

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-11

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT DURING MEETINGS OF PUBLIC BODIES

WHEREAS, the City Commission, as well as other boards and committees of the City of Madison, are considered public bodies subject to open meeting laws; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 1172 of the 2018 Legislative Session amended SDCL 1-25-1 to state ‘the chair of the public body shall reserve at every official meeting by the public body a period for public comment, limited at the chair’s discretion, but not so limited as to provide for no public comment’; and

WHEREAS, guidelines shall be established to provide for clarity and consistency in the application of this statutory requirement amongst all City of Madison boards and committees subject to open meeting laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MADISON, SOUTH DAKOTA:

That the following guidelines be established as follows:

1. Any individual wishing to speak during the public comment period must complete the requested information on the established sign-in document prior to the public comment period of the meeting.
2. Comments must be presented to the entire public body and not to individual members, employees or other individuals and must be relevant to the business matters of the City of Madison.
3. Comments must be presented in a professional and civil matter. Threatening, vulgar or abusive language will not be tolerated.
4. Individuals will be limited to three minutes to make their comments unless allowed extended time by the Mayor or President/Chair. Those who require interpreters or other special accommodations may be given additional time. Individuals may not relinquish their allotted time to another individual.
5. Members of the public body are not required to respond to comments, answer questions or engage in any dialogue with an individual making a public comment.
6. No action will be taken by the public body on any public comment during the meeting that the comment was made. However, members of that public body may request that comments on matters deemed to require further discussion or formal action be placed on a future agenda of that public body.
7. Comments related to items on the current agenda must be made during the discussion of that agenda item.

Dated this 2nd day of July, 2018.

CITY OF MADISON

/s/Roy J. Lindsay, Jr.
Mayor

ATTEST: /s/Jennifer Eimers
Finance Officer

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