



The City of Lee's Summit
Action Letter - Draft
City Council Rules Committee

Thursday, January 18, 2024

11:30 AM

Via Video Conference

Notice is hereby given that the Rules Committee of the City of Lee's Summit will meet on Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 11:30 am via video conference as provided by Section 2-50 of Ordinance No. 9172. Persons wishing to comment on any item of business on the agenda may do so by sending a request prior to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, to the City Clerk at clerk@cityofls.net to attend the meeting on the video conferencing platform. The meeting may be viewed on the City website at www.WatchLS.net, or Spectrum Channel 2, Google TV channel 143, AT&T U-Verse Channel 99 and Comcast Channel 7, for those whose cable providers carry the City of Lee's Summit meetings.

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Felker called the January 18, 2024 City Council Rules Committee to order at 11:35 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Staff in Attendance:

Brian Head

Jina Bellamy

Ryan Elam

Christal Weber

Mark Dunning

Present: 3 - Chairperson Andrew Felker
Vice Chair Hillary Shields
Councilmember Fred DeMoro

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Phyllis Edson

3. Approval of Agenda

Councilmember DeMoro made a motion to approve the City Council Rules Committee January 18, 2024 agenda. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Shields. Motion passed 3-0. (Councilmember Edson absent).

Aye: 3 - Chairperson Felker
Vice Chair Shields
Councilmember DeMoro

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Edson

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5. Business

City Council Rules Committee

Action Letter - Draft

January 18, 2024

- A. 2024-6058 Approval of the Action Letter for the October 27, 2022 City Council Rules Committee meeting.

Councilmember Shields made a motion to approve the October 27, 2022 City Council Rules Committee Action Letter. Motion was seconded by Councilmember DeMoro. Motion passed 3-0. (Councilmember Edson absent).

Aye: 3 - Chairperson Felker
Vice Chair Shields
Councilmember DeMoro

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Edson

- B. 2024-6059 Discussion of issues related to written comments received by the City on City Council agenda items.

Councilmember Felker requested this item be added to the agenda as he had some questions regarding how written public comments are distributed, presented and shared with the public.

The City Clerk explained the current process, mentioning the different ways information has been made available to citizens who wish to speak during the Public Comment section of the agenda.

Brian Head, City Attorney, mentioned some concerns regarding publishing public comments relative to quasi judicial situations that could influencing a Councilmember's decision on an issue. Staff also made the Committee aware that there is current legislation being discussed that might change the public comment process in the future.

Councilmember Edson arrived at the meeting at 12:04 p.m.

After general discussion, Consensus of the Committee was - they are fine with the current process of how public comments are received and then distributed to the Council. They directed staff to add a notation on the Agenda's when a public comment is received on an item and that it is available upon request from the City Clerk's office instead of attaching them to the Approved Action Letter and to also include a note on the Action Letter that there were public comments and how to request them. They were also open to the idea mentioned during the meeting about adding Public Information to the screens in the Council Chambers where the Public can glean information about the Public Comment process as well as community events and other housekeeping items.

Councilmember Felker also asked Staff to briefly update the Council at a future meeting on the changes that have been occurring over the past few months. Specifically regarding:

1. Written instructions for in person attendance that are expounded upon and

discussed.

2. Making instructions visually available

3. Protocol for meeting decorum and safety relative to not approaching the dais and instead giving any materials to the City Clerk.

6. Roundtable

Items discussed during Roundtable were:

1. Clarifying the City Council Rules and guidelines regarding not using public funds for campaign purposes. Currently in place is Section 12-4 - specifically dealing with not using Staff time and public funds for public forums.

The Committee discussed potential areas of concern and how things can be perceived by the public. In an effort to maintain transparency and ethical practices, the consensus was to change the date in Section 12-4 to the beginning date of candidate filings instead of February 1 each year.

2. Information that is given to candidates prior to the election.

Councilmember Shields left the meeting at 12:54 p.m.

3. On boarding newly elected officials.

The next Rules Committee Meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2024 at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom.

7. Adjournment

Chairperson DeMoro adjourned the City Council Rules Committee meeting at 1:07 p.m.

For your convenience, City Council agendas, as well as videos of City Council and Council Committee meetings, may be viewed on the City's Legislative Information Center website at "lsmo.legistar.com"