of Allegiance.
- (c) Invocation (Presiding Officer's discretion).
- (d) Roll call (See Rule 7 for procedure to excuse an absence).
- (e) Correspondence not previously received by the Council.

(f) Comments from the public (non-public hearing topics). Public comments are encouraged and appreciated. The information and advice received from citizens helps the City Council make the best possible decisions.

(1) Procedure.

(A) Citizens are encouraged to supplement verbal comments through written submittals.

(B) All citizens desiring to address Council during the Public Comment period shall first fill out a sign-in sheet, stating their name, address, and public comment topic, and the sign-in sheet shall be submitted to the City Clerk prior to the start of Public Comments.

(2) Scope of Comments.

(A) Subjects not on the current agenda. Any member of the public may request time to address the Council after first stating their name and City of residence. The Presiding Officer may then allow the comments subject to such time limitations as referenced in Rule 20(f)(3)(A) or as the Presiding Officer deems necessary. Following such comments the Presiding Officer may place the matter on the current agenda or a future agenda, or refer the matter to administration or a Council committee for investigation and report.

(B) Subjects on the current agenda. Any member of the public who wishes to address the Council on an item on the current agenda shall make such request to the Presiding Officer at the time when comments from the public are requested. The Presiding Officer shall rule on the appropriateness of public comments as the agenda item is reached. The Presiding Officer may change the order of speakers so that testimony is heard in the most logical groupings (i.e.) proponents, opponents, adjacent owners, vested interests, etc.).

(C) Subjects of a Public Hearing. Comments made during the Public Comment period on a topic set for a public hearing by the City Council shall be out of order. To ensure a fair hearing to applicants or matters that are subject to a public hearing before the City Council, the Presiding Officer may rule public comments made outside the scope of a public hearing record to be out of order.

(D) Any ruling by the Presiding Officer relative to the preceding two subsections may be overruled by a vote of a majority of members present.

(3) Rules of Conduct. A minimum number of basic rules are established to ensure that all individuals wishing to address the City Council are fairly heard.

(A) Each person addressing the Council shall step up to the indicated speakers table, give his or her name and city of residence, and shall limit comments to three (3) minutes. Groups may be allotted five (5) minutes by the Presiding Officer.

(B) Except where permission is granted by the Presiding Officer, all remarks shall be made only from the designated speaking table and addressed to the Council as a body and not to individual members, the audience or the television cameras.

(C) The Presiding Officer or designee shall notify the individual when the allotted time has expired and the speaker shall promptly conclude his or her remarks. All speakers are encouraged to submit supplemental or detailed written remarks for Council consideration.

(D) Any person making personal, impertinent, or slanderous remarks, or who becomes boisterous, threatening, or personally abusive while addressing the Council, may be ordered to leave the meeting. The Presiding Officer has the authority and duty to preserve order at all meetings of the Council, to cause the removal of any person from any meeting for disorderly conduct and to enforce these rules.

(E) The Presiding Officer may rule “out of order” any comment made with respect to a quasi-judicial matter pending before the Council or its Boards or Commissions. Such comments should be made only at the hearing on a specific matter. If a hearing has been set, persons whose comments are ruled out of order will be notified of the time and place when they can appear at the public hearing on the matter and present their comments.

(F) Any person whose comments have been ruled out of order by the Presiding Officer shall immediately cease and refrain from further improper comments. The refusal of an individual to desist from personal, inappropriate, slanderous or otherwise disruptive remarks after being ruled out of order by the Presiding Officer may subject the individual to removal from the Council Chambers.

(g) Committee and Board reports.

(1) Procedure. Councilmembers and the Presiding Officer may give reports regarding boards or committees to which they have been appointed.

(2) Scope and Time Limits.

(A) The Presiding Officer may rule “out of order” any comments made during this portion of the meeting that do not pertain to the activities of the Councilmembers’ boards or committees.



(B) Board and committee reports shall also be limited to three (3) minutes unless extended time is granted by the Presiding Officer for matters of significant importance. The Presiding Officer or designee shall notify the Councilmember when the allotted time has expired and the Councilmember shall promptly conclude his/her report.

(h) Presiding Officer's report. In addition to any special board or committee reports, the Presiding Officer may give a report on any activity participated in as part of the official duties of the Mayor.

(i) Councilmember comments (non-agenda topics).

(1) Procedure. Councilmembers may comment on other subjects of importance and/or respond to citizen comments.

(2) Scope and Time Limits.

(A) Councilmember comments during this portion of the meeting shall be limited to subjects not on the current agenda. The Presiding Officer may rule "out of order" any comment made during this portion of the meeting with respect to any agenda item or quasi-judicial matter pending before the Council or its Boards or Commissions. Such comments should be made only at the hearing on a specific matter and/or during that portion of the meeting for which the agenda item is scheduled.

(B) Councilmember comments during this portion of the meeting shall also be limited to three (3) minutes. The Presiding Officer or designee shall notify the Councilmember when the allotted time has expired and the Councilmember shall promptly conclude his or her remarks.

(j) Administration reports.

(k) Consent Calendar.

(1) The City Manager, in consultation with the Presiding Officer, shall place matters on the Consent Calendar which have been: (a) previously discussed by the Council, or (b) based on the information delivered to members of the Council by administration that can be reviewed by a Councilmember without further explanation, or (c) are so routine or technical in nature that passage is likely, or (d) as directed by the City Council.

(2) The Clerk shall read the subject of each Consent Calendar item.

(3) The proper Council motion on the Consent Calendar is as follows: "I move adoption of the Consent Calendar." This motion shall be non-debatable and will have the effect of moving to adopt all items on the Consent Calendar. Since adoption of any item on the Consent Calendar implies unanimous consent, any member of the Council shall have the right to remove any item from the Consent Calendar. Therefore, prior to the vote on the motion to adopt the Consent Calendar, the Presiding Officer shall inquire if any Councilmember wishes an item to be withdrawn from the Consent Calendar. If any matter is withdrawn, the item withdrawn from

the consent calendar shall be the next business in order following the conclusion of the consent calendar.

(l) Public Hearings (see Rule 21 for procedural details).

(m) Old Business.

(n) New Business.

(o) Executive Session (as required)

(p) Next meeting date announced by Presiding Officer.

(q) Adjournment. No meeting shall be permitted to continue beyond 10:00 PM without approval of three-fourths of the Councilmembers who are present and eligible to vote. A new time limit must be established before taking a Council vote to extend the meeting. In the event that a meeting has not been closed or continued by Council vote prior to 10:00 PM, the items not acted on shall be deferred to the next regular Council meeting as old business, unless the Council, by a majority vote of members present, determines otherwise. (Res. 525 §1, 1988, amended by Res. 894 §1, 2000, amended by Res. 961 §4, 2003, amended by Res. 977, 2004, amended by Res. 1189, 2012, amended by Res. 1356, 2017).

## **ACTIONS FOR A PUBLIC HEARING**

**RULE 21.** The procedures for a public hearing are as follows:

(a) Prior to the start of the "Comments from the Public" portion of the public hearing, the Presiding Officer may require that all persons wishing to be heard shall sign in with the Clerk, giving their names and addresses, the agenda item, and whether they wish to speak as proponent, opponent, or otherwise. Any person who fails to sign in shall not be permitted to speak until all those who signed in have done so. At any public hearing all persons who have signed in and wish to be heard shall be heard. However, the Presiding Officer shall be authorized to establish speaker time limits and otherwise control presentations to avoid repetition. In public hearings that are not of a quasi-judicial nature, the Presiding Officer, subject to concurrence of the majority of the Council, may establish time limits and otherwise control presentations. The Presiding Officer may change the order of speakers so that testimony is heard in the most logical groupings (i.e. proponents, opponents, adjacent owners, vested interests, etc.).

(b) The Presiding Officer introduces the agenda item, opens the public hearing, and provides a summary of the following Rules of Order and/or advises the public that they may have a copy of such rules, which shall be available with other agenda materials regularly made available to the public at each Council meeting.

(1) "All comments by proponents, opponents, or the public shall be made from the speaker's rostrum and any individual making comments shall first give their name and city of residence. This is required because an official recorded transcript of the public hearing is being

made. If there is any appeal to King County Superior Court, the court must make its decision on the basis of what was said here."

(2) "It is not necessary to be a proponent or opponent in order to speak. If you consider yourself neither a proponent nor opponent, please speak during the proponent portion and identify yourself as neither a proponent nor an opponent."

(3) "No comments shall be made from any other location, and anyone making "out of order" comments shall be subject to removal from the meeting."

(4) "There will be no demonstrations during or at the conclusion of anyone's presentation."

(5) "These rules are intended to promote an orderly system of holding a public hearing, to give every person an opportunity to be heard, and to ensure that no individual is embarrassed by exercising their right of free speech."

(c) (1) When Council conducts a hearing to which the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine, (Rule 15) applies, the Presiding Officer, or in the case of a potential Rule 15 violation by that individual, the Mayor Pro Tem, will ask if any Councilmember knows of any reason which would require such member to excuse themselves pursuant to Rule 15. The suggested form of the announcement is as follows:

"All Councilmembers should now give consideration as to whether they have: (1) a demonstrated bias or prejudice for or against any party to the proceedings; (2) a direct or indirect monetary interest in the outcome of the proceedings; (3) a prejudgment of the issue prior to hearing the facts on the record; or (4) ex parte contact with any individual, excluding Administrative staff, with regard to an issue prior to the hearing. If any Councilmember should answer in the affirmative, then the Councilmember should state the reason for their answer at this time so that the Chair may inquire of Administration as to whether a violation of the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine exists."

(2) When Council conducts a "quasi-judicial" hearing, the Presiding Officer may require that all persons wishing to provide testimony during the course of such hearing provide an oath, on the record, affirming the truth of their testimony. The suggested form and process for such oath is as follows:

The Presiding Officer asks all possible speakers to raise their right hand, asks such individuals to consider the following question and respond "I do", and inquires:

"Do you affirm under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the testimony you are about to provide is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge?"

(d) At the outset of each public hearing or meeting to consider a zoning amendment or zoning reclassification the Presiding Officer will call upon City Administration to describe the matter under consideration, including legal standards for approval of the item before the Council, and ask the parties to limit their presentations to information within the scope of the standards.

(e) The Presiding Officer calls for proponents in quasi-judicial proceedings and for speakers in non-quasi-judicial proceedings.

(f) The proponents or speakers now speak. (Note: If the City of Des Moines is the proponent, a member or members of the administration shall be designated to give proponent and rebuttal testimony).

(g) The Presiding Officer calls for additional proponents or speakers three times.

(h) In non-quasi-judicial proceedings refer to Rules 21(l), otherwise the Presiding Officer calls for opponents by announcing the following:

"At this time the opponents will have an opportunity to speak. Should any opponent have questions to ask of the proponents, ask the questions during your presentation. The proponents shall note the question asked, and answer such questions when the proponent speaks in rebuttal. The proponent shall be required to answer any reasonable question, provided that the Presiding Officer reserves the right to rule any question out of order."

(i) Opponents speak.

(j) The Presiding Officer calls for additional opponents three times.

(k) The Presiding Officer calls for proponents to speak in rebuttal. A proponent speaking in rebuttal shall not introduce new material. If the proponent does, or is allowed to do so, the opponents shall also be allowed to rebut the new elements.

(l) The Presiding Officer announces the following:

"At this time I will inquire of the administration as to whether there have been any mis-statements of fact or whether the administration wishes to introduce any material as to subjects raised by the proponents or opponents or alter in any regard its initial recommendations."

(m) The Presiding Officer inquires as to whether any Councilmembers have any questions to ask the proponents, opponents, speakers, or administration. If any Councilmember has questions, the appropriate individual will be recalled to the podium.

(n) The Presiding Officer closes the public hearing.

(o) The Presiding Officer inquires if there is a motion by any Councilmembers. If a motion is made, it shall be in the form of an affirmative motion. Following the motion and its second, discussion occurs among Councilmembers. The Presiding Officer may call on individual Councilmembers in the discussion.

(p) The Presiding Officer inquires if there is any further discussion by the Councilmembers.

(q) The Presiding Officer inquires if there are any final comments or recommendations from administration.

(r) The Presiding Officer inquires of the Councilmembers as to whether they are ready for the question.

(s) The Clerk shall conduct a roll call vote.

(t) The Presiding Officer directs administration to prepare findings consistent with the action.

(Res. 571 §2, 1989, amended by Res. 894, §2, 2000, amended by Res. 1140, 2011, amended by Res. 1356, 2017).

## VOTING

**RULE 22.** The votes during all meetings of the Council shall be transacted as follows:

(a) Unless otherwise provided for by statute, ordinance, or resolution, all votes shall be taken by voice, except that at the request of any Councilmember, a roll call vote shall be taken by the Clerk. The order of the roll call vote shall be determined by the Presiding Officer.

(b) In case of a tie in votes on any proposal, the proposal shall be considered lost.

(c) Every member who was in the Council chambers when the question was put, shall give their vote unless the Councilmember excuses himself or herself in accordance with Rule 15. If any unexcused Councilmember refuses to vote "aye" or "nay", their vote shall be counted as a "nay" vote.

(d) The passage of any ordinance, grant or revocation of franchise or license, any resolution for the payment of money, any approval of warrants, and any resolution for the removal of the City Manager shall require the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the whole membership of the Council.

(e) The passage of any public emergency ordinance (an ordinance that takes effect immediately), expenditures for any calamity or violence of nature or riot or insurrection or war, and provisions for a lesser emergency such as a budget amendment shall require the affirmative vote of at least a majority plus one of the whole membership of the Council.

(f) The passage of any motion or resolution not subject to the provisions of RCW, DMMC, or this Resolution as amended, shall require the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the membership of the Council who are present and eligible to vote. (Amended by Res. 1140, 2011).

## COMMITTEES

**RULE 23.** The procedures governing all committees of the Council shall be as follows:

(a) The following standing committees shall consist of three members of the Council appointed by the Mayor in January of each year or at such time as new standing committees are authorized: Environment, Municipal Facilities, Public Safety & Transportation, and Finance and Economic Development.

(b) Council Committees for a particular purpose may be formed by motion of Council and members shall be appointed by the Mayor.

(c) Committees shall make a recommendation on proposed ordinances, resolutions and motions, within their area of responsibility before action is taken by the Council. Minutes shall be kept of each City Council standing and special committee meeting, listing discussion topics, comments made, and any final recommendations.

The Committee Chair shall present the recommendations of the committee to the City Council at a regular City Council meeting during the discussion of the item of business. (Res. 575 §1, 1989, Amended by Res. 602 1990, Amended by Res. 633 1990, Amended by Res. 664 1991 Amended by Res. 685 1992, Amended by Res. 754 §3, 1994, Amended by Res. 931, §1, 2002, Amended by Res. 940, §1 2002, Amended by Res. 1140, 2011).

## **ENACTED ORDINANCES, RESOLUTION AND MOTIONS**

**RULE 24.** An enacted ordinance is a legislative act prescribing general, uniform, and permanent rules of conduct relating to the corporate affairs of the municipality. Council action shall be taken by ordinance when required by law, or to prescribe permanent rules of conduct which continue in force until repealed, or where such conduct is enforced by penalty. An enacted resolution is an administrative act which is a formal statement of policy concerning matters of special or temporary character. Council action shall be taken by resolution when required by law and in those instances where an expression of policy more formal than a motion is desired. An enacted motion is a form of action taken by the Council to direct that a specific action be taken on behalf of the municipality. A motion, once approved and entered into the record, is the equivalent of a resolution in those instances where a resolution is not required by law. (Res. 525 §1, 1988).

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**RULE 25.** A resolution may be put to its final passage on the same day on which it was introduced. The title of each resolution shall in all cases be read prior to its passage; provided, should a Councilmember request that the entire resolution or certain of its sections be read, such requests shall be granted. Printed copies shall be made available upon request to any person attending a Council meeting. (Res. 525 §1, 1988).

## **ORDINANCES**

**RULE 26.** The procedure for ordinances is as follows:

(a) All ordinances shall have two separate readings. At each reading the title of an ordinance shall in all cases be read prior to its passage; provided that should a Councilmember

request that the entire ordinance or certain of its sections be read, such requests shall be granted. Printed copies shall be made available upon request to any person attending a Council meeting.

(b) The provision requiring two separate readings of an ordinance may be temporarily suspended at any meeting of the Council by a majority vote of all members present.

(c) If a Motion to pass an ordinance to a second reading fails, the ordinance shall be considered lost.

(Res. 525 S1, 1988, Amended by Res. 1140, 2011.)

### **PERMISSION REQUIRED TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

**RULE 27.** Persons other than Councilmembers and administration shall be permitted to address the Council upon introduction by the Presiding Officer. (Res. 525 S1, 1988, Amended by Res. 1140, 2011).

### **RECONSIDERATION**

**RULE 28.** Any action of the Council, including final action on applications for changes in land use status; but excluding a reconsideration of any action previously reconsidered, motions to adjourn, motions to suspend the rules, an affirmative vote to lay on the table or to take from the table, or a vote electing to office one who is present and does not decline; shall be subject to a motion to reconsider. Such motions can only be made by a member of the prevailing side on the original action. A motion to reconsider must be made no later than the next succeeding regular Council meeting. A motion to reconsider is debatable only if the action being reconsidered is debatable. Upon passage of a motion to reconsider, the subject matter is returned to the table anew at the next regular Council meeting for any action the Council deems advisable. (Res. 525 S1, 1988).

### **LEGISLATIVE PROCESS, PREPARATION, INTRODUCTION AND FLOW OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS**

**RULE 29.** Ordinances and resolutions shall be prepared, introduced, and proceed in the manner described on the flow chart attached hereto as Exhibit "A", and by this reference incorporated herein. Prior to final passage of all ordinances, resolutions or motions, such documents or proposals shall be designated as DRAFTS as follows:

(a) PROPOSED DRAFTS shall contain the name of the group, organization, committee or individual originating, initiating or sponsoring the proposal prior to the first presentation to the City Council where a vote is taken directing some official action or further consideration.

(b) COUNCIL DRAFTS shall be documents or proposals which have been presented in open session and voted on by the City Council when the resultant Council action was other than passage or a vote to cease further consideration. (Res. 525 S1, 1988).

## **COUNCIL RELATIONS WITH BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COUNCIL CITIZEN ADVISORY BODIES**

**RULE 30.** All statutory boards and commissions and Council citizen advisory bodies shall provide the Council with copies of minutes of all meetings. Communications from such boards, commissions and bodies to the City Council shall be made in the form of a motion and recorded in the minutes. Any such communication shall be officially acknowledged by the Council and receipt noted in the minutes. The procedure for acknowledging such receipt shall be as follows. Any member of the Council may bring such communication to the Presiding Officer's attention under the agenda item "Committee and Board Reports." The presiding Officer shall state: "So noted for the record," and thereafter the Clerk shall make an appropriate notation in the minutes. Should any member of the Council determine that any such communication be officially answered by the Council, the Presiding Officer shall place the matter on the agenda under New Business for the current meeting or any subsequent meeting. (Res. 525 S1, 1988).

## **COMPLAINTS AND SUGGESTIONS TO COUNCIL**

**RULE 31.** When citizen complaints or suggestions are brought before the City Council not on an agenda, the Presiding Officer shall first determine whether the issue is legislative or administrative in nature and then:

(a) If legislative, and a complaint about the letter or intent of legislative acts or suggestions for changes to such acts, and if the Council finds such complaint suggests a change to an ordinance or resolution of the City, the Council may refer the matter to a committee, Administration or the Council of the whole for study and recommendation.

(b) If administrative and a complaint regarding administrative staff performance, administrative execution of legislative policy or administrative policy within the authority of the City Manager, the Presiding Officer should then refer the complaint directly to the City Manager for his/her review if said complaint has not been so reviewed. The City Council may direct that the City Manager brief or report to the Council when his/her response is made. (Res. 525 S1, 1988).

## **ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINTS MADE DIRECTLY TO INDIVIDUAL COUNCILMEMBERS**

**RULE 32.** When administrative policy or administrative performance complaints are made directly to individual Councilmembers, the Councilmember may then refer the matter directly to the City Manager for his/her view and/or action. The individual Councilmember may request to be informed of the action or response made to the complaint. (Res. 525 S1, 1988).

## **FILLING COUNCIL VACANCIES**

**RULE 33.** If a vacancy occurs in the office of Councilmember, the Council will follow the procedures outlined in RCW 35A.13.020. In order to fill the vacancy with the most qualified person available until an election is held, the Council will widely distribute and publish a notice of the vacancy, the procedure and any application form for applying. The Council will draw up an application form which contains relevant information to answer set questions posed by the Council. The application forms will be used in conjunction with an interview of each candidate to aid the Council's selection of the new Councilmember. (Res. 525 S1, 1988).



**PHOTOGRAPHS, MOTION PICTURES, VIDEO TAPE --  
PERMISSION REQUIRED FOR ARTIFICIAL ILLUMINATION**

**RULE 34.** No photographs, motion pictures, or video tapes that require the use of flash bulbs, electronic flashes, flood lights, or similar artificial illumination shall be made at City Council Meetings without the consent of the Presiding Officer or a majority of the Council. (Res. 525 S1, 1988).

**AUDIO RECORDINGS OF MEETINGS**

**RULE 35.** All meetings of the City Council should be recorded by the City Clerk on an audio recording device. (Res. 657, 1991, amended by Res. 1140, 2011).

**VIDEO RECORDING AND BROADCAST**

**RULE 36.** All public meetings of a quorum of the City Council not exempt from the Open Public Meetings Act held in the Des Moines City Hall at 21630 11th Avenue South should be video recorded and cablecast within the City. (Res. 772, 1994, amended by Res. 1140, 2011, amended by Res. 1189, 2012, amended by Res. 1356, 2017).

**SPIRIT OF DES MOINES AWARD PROGRAM**

**RULE 37.** It is the intent of the Des Moines City Council that a Spirit of Des Moines Awards Program be enacted by the Council to honor the commitment and dedication of its named recipients. Awards will be of two kinds; an annual award or lifetime achievement award. The awards shall be made in accordance with the Spirit of Des Moines Awards Policy and attached to these City Council Rules as Appendix A. (Res. 1140, 2011).

## **REFERENCES TO DES MOINES MUNICIPAL CODE (DMMC) AND REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON (RCW)**

### DMMC 4.04.010 Council Meetings - City Hall Location.

All meetings of the City Council shall be held at 21630 11th Avenue South, which is designated as the location of the City Hall, except that, when necessary, the City Council may hold meetings at other places.

### DMMC 4.04.020 Council Meetings - Time.

(1) The regular meetings of the City Council are held every Thursday, with the meetings convening at 7:00 p.m.; except when the regular meeting date falls on a legal holiday the meeting is canceled and the City Council shall not meet.

(2) The Presiding Officer may cancel a regular meeting at the Presiding Officer's discretion as the business of the City Council requires; except the City Council shall meet at least once each month.

### RCW 35A.12.050 and 12.060 Forfeiture of Office.

The office of a Mayor or councilmember shall become vacant if the person who is elected or appointed to that position fails to qualify as provided by law, fails to enter upon the duties of that office at the time fixed by law without a justifiable reason, or as provided in RCW 35A.12.060 or 42.12.010. A vacancy in the office of Mayor or in the council shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW. An incumbent councilmember is eligible to be appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of Mayor. A Councilmember shall forfeit his office if he fails to attend three consecutive regular meetings of the Council without being excused by the Council.

### RCW 35A.13.020 Election of Councilmembers - Eligibility - Terms - Vacancies - Forfeiture of Office - Council Chair.

In council-manager code cities, eligibility for election to the Council, the manner of electing councilmembers, the numbering of council positions, the terms of councilmembers, the occurrence and the filling of vacancies, the grounds for forfeiture of office, and appointment of a Mayor pro tempore shall be governed by the corresponding provisions of RCW 35A.12.030, 35A.12.040, 35A.12.050, 35A.12.060 and 35A.12.065 relating to the council of a code city organized under the Mayor-council plan, except, that in council-manager cities where all council positions are at-large positions, the City Council may, pursuant to RCW 35A.13.033, provide that the person elected to council position one shall be the Council Chair and shall carry out the duties prescribed by RCW 35A.13.030.

### RCW 42.30.080 Special Meetings.

A special meeting may be called at any time by the Presiding Officer of the governing body of a public agency or by a majority of the members of the governing body by delivering written notice personally, by mail, by fax, or by electronic mail to each member of the governing body.

Written notice shall be deemed waived in the following circumstances:

(a) A member submits a written waiver of notice with the clerk or secretary of the governing body at or prior to the time the meeting convenes. A written waiver may be given by telegram, fax, or electronic mail; or

(b) A member is actually present at the time the meeting convenes.

(2) Notice of a special meeting called under subsection (1) of this section shall be:

(a) Delivered to each local newspaper of general circulation and local radio or television station that has on file with the governing body a written request to be notified of such special meeting or of all special meetings;

(b) Posted on the agency's web site. An agency is not required to post a special meeting notice on its web site if it (i) does not have a web site; (ii) employs fewer than ten full-time equivalent employees; or (iii) does not employ personnel whose duty, as defined by a job description or existing contract, is to maintain or update the web site; and

(c) Prominently displayed at the main entrance of the agency's principal location and the meeting site if it is not held at the agency's principal location.

Such notice must be delivered or posted, as applicable, at least twenty-four hours before the time of such meeting as specified in the notice.

(3) The call and notices required under subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted. Final disposition shall not be taken on any other matter at such meetings by the governing body.

(4) The notices provided in this section may be dispensed with in the event a special meeting is called to deal with an emergency involving injury or damage to persons or property or the likelihood of such injury or damage, when time requirements of such notice would make notice impractical and increase the likelihood of such injury or damage.

#### RCW 42.30.090 Adjournments.

The governing body of a public agency may adjourn any regular, adjourned regular, special or adjourned special meeting to a time and place specified in the order of adjournment. Less than a quorum may so adjourn from time to time. If all members are absent from any regular or adjourned regular meeting the clerk or secretary of the governing body may declare the meeting adjourned to a stated time and place. He or she shall cause a written notice of the adjournment to be given in the same manner as provided in RCW 42.030.080 for special meetings, unless such notice is waived as provided for special meetings. Whenever any meeting is adjourned a copy of the order or notice of adjournment shall be conspicuously posted immediately after the time of the adjournment on or near the door of the place where the regular, adjourned regular, special or adjourned special meeting was held. When a regular or adjourned regular meeting is adjourned as provided in this section, the resulting adjourned regular meeting is a regular meeting for all purposes. When an order of adjournment of any meeting fails to state the hour at which the adjourned meeting is to be held, it shall be held at the hour specified for regular meetings by ordinance, resolution, bylaw, or other rule.

RCW 42.30.110 Executive Sessions.

(1) Nothing contained in this chapter may be construed to prevent a governing body from holding an executive session during a regular or special meeting.

(a) To consider matters affecting national security;

(b) To consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price;

(c) To consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of decreased price. However, final action selling or leasing public property shall be taken in a meeting open to the public;

(d) To review negotiations on the performance of publicly bid contracts when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood increased costs;

(e) To consider, in the case of an export trading company, financial and commercial information supplied by private persons to the export trading company;

(f) To receive and evaluate complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee. However, upon the request of such officer or employee, a public hearing or a meeting open to the public shall be conducted upon such complaint or charge;

(g) To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. However, subject to RCW 42.30.140(4), discussion by a governing body of salaries, wages, and other conditions of employment to be generally applied within the agency shall occur in a meeting open to the public, and when the governing body elects to take final action hiring, setting the salary or an individual employee or class of employees, or discharging or disciplining an employee, that action shall be taken in a meeting open to the public;

(h) To evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office. However, any interview of such candidate and final action appointing a candidate to elective office shall be in a meeting open to the public;

(i) To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency;

This subsection (1)(i) does not permit a governing body to hold an executive session solely because an attorney representing the agency is present. For purposes of this subsection (1)(i), "potential litigation" means matters protected by RPC 1.6 or RCW 5.60.060(2)(a) concerning:

(i) Litigation that has been specifically threatened to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party;

(ii) Litigation that the agency reasonably believes may be commenced by or against the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity; or

(iii) Litigation or legal risks of a proposed action or current practice that the agency has identified when public discussion of the litigation or legal risks is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency;

(j) To consider, in the case of the state library commission or its advisory bodies, western library network prices, products, equipment, and services, when such discussion would be likely to adversely affect the network's ability to conduct business in a competitive economic climate. However, final action on these matters shall be taken in a meeting open to the public.

(k) To consider, in the case of the state investment board, financial and commercial information when the information relates to the investment of public trust or retirement funds and when public knowledge regarding the discussion would result in loss to such funds or in private loss to the providers of this information;

(l) To consider proprietary or confidential nonpublished information related to the development, acquisition, or implementation of state purchased health care services as provided in RCW 41.05.026;

(m) To consider in the case of the life sciences discovery fund authority, the substance of grant applications and grant awards when public knowledge regarding the discussion would reasonably be expected to result in private loss to the providers of this information;

(n) To consider in the case of a health sciences and services authority, the substance of grant applications and grant awards when public knowledge regarding the discussion would reasonably be expected to result in private loss to the providers of this information.

(2) Before convening in executive session, the Presiding Officer of a governing body shall publicly announce the purpose for excluding the public from the meeting place, and the time when the executive session will be concluded. The executive session may be extended to a stated later time by announcement of the Presiding Officer.

RCW 42.30.140 Chapter Controlling - Application. If any provision of this chapter conflicts with the provisions of any other statute, the provisions of this chapter shall control: *Provided*, that this chapter shall not apply to:

(1) The proceedings concerned with the formal issuance of an order granting, suspending, revoking, or denying any license, permit, or certificate to engage in any business, occupation or profession or to any disciplinary proceedings involving a member of such business, occupation or profession, or to receive a license for a sports activity or to operate any mechanical device or motor vehicle where a license or registration is necessary; or

(2) That portion of a meeting of a quasi-judicial body which relates to a quasi-judicial matter between named parties as distinguished from a matter having general effect on the public or on a class or group; or

(3) Matters governed by chapter 34.05 RCW, the Administrative Procedure Act; or

(4)(a) Collective bargaining sessions with employee organizations, including contract negotiations, grievance meetings, and discussions relating to the interpretation or application of a labor agreement; or (b) that portion of a meeting during which the governing body is planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress.

RCW 42.36.010 Local Land Use Decisions.

Application of the appearance of fairness doctrine to local land use decisions shall be limited to the quasi-judicial actions of local decision-making bodies as defined in this section. Quasi-judicial actions of local decision-making bodies are those actions of the legislative body, planning commission, hearing examiner, zoning adjuster, board of adjustment, or boards which determine the legal rights, duties, or privileges of specific parties in a hearing or other contested case proceeding. Quasi-judicial actions do not include the legislative actions adopting, amending, or revising comprehensive, community, or neighborhood plans or other land use planning documents or the adoption of area-wide zoning ordinances or the adoption of a zoning amendment that is of area-wide significance.

RCW 42.36.040 Public Discussion by Candidate for Public Office.

Prior to declaring as a candidate for public office or while campaigning for public office as defined by RCW 42.17A.005 no public discussion by expression of an opinion by a person subsequently elected to a public office, on any pending or proposed quasi-judicial actions, shall be a violation of the appearance of fairness doctrine.

RCW 42.36.050 Campaign Contributions.

A candidate for public office who complies with all provisions of applicable public disclosure and ethics laws shall not be limited from accepting campaign contributions to finance the campaign, including outstanding debts; nor shall it be a violation of the appearance of fairness doctrine to accept such campaign contributions.

RCW 42.36.060 Quasi-judicial Proceedings - Ex Parte Communications Prohibited, Exceptions.

During the pendency of any quasi-judicial proceeding, no member of a decision-making body may engage in ex parte communications with opponents or proponents with respect to the proposal which is the subject of the proceeding unless that person:

(1) Places on the record the substance of any written or oral ex parte communications concerning the decision of action; and

(2) Provides that a public announcement of the content of the communication and of the parties' rights to rebut the substance of the communication shall be made at each hearing where action is considered or taken on the subject to which the communication related. This prohibition does not preclude a member of a decision-making body from seeking in a public hearing specific information or data from such parties relative to the decision if both the request and the results are a part of the record. Nor does such prohibition preclude correspondence between a citizen and his or her elected official if any such correspondence is made a part of the record when it pertains to the subject matter of a quasi-judicial proceeding.

**REFERENCES TO RESOLUTION NO. 1118 POLICIES GOVERNING CITY  
COUNCIL PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC CONTRACTS**

1. Interlocal Agreements. Chapter 39.34 RCW requires the governing bodies of participating public agencies to take appropriate action by ordinance, resolution or otherwise before interlocal agreements may enter into force. All interlocal agreements should appear on the consent calendar, subject to removal in accordance with the City Council Rules of Procedure.

2. Franchise Agreements. Franchise agreements such as Comcast, PSE, water, sewer, and the like require City Council approval. Franchise agreements should be referred to an *Ad Hoc* Council Committee for the study and recommendation prior to presentation to the City Council for approval.

3. Public Works (small works roster).

(a) MRSC rosters. The City wishes to contract with the Municipal Research and Services Center of Washington (MRSC) to adopt for City use those state-wide electronic databases for small works roster and consulting services developed and maintained by MRSC and authorizes the City Manager to sign that contract. In addition, paper and/or electronic rosters may be kept on file by appropriate City departments.

(b) Small works rosters. The following small works roster procedures are established for use by the City pursuant to RCW 39.04.155:

(i) Cost. The City need not comply with formal sealed bidding procedures for the construction, building, renovation, remodeling, alteration, repair or improvement of real property where the estimated cost does not exceed Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00), which includes the costs of labor, material, equipment, and sales and/or use taxes as applicable. Instead, the City may use the small works roster procedures for public works projects as set forth herein. The breaking of any project into units or accomplishing any projects by phases is prohibited if it is done for the purpose of avoiding the maximum dollar amount of a contract that may be let using the small works roster process.

(ii) Publication. At least once a year, on behalf of the City, MRSC shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation within the jurisdiction a notice of the existence of the roster or rosters and solicit the names of contractors for such roster or rosters. Responsible contractors shall be added to appropriate MRSC roster or rosters at any time that they submit a written request and necessary records. The City may require master contracts to be signed that become effective when a specific award is made using a small works roster.

(iii) Telephone or written quotations. The City shall obtain telephone, written, or electronic quotations for public works contracts from contractors on the appropriate small works roster to assure that a competitive price is established and to award contracts to a contractor who meets the mandatory bidder responsibility criteria in RCW 39.04.350(1) and may establish supplementary bidder criteria under RCW 39.04.350(2).

(A) A contract awarded from a small works roster need not be advertised. Invitations for quotations shall include an estimate of the scope and nature of the work to be performed as well as materials and equipment to be furnished. However, detailed plans and specifications need not be included in the invitation.

(B) Quotations may be invited from all appropriate contractors on the appropriate small works roster. As an alternative, quotations may be invited from at least five (5) contractors on the appropriate small works roster who have indicated the capability of performing the kind of work being contracted, in a manner that will equitably distribute the opportunity among the contractors on the appropriate roster. "Equitably distribute" means that the City may not favor certain contractors on the appropriate small works roster over other contractors on the appropriate small works roster who perform similar services.

If the estimated cost of the work is from One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) to Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00), the City may choose to solicit bids from less than all the appropriate contractors on the appropriate small works roster but must notify the remaining contractors on the appropriate small works roster that quotations on the work are being sought. The City has the sole option of determining whether this notice to the remaining contractors is made by:

- (1) Publishing notice in a legal newspaper in general circulation in the area where the work is to be done;
- (2) Mailing a notice to these contractors; or
- (3) Sending a notice to these contractors by facsimile or email.

(C) At the time bids are solicited, the City representative shall not inform a contractor of the terms or amount of any other contractor's bid for the same project.

(D) A written record shall be made by the City representative of each contractor's bid on the project and of any conditions imposed on the bid. Immediately after an award is made, the bid quotations obtained shall be recorded, open to public inspection, and available by telephone inquiry.

(c) Limited public works process.

(i) If a work, construction, alteration, repair, or improvement project is estimated to cost less than Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00), the City may award such a contract using the limited public works process provided under RCW 39.04.155(3). For a limited public works project, the City will solicit electronic or written quotations from a minimum of three (3) contractors from the appropriate small works roster and shall award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder as defined under RCW 39.04.010. After an award is made, the quotations shall be open to public inspection and available by electronic request.

(ii) For limited public works projects, the City may waive the payment and performance bond requirements of chapter 39.08 RCW and the retainage requirements of chapter 60.28 RCW, thereby assuming the liability for the contractor's nonpayment of laborers, mechanics, subcontractors, materialmen, suppliers, and taxes imposed under Title 82 RCW that may be due from the contractor for the limited public works project. However, the City shall have the right of recovery against the contractor for any payments made on the contractor's behalf.

(iii) The City shall maintain a list of the contractors contacted and the contracts awarded during the previous twenty-four (24) months under the limited public works process, including the name of the contractor, the contractor's registration number, the amount of the contract, a brief description of the type of work performed, and the date the contract was awarded.

(iv) Determining the lowest responsible bidder. The City Council shall



award the contract for the public works project to the lowest responsible bidder provided that, whenever there is a reason to believe that the lowest acceptable bid is not the best price obtainable, all bids may be rejected and the City may call for new bids. A responsible bidder shall be a registered and/or licensed contractor who meets the mandatory bidder responsibility criteria established by Chapter 133, Laws of 2007 (SHB 2010) and who meets any supplementary bidder responsibility criteria established by the City.

(v) Award. The City Manager or his designee shall present all telephonic quotations/bids, and recommendation for award of the contract to the lowest responsible bidder to the City Council. However, for public works projects under Fifty Thousand Dollars(\$50,000.00), the City Manager shall have the authority to award public works contracts without City Council approval. For public works projects over Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), the City Council shall award all public works contracts.

(c) Consulting services rosters.

(i) Consulting services. Consulting services are professional services that have a primarily intellectual output or product and include architectural and engineering services as defined in RCW 39.80.020.

(ii) Publication. At least once a year, on behalf of the City, MRSC shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation within the jurisdiction a notice of the existence of the consulting services roster or rosters and solicit statements of qualifications from firms providing consulting services. Such advertisements will include information on how to find the address and telephone number of a representative of the City who can provide further details as to the City's projected needs for consulting services. Firms or persons providing consulting services shall be added to appropriate MRSC roster or rosters at any time that they submit a written request and necessary records. The City may require master contracts to be signed that become effective when a specific award is made using a consulting services roster.

(iii) Professional architectural and engineering services. The MSRC rosters will distinguish between professional architectural and engineering services as defined in RCW 39.80.020 and other consulting services and will announce generally to the public the City's projected requirements for any category or type of professional or other consulting services. The City reserves the right to publish an announcement on each occasion when professional services or other consulting services are required by the agency and to use paper and/or other electronic rosters that may be kept on file by appropriate City documents.

4. Public Works (Subject to Bid). Public work projects exceeding \$200,000 are subject to bid laws and shall be processed in accordance with the Revised Code of Washington. After opening of bids, results shall be submitted to the Council Committee of origin for study and recommendation prior to being presented to the City Council for approval and if there is no Council Committee of origin, shall be considered by the Council as a whole. Action taken by the City Council in awarding the bid and directing the City Manager to sign contracts should include authority granted to the City Manager to expend funds in the amount of the bid award plus ten percent.

5. Purchase of Supplies, Material, Equipment, and Non-Professional Services. For code cities of a population of 20,000 or greater there are no bidding requirements for purchases of supplies, material, equipment, or services which are not purchased in connection with a public work. For such purchases, the City Manager shall adopt written guidelines, subject to City Council approval, to ensure that purchases are made at the lowest possible price from a responsible vendor.

6. Architectural and Engineering Services. Chapter 39.80 RCW provides that in selecting architect and engineer consultants the City shall conduct discussions with one or more firms and shall select the firm deemed the most highly qualified to provide the services required for the proposed project. The Attorney General of the State of Washington has issued an opinion precluding cities from considering price when selecting architects and engineers, except for a final price negotiation after the most qualified architect or engineer has been selected. The following process shall govern awarding of contracts to architects or engineers:

- (a) The City Manager shall advertise the architectural and engineering requirements;
- (b) The City Manager shall thereafter enter into discussion with several firms and select the most qualified architect or engineer;
- (c) The City Manager shall then negotiate the scope of work and price with the architect or engineer selected; and
- (d) If the contract amount does not exceed \$50,000 and has been previously budgeted, the City Manager shall be authorized to sign a contract for such services without approval by the City Council or any committee thereof. If the contract amount exceeds \$50,000, the Contract should appear on the consent calendar, subject to removal in accordance with the City Council Rules of Procedure.
- (e) In case of a disaster, emergency, or immediate City need, including assistance on Capital Improvement Program projects and general engineering services previously approved by the Council, the City Manager shall be authorized to sign Task Order Assignments on multi-year “on-call” civil engineering services consultant contracts, which have been previously approved by the Council for services if the Task Order Assignment does not exceed \$50,000.
- (f) The City Manager shall, as part of the City Manager’s monthly report, provide the City Council with a list of contracts with consultants that have been approved by the City Manager pursuant to this resolution.
- (g) The City Manager shall not allow task order assignments for a specific single project that cumulatively add up to an amount greater than \$50,000.00 without being approved by the City Council.

7. Leases of City Real Property. Leases of City real property are subject to review and approval by the City Council. The Mayor shall have discretion to submit any such lease to a standing or ad hoc committee for study and recommendation prior to being presented to the City Council for approval.

8. Contracts for General Professional Services. Contracts for general professional services, which do not involve architects or engineers, are not subject to the bid laws of the State of Washington. Examples of such services are computer consultants, financial consultants, management consultants, and the like. The process for awarding general professional services contracts shall be as follows:

- (a) The City Manager shall research the persons and firms that are available to such professional services, taking into consideration recommendations from any source.
- (b) The City Manager shall then negotiate a contract with the party selected, including scope of work and price.

(c) If the contract amount exceeds \$50,000, the contract should appear on the consent calendar, subject to removal in accordance with the *City Council Rules of Procedure*.

9. Administrative Contracts. Administrative contracts are contracts which do not fall into any other category described in this rule, and are for services previously budgeted by the City Council. Examples of administrative contracts are agreements with the Sexual Assault Center, VanGo, Senior Nutrition, D.A.W.N., and the like. The City Manager is authorized to execute administrative contracts, and the same shall not be subject to approval by the City Council or any committee thereof.

## **APPENDIX A**

# **THE SPIRIT OF DES MOINES AWARDS PROGRAM POLICY**

The spirit of any community is its citizens, community leaders, volunteers and donors. We are all bettered by the commitment and dedication they exhibit in keeping or enhancing those things that make the City of Des Moines special to us. We are remiss if we don't, from time to time, acknowledge those efforts. That is the impetus behind the Spirit of Des Moines Awards.

### **PURPOSE**

The Spirit of Des Moines Award is given to publicly acknowledge the efforts and accomplishments of individuals' civic and community service to the betterment of the community of Des Moines, Washington – both over the course of a year, and over a lifetime.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Up to two individuals may be acknowledged in both the annual award, and lifetime award categories. Nominees for the award need not be Des Moines residents, but must have shown a consistent commitment and dedication to the betterment of Des Moines. Any person is eligible for the annual Spirit of Des Moines Award. Any person is eligible for the lifetime Spirit of Des Moines Award who has demonstrated at least two decades of civic and community service, or who has performed an extraordinary service to the community with long-lasting implications. An annual award recipient is eligible to be considered for future Spirit of Des Moines awards. A lifetime award recipient is ineligible to be considered for future Spirit of Des Moines awards.

### **NOMINATIONS**

In September of each year, the community shall be solicited for nominees for the annual and lifetime Spirit of Des Moines Awards. Nominations shall be reviewed by a community-based review committee, and finalists will be chosen based on the eligibility criteria and any materials submitted to support the nomination. There will be at least two finalists for each position.

### **REVIEW COMMITTEE**

A community-based review committee shall be established to review nominations from the community for the Spirit of Des Moines Awards. The review committee shall have no more than nine (9) members, and no fewer than five (5) members. The members of the review committee, who must be residents of Des Moines, shall be chosen from a cross-section of the Des Moines community – both geographically and in terms of the activities of the community. The Mayor and one other Des Moines City Councilmember shall serve on the committee, and the Mayor will be entrusted with choosing the remaining committee members. Neither elected official shall chair the review committee. Meeting notes shall be taken by the review committee, and those notes shall be kept and maintained by the City of Des Moines.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

Nominations are solicited from the community in September each year. The review committee shall meet no later than October 15<sup>th</sup>, and finalists shall be chosen by the committee no later than November 1<sup>st</sup>. Recipients shall be chosen by the Council from the group of finalists.

## **PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Spirit of Des Moines Awards shall be given out at a public meeting or event by the Mayor, no later than the middle of November each year. The physical awards reflect the connection of Des Moines, Washington to Puget Sound, and the official City of Des Moines theme of “the Waterland Community”.

## **CONTRIBUTIONS AND SPONSORSHIPS**

Contributions and sponsorships may be solicited to offset the cost of presenting the Spirit of Des Moines Awards. Any funds collected in excess of the direct cost of presenting the awards shall be shared equally among Award recipients, and given as donations in their name to a local charity of their choosing.

## **ORGANIZATION AWARD**

An honorary award may be given each year, at the recommendation of the review committee, to recognize the activities of an organization that has demonstrated a consistent commitment and dedication to the betterment of Des Moines.

(Res. 1140, 2011).