

RESOLUTION 2024-055**A RESOLUTION OF THE SAN ANGELO CITY COUNCIL APPROVING REASONABLE RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AT OPEN MEETINGS IN RESPONSE TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 551 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

WHEREAS, the City of San Angelo currently allows public comment for non-agenda items at the beginning of all regular public meetings; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of public meetings is to conduct the business of government which shall be given priority at all meetings; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Angelo desires to update their public comment procedures as allowed under Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code to protect the rights of the public to address their elected officials while maintaining efficient and professional governance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF SAN ANGELO, TEXAS THAT:

Section 1: Any member of the public attending a regular open meeting that wishes to address the governing body or board may do so either during the open public comment period or during the agenda item at the meeting when the presiding officer calls for public comment on that item. There will be no public comments taken at workshops or special meetings where no action will be taken.

Section 2: Each member of the public wishing to speak shall sign in with the City Clerk or Board Secretary prior to the beginning of the meeting, indicate what item they wish to provide comment and will be called to speak by the City Clerk or Board Secretary in the order of signature. In order to maintain an efficient and orderly meeting, only members of the public who have signed in for an item prior to the meeting shall be allowed to speak with priority given to citizens of San Angelo and they shall be allowed to speak only on the items they indicated.

Section 3: Any member of the public addressing the governing body should introduce themselves by first and last name and give their home address and/or single member district number and shall make comments relevant to the authority of the City.

Section 4: Any member of the public addressing the governing body as the proponent, applicant, or appellant on an agenda item is limited to five minutes of public comment, unless extended by the presiding officer. This shall be indicated on the sign-in sheet. If translator services are required and available, the translator's time will not count against the speaker's five-minute time limit.

Section 5: Any member of the public addressing the governing body on any item other than those listed in Section 4 above is limited to three minutes of public comment, unless extended by the presiding officer. If translator services are required and available, the translator's time will not count against the speaker's three-minute time limit.

Section 6: Any member of the public may address the governing body once during the open public comment period and once on each item unless any member of the governing body requests additional comment or grants permission for additional time to speak.

Section 7: Any member of the public wishing to provide documents or information for display on the monitors during a regular agenda item must provide said documents no later than four business days prior to the meeting. Presentations should be limited to 10 pages or slides and must fit within the above stated allotted times for presentations. Only documents or slides relevant to the topic shall be allowed. Slides for display on the monitors shall not be allowed for the open public comment period. Documents to be provided to the Council or Board shall be given to the City Clerk or Board Secretary. Enough copies

Official Minute Record
July 16, 2024

Volume 2024
Page 255

for each Council or Board member and one copy for the official record shall be provided. Copying services will not be available from the City to produce these copies.

Section 8: Any member of the public addressing the governing body shall direct their comments to the governing body and will be allowed to include criticism of the city or body, including criticism of any act, omission, policy, procedure, program, or service in their remarks, unless the public criticism is otherwise prohibited by law. Questioning of staff, council or board is not appropriate during the public comment period. Comments regarding concerns about employee performance should be directed to the City’s Human Resources Department, that employee’s immediate supervisor, or the City Manager outside of the public comment period.

Section 9: The presiding officer may further limit public comment as necessary to maintain the efficiency or decorum of the meeting.

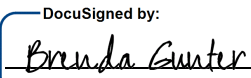
ADOPTED this 16th day of July 2024.

CITY OF SAN ANGELO, TEXAS:

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Heather Stastny, City Clerk

DocuSigned by:

Brenda Gunter, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DocuSigned by:

Theresa James, City Attorney