

**RULES GOVERNING
MEETINGS OF THE
FLINT CITY COUNCIL
AS ADOPTED 4-22-2024**

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PREAMBLE

These rules govern the orderly conduct of Flint City Council meetings. Meetings of the Flint City Council are subject to the Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976, MCL 15.261 through 15.275. All documents of the meetings of the Flint City Council (i.e. agendas, minutes, attachments, transcripts, recordings) are public documents subject to the FOIA, MCL 15.231 *et seq.*, unless otherwise exempt under that statute.

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

- Rule 1.1 All matters of procedure not specifically addressed by the Council Rules, state, or local law, shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order 12th Ed. If a conflict arises between Council Rules and Robert's Rules of Order, Council Rules shall take precedence.
- Rule 1.2 The Chair shall preserve order and decorum, may call other Councilmembers to order, and may speak to points of order in preference to other Councilmembers. The Chair shall decide all questions arising under these rules and general parliamentary practice and may seek the advice of others at the Chair's discretion.
- Rule 1.3 After the Chair decides on a question, any member may "appeal from the decision," except that no appeal may be made while another appeal is pending. If the appeal is seconded, the member making the appeal has up to 1 minute to state the reason for the appeal. The Chair then has up to 1 minute to state the reason for the decision.
- Rule 1.4 The Chair then states the question as: "Shall the decision of the Chair be reversed?" There shall be no further debate on the appeal and no other member shall participate in the discussion. Unless a majority of Councilmembers-elect vote to overturn the Chair's ruling, the Chair's ruling stands.
- Rule 1.5 City Council may appoint a person to serve as Parliamentarian. At the request of any Councilmember, the parliamentarian shall rule on questions of parliamentary procedure. The Parliamentarian's ruling may be appealed. An appeal of a Parliamentarian's ruling must be seconded and is undebatable. Overturning a Parliamentarian's ruling requires a two-thirds vote of the Councilmembers-elect.

SUSPENSION AND AMENDMENT OF RULES

- Rule 2.1 Any individual rule may be suspended on the vote of two-thirds of the Councilmembers-elect, to allow for consideration of business that would not otherwise be allowed under the rules. A motion to suspend a rule is not debatable.
- Rule 2.2 The rules may be amended in accordance with Section 1-801 of the Flint City Charter.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT; PRESIDING AT MEETINGS

- Rule 3.1 The Council shall have a President and a Vice-President, chosen by a majority of the Councilmembers-elect for a term which shall end on the second Monday in November, or until a successor is elected.
- Rule 3.2 The President shall preside at meetings of the Council as Chair and, in the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall preside. If both the President and Vice-President are absent, a chairperson from a Council committee shall preside in the following order: Finance, Governmental Operations, Legislative.

COMMITTEES

- Rule 4.1 The President shall appoint all committee chairs and vice-chairs for a one-year term which shall end on the second Monday in November or until a successor is appointed.
- Rule 4.2 The standing committees of the City Council are Finance, Governmental Operations, Legislative, and Special Affairs.
- Rule 4.3 Finance Committee - Business conducted consists of all matters relating to City finances (e.g. spending, revenue, contracts, fees, budgets, audits, etc.).
- Rule 4.4 Governmental Operations Committee - Business conducted consists of all matters relating to governmental function (e.g. multi-member bodies, policies and procedures, matters related to City government and City departments, etc.).
- Rule 4.5 Legislative Committee - Business conducted consists of all matters relating to City legislation (e.g. ordinances, policies, etc.).
- Rule 4.6 Special Affairs Committee - Reserved for any standing committee agenda item needing additional discussion or information, as well as for any emergency agenda submission. Special Affairs Committee shall meet at 4:30 p.m. right before regular Council meetings on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month.
- Rule 4.7 All standing committees of Council shall be comprised of all members of Council who are not under disciplinary actions/restrictions.
- Rule 4.8 The President, at their discretion, may create ad hoc committees and appoint those committees' chairs and members. The President shall determine the number of Councilmembers comprising these committees.

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETINGS AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

- Rule 5.1 All meetings of the City Council and all committees of the Council shall take place in the Council Chambers on the third floor of City Hall or at such other places as the Council may determine.
- Rule 5.2 The regular meetings of the City Council are 5:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of every month, and regular meetings of the finance, governmental operations, and legislative committees shall be at 5:00 PM the Wednesday preceding.
- Rule 5.3 The Clerk shall notify Councilmembers and the public, as required by the Open Meetings Act, of special meetings or a change in the time or place of meetings.
- Rule 5.4 The Mayor shall be notified of all meetings of the City Council.
- Rule 5.5 Without a quorum, the City Council may take no action except to convene or adjourn.
- Rule 5.6 Once a meeting has been convened, quorum is not lost so long as sufficient members are present in the Council Chambers. If quorum is lost during a meeting, the Chair shall recess the meeting at the conclusion of the then-current speaker.
- Rule 5.7 City Council may, by resolution, adjourn all meetings for a two-week period. A pro-forma meeting of the City Council shall be scheduled immediately preceding the other Council committee meeting in that month.

AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

- Rule 6.1 Matters shall be placed on the agenda of any meeting of the City Council by action of the Council President, any chairperson of any committee of the Council, or at the request of the Mayor, prior to the start of the meeting.
- Rule 6.2 Any agenda items that require official Council action at the meeting for final adoption (i.e., resolutions, budget amendments, grant acceptances, etc.) must be accompanied by appropriate documentation and signed by the required signatories.
- Rule 6.3 The deadline for contacting City Council staff for the purpose of adding matters to an agenda shall be by 12:00 pm (noon) on Thursdays.
- Rule 6.4 The Chair shall choose a person to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Rule 6.5 Opening Ceremonies will consist of the Pledge of Allegiance, a short prayer or blessing, and may include requests for moments of silence. Spiritual leaders (of many faiths) may be invited and scheduled to offer a short prayer after the Pledge of Allegiance. The City Clerk will be responsible for making these arrangements.
- Rule 6.6 Items denoted with ** will only appear on an agenda if necessary. If there is no such matter to be addressed, then it will not appear on the agenda. If there are no items on a committee agenda, the committee meeting will be cancelled by the Clerk.
- Rule 6.6a Finance Committee Agenda - Roll Call, Request for Agenda Changes/Additions, **Closed Session, Public Comment, **Consent Agenda, **Presentation of Quarterly Financial Reports, Resolutions, **Special Orders/Discussion Items, Adjournment
- Rule 6.6b Legislative Committee Agenda - Roll Call, Request for Agenda Changes/Additions, Public Comment, **Consent Agenda, **Resolutions, Ordinances, **Special Orders/Discussion Items, Adjournment
- Rule 6.6c Governmental Operations Committee Agenda - Roll Call, Request for Agenda Changes/Additions, Public Comment, **Consent Agenda, **Licenses, Resolutions, Appointments, **Special Orders/Discussion Items, Adjournment
- Rule 6.6d Special Affairs Agenda - Roll Call, Request for Agenda Changes/Additions, **Closed Session, Public Comment, **Consent Agenda, Resolutions, Appointments, Ordinances, **Special Orders/Discussion Items, Adjournment
- Rule 6.7 Rules 6.2 and 6.3 also apply to Committee meetings, as does section 31.10 of the Flint Code of Ordinances, the disorderly persons ordinance.
- Rule 6.8 Items may be placed in any committee agenda by request of any Councilmember, the Mayor, or the Clerk. Special orders must be approved by the Council President or the Committee Chair for a committee meeting. The Clerk may reassign items to an appropriate committee at his or her discretion.
- Rule 6.9 The order of business at Regular Meetings of the City Council shall be as follows:
- I Call to Order, Roll Call and Opening Ceremonies
 - II Disorderly Persons Warning
 - III Request for Agenda Changes/Additions
 - IV **Public Hearings

- V Public Speaking
- VI Consent Agenda
- VII Presentation of Minutes
- VIII **Petitions and Communications
- IX **Appointments
- X **Resolutions
- XI **Licenses
- XII **Introduction and First Reading of Ordinances
- XIII **Second Reading and Enactment of Ordinances
- XIV **Special Orders/Discussion Items
- XV Final Council Comments
- XVI Adjournment

CLOSED SESSIONS

Rule 7.1 Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, the Flint City Council may meet in Closed Session for one or more of the following purposes:

- (1) To consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, or to consider a periodic personnel evaluation of, a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent, if the named person requests a closed hearing.
- (2) For strategy and negotiation sessions connected with the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement if either negotiating party requests a closed hearing.
- (3) To consider the purchase or lease of real property up to the time an option to purchase or lease that real property is obtained.
- (4) To consult with its attorney regarding trial or settlement strategy in connection with specific pending litigation, but only if an open meeting would have a detrimental financial effect on the litigating or settlement position of the public body.
- (5) To review and consider the contents of an application for employment or appointment to a public office if the candidate requests that the application remain confidential. However, all interviews by a public body for employment or appointment to a public office shall be held in an open meeting pursuant to this act.
- (6) To consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.

Rule 7.2 **GOING INTO CLOSED SESSION** – A 2/3 roll call vote of the Councilmembers-Elect is required to meet in closed session for purposes (3) through (6), as listed in Rule 7.2. A majority vote of the Councilmembers-Elect is sufficient for purposes (1) and (2), as listed in Rule 7.2. The roll call vote and the purpose or purposes for meeting in closed session shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the vote is taken.

Rule 7.3 **LEAVING CLOSED SESSION** – The City Council may leave a closed session upon a majority vote of the Councilmembers-elect.

- Rule 7.4 All determinations, actions, votes, or dispositions of motions, proposals, recommendations, resolutions, orders, ordinances, bills, or measures by which the City Council effectuate or formulates public policy must be made during an open session.
- Rule 7.5 All matters discussed in closed session are privileged and not to be shared with any person outside of the closed session.

FORM OF ACTION AND CONSENT AGENDA

- Rule 8.1 All official action of the Council shall be by ordinance or resolution, but decisions on parliamentary procedure may be made upon motion. Other action may be made by motion, including decisions on parliamentary procedure.
- Rule 8.2 The Chair has the duty to determine whether a motion is in order and may do so at any time before restating the question.
- Rule 8.3 No motion may be debated by the Council until it has been restated by the Chair and it must be reduced to writing if requested by any Councilmember. All resolutions and ordinances must be in writing.
- Rule 8.4 The Chair may request the adoption of a "Consent Agenda" consisting of, as listed on the agenda, (a) approval of minutes; (b) accepting and placing on file communications, (c) approving appointments, resolutions, and licenses; (d) approving ordinances for introduction and first reading or second reading and enactment.
- Rule 8.5 After a motion to adopt a Consent Agenda is made and seconded, the Presiding Officer or Chair shall ask for separations. Any agenda item on the Consent Agenda shall be separated at the request of any Councilmember. After separations, there is no debate on approving the Consent Agenda - it shall be voted on or adopted without objection.

VOTING

- Rule 9.1 The determination of any question at a regular City Council meeting shall require a roll call vote, unless there is unanimous consent of the members present.
- Rule 9.2 The determination of any question at a committee meeting shall be by voice vote unless a member objects, in which case a roll call vote shall be taken.
- Rule 9.3 The voting on all roll calls shall be rotated so that the Councilmember representing the First Ward shall cast the first vote on the first roll call of any meeting, the Councilmember from the Second Ward shall cast the first vote on the second roll call at any meeting, and so on throughout the meeting so that the first vote on a roll call shall be solicited from the succeeding Councilmember. Following the first vote on any roll call, the remaining Councilmembers shall be called in consecutive order until all nine Councilmembers have been afforded an opportunity to vote on any question.
- Rule 9.4 A Councilmember must be seated at their designated seating place to vote. Proxy votes are not allowed.
- Rule 9.5 **INTERRUPTION OF VOTES** – Interruptions during the taking of a vote are permitted only before any member has actually voted, unless, as sometimes occurs in ballot voting, other business is being transacted during voting or tabulating.

- Rule 9.6 RULE AGAINST EXPLANATION BY MEMBERS DURING VOTING - A member has no right to “explain his vote” during voting.
- Rule 9.7 CHANGING ONE'S VOTE – A member has a right to change his vote up to the time the result is announced by the Chair. A request to change a vote after the Chair’s announcement requires the unanimous consent of the body, without debate, and may only be made immediately after the Chair’s announcement.
- Rule 9.8 ABSTAINING VOTES – To “abstain” means to not vote at all. Any explanation of an abstention may not exceed 10 seconds.
- Rule 9.9 ABSTAINING FROM VOTING ON A QUESTION OF DIRECT PERSONAL INTEREST – No member should vote on a question in which he/she has a direct personal or pecuniary interest not common to the other members of the organization. This rule does not mean that a member should not vote for him/herself for an office or other position to which members generally are eligible, or should not vote when other members are included with him in a motion.

INTRODUCTION AND ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- Rule 10.1 Upon the introduction of any ordinance or resolution, the City Clerk shall proceed as directed in Section 3-301 *et seq* of the Flint City Charter.
- Rule 10.2 After completing a public hearing for a resolution or ordinance, any Councilmember may move to enact the resolution or ordinance.
- Rule 10.3 If the ordinance or resolution is amended to the extent that there has been inadequate notice to the public of the content of the ordinance, it shall not be enacted until the procedures of Section 3-301 *et seq* of the Flint City Charter are complied with.
- Rule 10.4 Every ordinance must state the date that it becomes effective. After the vote on the enactment of the ordinance, any Councilmember may move that it be given immediate effect upon publication, rather than the date stated. Any effective date earlier than thirty days after enactment requires a two-thirds vote of the Councilmembers-elect.
- Rule 10.5 Every ordinance shall be submitted to the City Attorney for review and approval as to form prior to enactment.

CONSIDERATION OF PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

Rule 11.1 Unless otherwise stated, until debate on a main motion (i.e. to approve or move to Council) regarding an agenda item has begun, the following motions are not in order. Otherwise, the following motions may be made by a member holding the floor:

Rule 13	to adjourn	Rule 19	to refer to committee
Rule 14	to recess	Rule 20	to amend
Rule 15	to postpone temporarily	Rule 21	to postpone indefinitely
Rule 16	to vote immediately	Rule 22	to reconsider
Rule 17	to limit debate	Rule 25	point of order
Rule 18	to postpone definitely	Rule 26	request for information

- Rule 11.2 If more than one of the above motions are made, they shall be considered in the order listed, and if the same motion is made by multiple Councilmembers, the chair may address those motions at the chair's discretion.
- Rule 11.3 Unless otherwise stated, there is no debate on any of these motions.
- Rule 11.4 If the substance of a motion made by a Councilmember has the purpose of a motion listed above, the chair shall address it according to its purpose, regardless of how the motion is named by the Councilmember making it.

SUPPORT FOR MOTIONS

- Rule 12.1 No motion may be considered or debated unless it has been seconded by at least one other Councilmember and has been properly stated by the Chair. The Chair does not have to recognize a member before that member may second a motion.
- Rule 12.2 Nominations need not be seconded.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

- Rule 13.1 A motion to adjourn is always in order. If it is made during a vote, it will not be considered until after the vote is announced.
- Rule 13.2 The Chair may order an adjournment, without objection.

MOTION TO RECESS

- Rule 14.1 A motion to recess is always in order and shall state the recess length, which may be up to 36 hours.
- Rule 14.2 When a recess is taken while any question is pending, the consideration of the question shall be resumed upon the reassembling of the Council.
- Rule 14.3 The Chair may order a recess of up to 15 minutes at any time.

MOTION TO POSTPONE TEMPORARILY/RESUME CONSIDERATION

- Rule 15.1 The Council may postpone temporarily any pending matter. This motion postpones the question, all amendments, and other adhering motions, until later in the meeting.
- Rule 15.2 If a decision is made to resume consideration of a matter, it shall return in the same form as when it was postponed temporarily.
- Rule 15.3 A motion to resume consideration must be made at the same meeting that the matter was postponed. If a motion to resume consideration fails or is not made, the pending matter shall be added to the next meeting agenda.

MOTION TO VOTE IMMEDIATELY

- Rule 16.1 Any Councilmember may move to vote immediately. If the motion is supported, debate will cease immediately.

MOTION TO LIMIT OR EXTEND DEBATE

- Rule 17.1 A motion to limit or extend debate is always in order. Any Councilmember may move to limit or determine the time for discussion of a pending motion or to modify or remove limitations already imposed. This motion must include a time limit for each Councilmember.
- Rule 17.2 If each Councilmember has a limited time to speak, this time limit shall include any questions asked and/or answered at the Councilmembers request.

MOTION TO POSTPONE DEFINITELY

- Rule 18.1 Any Councilmember may move to put off consideration of a pending main motion and to set a definite date/time for its consideration.
- Rule 18.2 If a date/time is not set by the maker of the motion, debate on the motion to postpone definitely shall be limited to one round of discussion, 1 minute per councilmember, and shall be limited to the date/time the main motion shall be taken up,.

MOTION TO REFER TO COMMITTEE

- Rule 19.1 Any Councilmember may move to refer an agenda item from a City Council meeting to a committee.

MOTION TO AMEND

- Rule 20.1 Any Councilmember may move to amend the underlying agenda item (i.e. resolution or ordinance) that is subject to the main motion.
- Rule 20.2 There is no limit on the number of times an underlying agenda item may be amended. At the Chair's discretion, or at the request of a Councilmember, the Chair shall solicit proposed amendments to an underlying agenda item during debate on the main motion, followed by a vote on each proposed amendment after debate has been exhausted, and concluding with a vote on the finalized agenda item as amended.

MOTION TO POSTPONE INDEFINITELY

- Rule 21.1 The Council may decide to postpone consideration of a matter indefinitely.
- Rule 21.2 A matter that has been postponed indefinitely cannot come up again at the same meeting. If it is reintroduced at a later meeting, it shall be treated as a new matter.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

- Rule 22.1 A motion to reconsider any decision on an agenda item that failed may be made, at the same City Council meeting, by any Councilmember who voted in the affirmative, or at any subsequent City Council meeting, if reconsideration is placed on the agenda at the request of any Councilmember who voted in the affirmative or by the Mayor.
- Rule 22.2 No question may be reconsidered more than once at any given meeting.
- Rule 22.3 If a Council decision has gone into effect, the motion to reconsider is not in order.

RESCINDING/REPEALING PRIOR ACTION

- Rule 23.1 Action to rescind, repeal or annul a previous action may be by resolution unless the previous action is an ordinance. Action to repeal a published ordinance may only be by ordinance regardless of whether the ordinance has gone into effect.
- Rule 23.2 Notice of intention to rescind a previous action must be given to the Clerk at least two days prior to the meeting at which resolution or ordinance rescinding or repealing the prior action is introduced. However, the Council may vote by two-thirds of Councilmembers-elect to waive the notice requirement.
- Rule 23.3 Debate on a rescinding or repealing an action is as for any main motion.

WITHDRAWAL OF MOTIONS

- Rule 24.1 Any Councilmember may withdraw his or her motion before it has been restated by the Chair. A request to withdraw a motion does not require a second.
- Rule 24.2 After the motion has been restated by the Chair, it may only be withdrawn by majority consent of the Councilmembers present. A request to withdraw is undebatable.
- Rule 24.3 No request to withdraw may be made after the vote on the motion has commenced.

POINT OF ORDER

- Rule 25.1 The purpose of a point of order is to correct a breach in the rules when the Chair does not correct it, or when the Chair breaches the rules.
- Rule 25.2 A point of order should not be used for minor infractions that do not affect the substantive rights of the City Council or its members, or to improperly take the floor. Multiple violations of this rule shall be cause for disciplinary action.
- Rule 25.3 A point of order does not need a second, can interrupt a speaker, is not debatable, and is decided by the chair, subject to an appeal pursuant to Rule 1.3.
- Rule 25.4 The member making a point of order must explain their point of order in 10 seconds or less, and must cite the specific provision in Council Rules, Robert's rules, or the Flint City Charter that has allegedly been violated.
- Rule 25.5 A point of order cannot be ignored by the Chair. A ruling of "agree – out of order" or "disagree – denied" must be given. All debate and/or talking shall cease immediately when a point of order is raised, so the Chair can rule.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

- Rule 26.1 A request for information requests information from the member holding the floor. Its purpose is to help the member making the request for information understand the process and the potential consequences of the next vote.
- Rule 26.2 A request for information that asks a question for which the requestor already knows the answer (i.e. "isn't it true that...", "do you realize that...") is improper. A request for information seeking information about the speaker's knowledge or state of mind ("do you know that..." or "why do think/feel/believe that...") is also improper.

- Rule 26.3 A request for information cannot be ignored by the Chair, but the Chair may decide whether the request is legitimate or whether the speaker is misleadingly utilizing this motion to secure the floor for other purposes. The Chair must rule with either “Proceed” or “Denied”.
- Rule 26.4 Using a request for information as an opportunity to gain the floor is not allowed. Multiple abuses of use of requests for information is cause for disciplinary action.

MAINTENANCE OF ORDER AND DEBATE

- Rule 27.1 When a member is called to order, the Chair shall determine if he or she is in order.
- Rule 27.2 The Chair does not have to wait for a point of order to be raised but may rule a councilmember out of order on the Chair’s initiative.
- Rule 27.3 Councilmembers may not engage in any type of argumentative discourse with members of the audience, at any time, for any reason.
- Rule 27.4 Only the Chair may call an individual up to speak or answer questions. Other Councilmembers must petition the presiding officer to make this request.
- Rule 27.5 Mobile devices shall be set to silent mode prior to any meeting being called to order.

RIGHT TO SPEAK IN DEBATE

- Rule 28.1 Every Councilmember and every person granted the privilege of speaking to the City Council, on any matter, and shall address all remarks to the Chair.
- Rule 28.2 When two or more Councilmembers address the Chair at the same time, the Chair shall name the Councilmember who is first to speak.
- Rule 28.3 A Councilmember who desires to speak must first obtain the floor by being recognized by the Chair. A Councilmember must be in their seat to request the floor.
- Rule 28.4 Unless otherwise specified by these rules, each member has the right to speak up to twice on the same main motion, for 5 minutes during the first round and 3 minutes during the second round, but cannot make a second speech on the same question so long as any member who has not spoken on that question desires the floor.
- Rule 28.5 The Clerk shall utilize a timer and track members’ time. There is no right to “sum up” or “conclude” after the expiration of a members’ allotted time. Once the timer has started, only the Chair may order that the timer be paused or adjusted, and only if a subsidiary motion has been properly made and seconded.
- Rule 28.6 Councilmembers may request, from the presiding Chair, the opportunity to ask questions of staff or others during debate on any agenda item. Any such questions and responses shall count against the Councilmember’s allotted time.

PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC

- Rule 29.1 All meetings of the Council shall be open to the public in accordance with law.
- Rule 29.2 If a member of the public wishes to address the City Council or its committees, they may do so during the time designated for public comment.

- Rule 29.3 Members of the public who wish to address the City Council or its committees must register before the meeting begins. A box will be placed at the entrance to the Council Chambers for collection of registrations. No additional speakers or slips will be accepted after the meeting begins.
- Rule 29.4 Members of the public shall have no more than 3 minutes per speaker during public comment, with only one speaking opportunity per speaker.
- Rule 29.5 Councilmembers may respond once to all public speakers only after all public speakers have spoken. An individual Councilmember's response shall be limited to 2 minutes. Final Council comments shall be limited to 2 minutes.
- Rule 29.6 Members of the public shall have no more than 3 minutes to speak during a public hearing. A member of the public shall stand to obtain recognition by the President at the opening of the hearing or at the conclusion of the remarks of the previous speaker. Comments during a public hearing must be germane to the public hearing.
- Rule 29.7 Councilmembers may not speak during public hearings nor respond to speakers.
- Rule 29.8 Any person at a Council meeting may be called to order by the President or any Councilmember for failure to be germane, for vulgarity, or for speaking in excess of the allotted time, or any other violation of these rules.
- Rule 29.9 Any person who is called to order shall yield the floor until the Chair shall have determined whether he or she is in order. If a person is determined to be out of order, that person must yield the floor and forfeit any remaining time.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

- Rule 30.1 Every Councilmember is subject to the established rules or general conduct and the standards of conduct as may be adopted by the City Council.
- Rule 30.2 Speakers should address their remarks to the chair, maintain a courteous tone, and avoid interjecting a personal note into debate.
- Rule 30.3 During meetings of the City Council, Councilmembers should refer to each other only as "Councilmember from the [number] Ward" and in a respectful manner.
- Rule 30.4 The Chair may require Councilmembers to yield the floor for failure to follow these standards, failure to be germane, for excessive repetition, for remaining silent while having the floor, or for failure to follow any other Council rule.

ETHICS

- Rule 31.1 Every Councilmember is subject to the established ethics rules of the City of Flint Charter and Ethics Ordinance.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

- Rule 32.1 Every Councilmember is subject to the established rules and disciplinary actions for violations of rules and city ordinances.
- Rule 32.2 For any repeated violation of these rules, the Chair may order discipline up to and including removal from a meeting. Any discipline issued is subject to an appeal raised

pursuant to Rule 1.3. If a Councilmember is removed from a meeting, they may not return to participate in any other committee or Council meetings held on the same day.

REVIEW OF CITY COUNCIL RULES

Rule 33.1 Once a year, the City Council shall place an item on the Special Affairs Committee agenda for a review of these rules.

Rule 33.2 At his/her own discretion, the Council President may appoint a committee to review and offer revisions of City Council Rules.

RULES ORIGINALLY ADOPTED: MAY 10, 1976

1ST AMENDMENT ADOPTED: MAY 24, 2010

2ND AMENDMENT ADOPTED: APRIL 27, 2015

3RD AMENDMENT ADOPTED: JUNE 12, 2017

4TH AMENDMENT ADOPTED: FEBRUARY 27, 2023

5TH AMENDMENT ADOPTED: APRIL 22, 2024