

**CITY OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 3587**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING RULES FOR PUBLIC INPUT DURING MEETINGS  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OR CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES OF THE CITY OF  
COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Columbia (“City”), Monroe and St. Clair Counties, Illinois is a duly created, organized and validly existing municipality of the State of Illinois under the 1970 Illinois Constitution and the laws of the State of Illinois, including particularly the Illinois Municipal Code, and all laws amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto; and

**WHEREAS**, the City is subject to the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/); and

**WHEREAS**, the Open Meetings Act states “any person shall be permitted an opportunity to address public officials under the rules established and recorded by the public body.” (5 ILCS 120/2.06(g)); and

**WHEREAS**, the Corporate Authorities of the City of Columbia, Illinois desire to amend such rules established pertaining to public input at meetings of the Corporate Authorities.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia as follows:

- Section 1.** The preceding recitations in the upper part of this Ordinance are realleged, restated and adopted as paragraph one (“1”) of this Ordinance.
- Section 2.** The City Council hereby adopts the rules found attached to this Ordinance pertaining to public input.
- Section 3.** All ordinances, resolutions, or orders of the City in conflict herewith, to the extent of such conflict, are hereby repealed.
- Section 4.** This Ordinance shall take full force and effect immediately upon passage by the Corporate Authorities.

**PASSED** by the City Council and **APPROVED** by the Mayor of the City of Columbia, Illinois and deposited and filed in the office of the City Clerk on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021, the vote being taken by ayes and noes and entered upon the legislative record as follows:

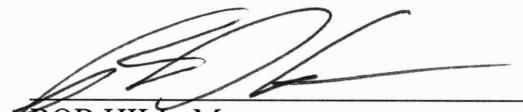
AYES: Aldermen Nietmietz, Roessler, Holtkamp, Martens, Riddle, Garmer, and Khoury.

NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

ABSENT: Alderman Hutch.

APPROVED:



BOB HILL, Mayor

ATTEST:



ANDREW HITZEMANN, City Clerk

(SEAL)

## **ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL DURING PUBLIC INPUT**

Below are the rules for input during City Council meetings as enacted by Ordinance No. 3587 entitled "Establishing Rules for Public Input During Meetings of the City Council or City Council Committees of the City of Columbia, Illinois". Speakers may address the Council during the time designated as Public Input on the agenda. Persons interested in addressing the City Council shall indicate such by placing their name on a designated "sign-in sheet" prior to the commencement of the meeting.

**RULE 1:** Speakers shall be allowed only during "Public Input," or at any other time if requested by a member of the City Council.

**RULE 2:** Input must relate to a matter under the authority of the City of Columbia.

**RULE 3:** Upon reaching the section of the agenda titled "Public Input", the meeting Chairman will ask individuals to approach the designated podium in the order in which they signed in, and state their name and general subject matter to which they will address the City Council.

**RULE 4:** After establishing their identity, prospective speakers shall immediately address only the City Council.

**RULE 5:** Each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes to address the City Council. No extensions will be granted and no time shall be compensated to the speaker resulting from interruptions by or discussion with the City Council, City Administrator, or any other City officer or employee.

**RULE 6:** Speakers shall address only the City Council collectively or its members individually. Speakers shall speak to issues and shall refrain from personal attacks on City appointed officers and employees. Speakers may not address issues related to pending litigation in which the City or its subsidiary bodies, officers, agents, employees, boards or commissions is a party.

**RULE 7:** Speakers shall not be permitted to advertise, solicit, request, urge, summon, or cajole the City Council or the general public, except as otherwise provided for herein, with regard to any products, goods, services, information, gains, losses, advantages, consequences, or any other similar matter, notwithstanding that there may or may not be any pecuniary, monetary, financial or property gain, loss, or benefit to the speaker or any other person or entity.

**RULE 8:** Speakers shall act and speak with decorum and conform to conventional social manners in speech, writing, dress, and behavior. The audience shall refrain from conduct that disrupts the meeting in any way such as clapping, booing, loud talking or outbursts. A speaker may be immediately terminated at the meeting Chairman's discretion.

**RULE 9:** Determination of breaches of this Ordinance shall be made by the meeting Chairman. The meeting Chairman customarily will warn the speaker or members of the audience of inappropriate behavior through one warning use of the gavel. Subsequent inappropriate behavior shall result in the immediate removal of the responsible parties at the discretion of the meeting Chairman.