

ORDINANCE NO. 20090827-023

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2-5 OF THE CITY CODE RELATED TO COUNCIL MEETING PROCEDURES.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. Subsection 2-5-24(E) (*Thursday Council Meeting*) of the City Code is amended to read:

- (E) A councilmember may request that an agenda item or hearing be set at a time certain [-] if the councilmember receives the approval of one [~~two~~] additional councilmember [~~councilmembers~~].

PART 2. Subsection 2-5-25(B) (*Consent Agenda*) of the City Code is amended to read:

- (B) The council should not adopt by consent an item:
 - (1) subject to a public hearing;
 - (2) posted on the agenda for consideration at a specific time;
 - (3) on which two [~~five~~] or more people have registered to testify, except as provided in Subsection (C); and
 - (4) [~~on which two or more councilmembers intend to register a negative vote; and (5)~~] that a councilmember requests be removed from the consent agenda.

PART 3. Subsection 2-5-27(D) (*Citizen Participation*) of the City Code is amended to read:

- (D) A person who intends to speak at a council meeting:
 - (1) under Section 2-5-28 (*General Citizen Communication*) may register by telephone, E-mail [~~electronic or facsimile transmission, mail,~~] or in person; and
 - (2) under Section 2-5-29 (*Speaker Registration and Speaking Time*) must register in person.

PART 4. Section 2-5-28 (*General Citizen Communication*) of the City Code is amended to read:

§ 2-5-28 GENERAL CITIZEN COMMUNICATION.

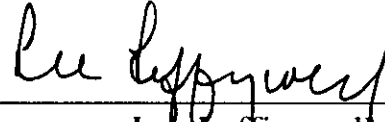
- (A) At a Thursday council meeting, a maximum of 10 people may address the council during the general citizen communication portion of the meeting.
- (B) A person who intends to speak during the general citizen communication[~~;~~
 - ~~(1)]must register between 9:00 a.m. on the 14th day before the council meeting at which the person intends to speak and 4:30 p.m. on the Thursday before the council meeting at which the person intends to speak. [~~;~~and~~
 - ~~(2) shall complete and provide a registration card to the city clerk's office on the form prescribed by the city clerk.]~~
- (C) The city clerk should not accept more than ten registrations [~~registration cards~~] under this section for general citizen communications at a council meeting. Except as provided in Subsection (E), the city clerk may not register a person to speak at general citizen communication more frequently than once out of every three regularly scheduled council meetings. [~~The clerk shall number the registration cards received under this section in the order in which the cards are received.]~~
- (D) Except as provided in Subsection (E), a person may not speak at general citizen communication more often than once out of every three regularly scheduled council meetings. [~~A person who signs up to speak at general citizen communication and fails to appear to speak for two consecutive meetings is barred from registering to speak during general citizen communication for the next two council meetings.]~~
- (E) A person may speak more frequently than once out of every three regularly scheduled council meetings if, as of 4:30 p.m. on the Thursday before the council meeting at which the person intends to speak:
 - (1) fewer than 10 people are registered to speak at general citizens communication; and
 - (2) all of the remaining registration requests received by the city clerk are from people who have spoken within the past three regularly scheduled council meetings.

PART 5. This ordinance takes effect on September 7, 2009.

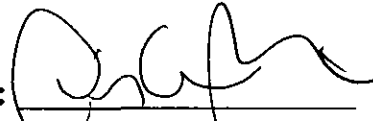
PASSED AND APPROVED

August 27, 2009


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Lee Leffingwell
Mayor

APPROVED: 

David Allan Smith
City Attorney

ATTEST: 

Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk