City of Eagleville

City Council Meeting

Speaker Policy

Definition of Citizen

Persons that reside inside or that own property in the city limits of Eagleville. This definition also includes elected officials which represent Eagleville at local, county or state levels, persons that work for a government agency (local, state or federal) that may have relative information to a current matter such as health updates, infrastructure updates, grant possibilities, or other such similar entities.

Citizen Input

A "Citizen Input" section is included on each agenda of a Regular Meeting of the City Council. The purpose of this agenda item is to allow citizens, as defined above, to address the Council with any topic related to the City of Eagleville. Any Citizen shall be given up to three minutes to address the Mayor and City Council, unless the time is extended by the Mayor*. Speakers will be asked to sign in for the public record. Only persons fitting the definition of "Citizen" may address the Council, unless the Mayor* finds that a person or persons has pertinent information of which the Council needs to be made aware. In order to prove that a speaker is a resident, they may be asked to state their name, address of residence and/or address of property owned in Eagleville.

Public Hearings

Occasionally the City Council will hold a Public Hearing. Only Citizens, as defined above, may address the Council during a Public Hearing. Speakers will be asked to sign in for the public record, and citizenship qualification will be determined. Any Citizen shall be given up to three minutes, unless time is extended by the Mayor*, to address the Mayor and City Council only on the matters listed for the purpose of the Public Hearing. Only persons fitting the definition of "Citizen" may address the Council, unless the Mayor* finds that a person or persons has pertinent information of which the Council needs to be made aware or has a significant stake in the matter at hand.

General Rules of Order

Any disruptive behavior by the speaker or person in attendance at the council meeting may cause the individual to be removed from the meeting.

In order for the Council to properly consider each matter brought to it by the citizens, speakers must observe the following rules:

• Anyone speaking before the Council is asked, when their name is called, to stand, first state his/her name and address for the record, and discuss the topic of interest. Only one person may speak at any one time and only the person that has been called by the Council will be allowed to speak. Speakers will be limited to three (3) minutes unless granted more time by the Mayor*.

• Speakers must address their comments to the Council as a whole rather than individual Council Members, City staff, or the audience.

• A person that addresses the Council concerning an agenda item, including a Public Hearing, must limit his/her remarks to the specific subject matter being considered by the Council under that agenda item.

• No person attending any council meeting shall delay the proceedings or refuse to obey the order of the Council.

Non-Citizen Speakers

In rare, but some cases, the Mayor* may allow for non-citizens as defined above, to speak. The Speaker must present a compelling argument as to why they should be allowed to address the Council. Such compelling arguments may include how an ordinance or resolution under consideration may have a direct impact on the person, or that the person has information that would be beneficial in the Council's decision making. Only residents or tax payers of Rutherford County may be considered to speak.

***The Council may overrule the Mayor's decision to allow or disallow a speaker or extension of time by a majority (of those members present) vote.**

Adopted By Eagleville City Council: JANUARY 27, 2022

Phillip Dye, City Recorder