

CITY OF BANNING

MANUAL OF

PROCEDURAL

GUIDELINES



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ARTICLE 1 – SCOPE OF MANUAL

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1.1 Application of Rules

This Manual (the “Manual”) shall establish the procedures for the conduct of all meetings of Banning’s City Council, Successor Agency to the Banning Community Redevelopment Agency, Housing Authority, Utility Authority, Financing Authority and other constituent governing bodies, and commissions including, but not limited to, the Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Youth Council, Historic Preservation Commission, and Budget and Finance Committee.

For avoidance of doubt, this Manual shall apply to all City bodies subject to the Brown Act, including all standing committees and commissions established by the City Council.

This Manual rescinds and supersedes all prior City Council resolutions setting forth rules of procedure for the conduct of meetings by City Legislative Bodies (defined below). Wherever there is a conflict between this Manual and any prior City resolution, the terms and rules in this Manual shall govern. Resolutions more specifically superseded by this Manual include, without limitation, the following:

- City of Banning Resolution No. 2023-34;
- City of Banning Resolution No. 2020-67;
- City of Banning Resolution No. 2013-103;
- City of Banning Resolution No. 2013-48;
- City of Banning Resolution No. 2012-83
- City of Banning Resolution No. 2004-43;
- City of Banning Resolution No. 2003-06;
- City of Banning Resolution No. 2000-41;
- City of Banning Resolution No. 1999-31;
- Banning CRA Resolution No. 2010-13; and
- Banning CRA Resolution No. 1990-04.

1.2 Definitions

The following definitions shall apply to these rules and procedures:

Agenda	The document that outlines topics to be discussed during a meeting.
Staff Report	A document prepared by City Staff containing information and a recommendation about certain action(s) by the Legislative Body.
Agenda Packet	The agenda with accompanying staff reports for each agenda item.

Legislative Body	Any quorum of any council, board, commission or standing committee (as defined in Government Code § 54952), or other governing body of the City of Banning that is subject to the Brown Act (Government Code § 54950 <i>et seq.</i>). This includes the Banning City Council, Banning Successor Agency to the former Redevelopment Agency, Banning Housing Authority Board, Banning Utility Authority, Banning Financing Authority, Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Youth Council, Historic Preservation Commission, and Budget and Finance Committee, and any standing committee subject to the Brown Act. The term “Legislative Body” does not include Non-Governing Bodies, as defined below.
Presiding Officer	The Chairperson of the Legislative Body. For example, this refers to the Mayor when read in the context of the City Council, the Board Chair in the cases of the Successor Agency to the Redevelopment Agency and/or the Housing Authority, and the Chair of any Commission.
Vice Chair	The vice chairperson to the Presiding Officer. For example, the Vice Chair means the Mayor Pro Tem in the case of the City Council, the Vice Chairperson in the cases of the Successor Agency to the former Redevelopment Agency and/or Housing Authority, and the Vice Chairperson of any Commission.
Clerk/Secretary	The person responsible for taking and maintaining the record of proceedings for all meetings, preparation of agendas, calendar clerk, and custodian of rules, resolutions, ordinances and Legislative Body records. For example, the Clerk/Secretary refers to the Administrative City Clerk in the case of the City and the Agency Secretary in the cases of the Successor Agency to the former Redevelopment Agency and/or the Housing Authority.
General Counsel	The legal advisor to the Legislative Body, such as the City Attorney in the case of a City Council meeting, or Agency Counsel in the cases of the Successor Agency to the former Redevelopment Agency and/or Housing Authority.
City Manager	The Chief Executive Officer of the City, the Successor Agency to the former Redevelopment Agency, Housing Authority, Financing Authority and Banning Utility Authority. The City Manager may serve as the Secretary to the Successor Agency or Housing Authority, and the City Manager can designate appropriate staff to serve as the Clerk/Secretary to any Commission of the City.

Non-Governing Bodies	Wholly advisory committees and bodies that are not subject to the provisions of the Brown Act.
Sub-Legislative Bodies	Such advisory committees which are subject to the Brown Act but are not “governing” Legislative Bodies.
Adjourned Meeting	A meeting that is the continuation of a regular or special meeting which deals with unfinished business of the regular or special meeting.

These rules and procedures are enacted pursuant to authority granted by Government Code Sections 36813 and 54954. The purpose of this Manual is to provide procedures for Legislative Bodies that are consistent with the Brown Act and also to establish procedures that are convenient for the public and contribute to the orderly conduct of any Legislative Body’s business. The procedures herein are in addition to, and not in place of, Rosenberg’s Rules of Order, attached hereto as Exhibit “A,” and any applicable ordinances and statutes. Rosenberg’s Rules of Order are to be used as a guideline for the Legislative Body and such use is not intended to be rigidly binding and only serves as a recommendation. Rosenberg’s Rules of Order are intended to provide for constructive and efficient conduct of meetings. In the event of conflict between this Manual and applicable ordinances or statutes, the latter shall govern. In the event that any state statute referenced herein is renumbered, the reference herein shall be deemed to refer to the successor statute dealing with the same subject matter. If there is any conflict between Rosenberg’s Rules of Order and this Manual, the provisions of this Manual shall govern.

ARTICLE 2 – MEETINGS

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2.1 General Guidelines for Conduct of Board Meetings – Rosenberg’s Rules of Order

All noticed meetings of Brown Act bodies are conducted using Rosenberg’s Rules of Order as a procedural guideline. Rosenberg’s Rules of Order are intended to provide for constructive and efficient conduct of meetings.

2.2 Regular Meetings

Unless otherwise specified by a resolution or ordinance applicable to a specific Legislative Body, the regular meetings of all Legislative Bodies shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at the time designated by the Legislative Body, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 99 East Ramsey Street, Banning, California 92220, or at such other locations as the Legislative Body may from time to time designate by resolution, in the order of adjournment, or in the notice or call of any special meeting. In the event the day of a meeting shall be a legal holiday, said meeting shall be held on the next business day.

2.3 Special Meetings

The Presiding Officer may, when he or she deems it expedient, or upon the written request of a majority of the Legislative Body, call a special meeting of the Legislative Body for the purpose of transacting the business designated in the call. The means or method for calling such special meeting shall be as set forth in the Brown Act as it now exists or may hereafter be amended. At such special meeting, no business shall be considered other than as designated in the call.

2.4 Special Emergency Meetings

A special emergency meeting may be called by the Presiding Officer or by a majority of the Legislative Body where an emergency exists:

(a) A work stoppage, terrorist act or threat, crippling disaster or other activity which severely impairs public health or safety as determined by the majority of the Legislative Body; or

(b) Such other circumstance specified by State law as authorizing the conduct of an emergency meeting. Any special emergency meeting shall be called, noticed, and conducted only in accordance with the procedures set forth in State law.

2.5 Attendance

A majority of members of the Legislative Body shall constitute a quorum. Less than a majority may adjourn from time to time and may compel the attendance of absent members. Except for City Council, any member who fails to attend any of the meetings of the Legislative Body for 60 consecutive days, unless such absences are excused, shall surrender the office, and be deemed to have surrendered the office. An absence is “excused” in non-emergency circumstances if the member provides the Clerk/Secretary with at least forty-eight (48) hours advance written notice of the member’s intended absence. In emergency circumstances, which is limited to a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending a meeting, an absence is

“excused” if the member provides written notice of the member’s intended absence as soon as possible prior to the meeting.

2.6 Workshops

The Legislative Body may meet informally in conference or “workshops” regarding concerns of the Legislative Body to interchange information, provided that all discussions and conclusions shall be informal. Such meeting shall be called in the same manner as special meetings or adjourned meetings, as applicable, and shall be subject to the Brown Act. Each notice shall indicate that an opportunity for public comment shall be provided before any matter shall be determined. When a meeting has been designated a workshop, the Legislative Body will not take any action with respect to the matter under review except with prior public notice, appearing on a properly posted agenda, of such intent to take action.

ARTICLE 3 – NOTICE & AGENDA

ARTICLE 3–NOTICE AND AGENDA

3.1 Notice and Agenda for Regular Meetings

For every regular Legislative Body meeting, the Clerk/Secretary, or their designee, shall post a notice of the meeting, specifying the time and place at which the meeting will be held, and an agenda containing a brief description of all the items of business to be discussed at the meeting as set forth herein. The notice and agenda may be combined in a single document.

The notice and agenda must be posted at least seventy-two (72) hours before the regular meeting in a location freely accessible to the public twenty-four (24) hours a day during the seventy-two (72) hour period and where the notice and agenda is not likely to be removed or obscured by other posted material. Specifically, the notice and agenda shall be posted at the place indicated below, and/or at such other location(s) as the Clerk/Secretary may designate:

CITY HALL LOBBY
CITY OF BANNING WEBSITE

3.2 Notice and Agenda for Special Meetings

For every special meeting, the Clerk/Secretary, or their designee, shall post a written notice specifying the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted must be sent to each member of the Legislative Body (unless the member has filed a written waiver of notice with the Clerk/Secretary) and to each local newspaper of general circulation, and radio or television station that has requested such notice in writing. The notice shall serve as the agenda for the special meeting and shall contain a brief description of all the items of business to be discussed at the meeting as set forth herein.

The notice for a special meeting shall be conspicuously posted at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the special meeting in a location that is freely accessible to the public twenty-four (24) hours a day and where the notice is not likely to be removed or obscured by other posted material. Specifically, the notice shall be posted at the place indicated below, and/or at such other location(s) as the Clerk/Secretary may designate:

CITY HALL LOBBY
CITY OF BANNING WEBSITE

3.3 Notice and Agenda for Adjourned Meetings

The Legislative Body may adjourn any regular, adjourned regular, special, or adjourned special meeting to a time and place specified in the order of adjournment. If a quorum is not present, less than a quorum may so adjourn. If all members are absent from any regular or adjourned regular meeting, the Clerk/Secretary may declare the meeting adjourned to a stated time and place and shall cause a written notice of the adjournment to be delivered personally to each member of the Legislative Body at least twenty-four (24) hours before the adjourned meeting. A copy of the order or notice of adjournment shall be conspicuously posted on or near the door of the place where the regular, adjourned regular, special, or adjourned special meeting was held, within twenty-four (24) hours after the time of adjournment. When a regular or adjourned regular

meeting is adjourned as provided herein, the resulting adjourned regular meeting shall be a regular meeting for all purposes. When an order of adjournment of any meeting fails to state the hour at which the adjourned meeting is to be held, it shall be held at the hour specified for regular meetings. If the subsequent meeting is conducted within five (5) days of the original meeting, matters properly placed on the agenda for the original meeting may be considered at the subsequent meeting. If the subsequent meeting is more than five (5) days from the original meeting, a new agenda must be prepared and posted pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2.

3.4 Affidavit of Posting

Immediately following the posting of the notice and agenda, the Clerk/Secretary, or their designee, shall complete an Affidavit of Posting, in a form to be developed by the Clerk/Secretary. The Affidavit of Posting shall indicate the time of the posting, the location(s) of the posting, and shall be signed under penalty of perjury. The Clerk/Secretary shall retain all such affidavits, together with a copy of each notice and agenda so posted. The affidavit, notice, and agenda shall be retained at least two (2) years subsequent to the date of posting, and pursuant to Government Code Section 34090, shall not be destroyed by the Clerk/Secretary thereafter except in accordance with the City's record retention policies.

3.5 Preparation of Agendas

Barring insurmountable difficulties, the agenda shall ordinarily be delivered to the members of the Legislative Body on Friday (as an informal deadline) preceding the meeting to which it pertains. The agenda shall also be available to the general public at the time it is delivered to the members of the Legislative Body, or in any case as required by the Brown Act.

Any Legislative Body member may have the City Manager place any business on the agenda that should be discussed under the item of the regular meeting agenda titled "New Items." Any Legislative Body member desiring to present a subject for the Legislative Body's consideration shall advise the City Manager's office of that fact not later than **12:00 noon on the Tuesday** of the week preceding the meeting at which the member wishes the subject to be considered. The matter shall then be listed on the next agenda for discussion under Item 11 (New Items) of the regular meeting agenda. The Legislative Body shall then determine whether the proposed item should be a future agenda item for discussion and deliberation by consensus. The City Manager shall advise the Legislative Body member of constraints affecting staff's ability to produce an agenda report, and when the matter should be scheduled.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the City Manager and the Mayor generally have responsibility for setting the agenda for the Legislative Body (except for any other legislative body where the responsibility may be assigned to the City Manager's designee and the Chair of the body).

3.6 Description of Matters

All items of business to be transacted or discussed at a meeting of the Legislative Body, shall be briefly described on the agenda. The description may, but need not, set out the specific action or alternatives which will be considered by the Legislative Body, but should contain sufficient detail so that a person otherwise unaware could determine the general nature or subject matter of the item by reading the agenda. The description of closed session matters shall meet the requirements of Government Code Section 54954.2 and, where applicable, Section 54954.5. Matters may be designated as “New Items” and listed for the sole purpose of determining if they will be on a future agenda.

3.7 Action Items

(a) Items may formally be adopted by an ordinance, a resolution, minute order, or other motion (thereafter recorded by minute entry). Technically, all three are equally as legally effective and binding but vary in the formality of respective memorialization. While most actions will be presented to the Legislative Body in a written form prior to, or at, the meeting, the Legislative Body may amend any proposed action as written by carried motion of the Legislative Body at the time of its presentation for adoption. If an action as written is amended by the Legislative Body, it shall be revised to reflect the Body’s amendments for later execution by the Presiding Officer.

(b) Besides ordinances and resolutions, action can be taken by motion and recorded as a minute order. A “minute order” denotes a Legislative Body action which is recorded simply by an item entered in the minutes of the meeting at which it was accomplished, and no separate document is made to memorialize it.

(c) As a general rule, a recorded majority of the quorum for a Legislative Body may take an action. However, for the City Council, resolutions, orders or the payment of money, and all ordinances require a recorded majority vote of the total membership of the City Council. Some actions, such as the passage of an urgency ordinance or adoption of a resolution of necessity to condemn property, require a super-majority vote. Under the Political Reform Act of 1974, a member with a financial conflict of interest regarding a matter before the member’s board must leave the room while that matter is being discussed, heard, or acted on, so that member cannot be counted towards the quorum for that matter.

3.8 Resolutions

(a) A “resolution” is a formal action with findings taken by the Legislative Body, generally pre-prepared in writing, designated by sequential number, and reference to which shall be inscribed in the minutes and an approved copy of each resolution filed in the official book of resolutions of the Legislative Body. Resolutions are used when specifically required by law, when needed as a separate evidentiary document to demonstrate findings or to be transmitted to another governmental agency, or where the frequency of future reference back to its contents warrants a separate document (with the additional “whereas” explanatory material it often recites) to facilitate such future reference and research.

(b) A resolution may be adopted at the same meeting it is presented. Where a resolution has been prepared in advance, the procedure shall be: motion, second, discussion, vote pursuant to methods prescribed in Article 10, and result declared. It shall not be necessary to read a resolution in full or by title except to identify it.

(c) Where a resolution cannot reasonably be prepared in advance of a meeting, the Legislative Body may instruct the City Manager or the General Counsel to prepare a resolution for presentation at the next Legislative Body meeting. Where urgent, a resolution may be presented verbally in motion form together with instructions for written preparation for later execution. After the resolution has been verbally stated, the voting procedure in Article 10, shall be followed.

3.9 Ordinances (City Council Only)

(a) The City Council is the only Legislative Body empowered to amend the Banning Municipal Code by adoption of ordinances.

(b) Ordinances, other than urgency ordinances, require at least two readings at different meetings held at least five days apart with the first reading considered to be introduction of the ordinance and the second adoption.

(c) A waiver of further readings requires a majority vote of the Council members present and voting. The waiver of further reading may be accomplished by one vote for all ordinances presented on the agenda of the present meeting. Government Code Section 36934.

(d) The Clerk/Secretary shall prepare copies of all proposed ordinances for distribution to all members of the City Council at the meeting at which the ordinance is introduced, or at such earlier time as is expedient. Ordinances shall be numbered and kept by the Clerk/Secretary with the same formality as resolutions as described above in Section 3.8.

(e) An urgency ordinance is an ordinance adopted for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, containing a declaration of facts constituting the urgency. An urgency ordinance takes effect immediately and requires a four-fifths vote of the City Council for passage pursuant to Government Code Section 36937.

3.10 Agreements

When any agreement is to be considered by the Legislative Body, the complete agreement, if complete in form for execution, shall be made a part of the agenda package presented to the Legislative Body and shall be made available for viewing by the public within the time frames required under the Brown Act and/or the California Public Records Act (Government Code Sections 7920.000 *et seq.*). The Legislative Body may choose to leave the final form of the contract to the discretion of General Counsel if the Legislative Body has determined the general conditions of the contract.

3.11 Limitation of Actions by Agenda

No action or discussion shall be taken by the Legislative Body, on any item not appearing on a posted agenda, subject only to the exceptions listed in Section 3.13 below. “Action taken” as used herein shall mean a collective decision made by a majority of the Legislative Body, a collective commitment or promise by a majority of the Legislative Body to make a positive or a negative decision, or an actual vote by a majority of the Legislative Body upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance.

3.12 Public Comment Period

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3, every agenda posted for any meeting shall contain an item entitled “Public Comment” in order to provide for an opportunity for the public to address the Legislative Body on items of interest to the public within the Legislative Body’s subject matter jurisdiction. The public comment period should be conducted in accordance with Article 6.

3.13 Exceptions to Agenda Requirement for Action Taken

The Legislative Body may take action at a meeting on an item not appearing on the agenda for that meeting only under one of the following circumstances:

(a) Upon a majority determination that an “emergency situation” exists that is either (i) a work stoppage, crippling activity, or other activity that severely impairs public health, safety, or both, or (ii) a dire crippling disaster, mass destruction, terrorist act, or threatened terrorist activity that poses peril so immediate and significant that requiring a Legislative Body to provide one-hour notice before holding an emergency meeting may endanger the public health, safety, or both. All discussion of such emergencies must be in open session.

(b) Upon a determination by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Legislative Body, or if less than two-thirds (2/3) of the Legislative Body are present by a unanimous vote of those members present, that the need to take action arose subsequent to the agenda posting. For the purposes of this subsection, the term “need to take action” shall mean those circumstances whose occurrence creates a situation which is materially different from that which existed at the time the agenda was posted, and which requires the immediate attention of the Legislative Body. The mere failure of any person to notify the Legislative Body or staff of a pre-existing situation requiring Legislative Body attention until after the time for the posting of the agenda shall not be deemed to constitute a “need to take action” hereunder. If the Legislative Body makes a determination pursuant to this subsection, the minutes of the meeting at which the determination is made shall reflect what circumstances gave rise to the “need to take action” and why the item could not be placed on the agenda.

3.14 Minutes and Recordings

(a) An account of the actions taken in all proceedings of the Legislative Body in open meetings shall be kept by the Clerk/Secretary. The Clerk/Secretary shall prepare a record of the actions taken by the Legislative Body during open meetings, which when adopted by the Legislative Body shall be the official Minutes of the meeting. Amendment of the Minutes may be

made only as to factual accuracy of the actions taken and not as to a change of intent. The Minutes of the meeting shall not be verbatim but rather shall be summary minutes. Only the best and most complete available audio recording of the meeting shall constitute the official record of the Legislative Body, but the Minutes shall constitute the official record of the Legislative Body meeting where a verbatim audio record of the meeting is not available.

(b) Any recording of a meeting made by or at the direction of the Legislative Body is a public record that must be retained and made available to the public in accordance with the Public Records Act. The Legislative Body must provide to the public, without charge, equipment to review the recording.

ARTICLE 4 – CLOSED SESSIONS

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4.1 Generally

The Legislative Body may hold closed sessions during a regular or special meeting, or at any time otherwise authorized by law, to consider or hear any matter which it is authorized by State law to hear or consider in closed session. Public comment shall be permitted on closed session matters prior to the closed session. If a closed session is included on the agenda, the description of the item shall meet the requirements of and shall identify the statutory basis for the closed session. During closed session, the Legislative Body shall exclude all persons which it is authorized by State law to exclude from a closed session. There shall be no closed session during any special emergency meeting. Closed session may not be held regarding a matter not listed on a properly posted agenda for closed session except upon the Legislative Body first taking action to place the item on the agenda as a closed session item as permitted by law.

4.2 Persons Authorized

Persons present in the closed session shall be only those persons necessary to the discussion of the matter under consideration. All other persons shall be excused. The Council may request the Clerk/Secretary to attend closed session of the Legislative Body and may direct the Clerk/Secretary to enter into a minute book a record of any reportable decisions made at the meeting

4.3 Confidentiality

The minute book for any closed session is not a public record and shall be kept confidential and shall be available only to members of the Legislative Body or as otherwise provided by law. (Government Code § 54957.2(a).) No person attending a closed session shall publicly discuss or otherwise reveal the proceedings in the closed session unless such publication has been approved by the vote of the Legislative Body taken during the closed session or as otherwise required by law. Violation of this rule shall subject the violator to censure by the Legislative Body as provided in Section 9.5 herein.

4.4 Public Reports

Before recessing into closed session, the Presiding Officer or General Counsel shall announce that the Body is recessing into closed session and shall name each closed session topic that will be discussed in closed session.

Upon leaving closed session, the Presiding Officer or General Counsel shall report publicly any reportable actions taken on a closed session matter and, if any vote was taken, shall announce that the matter was put to a vote, the results of the vote, and how each Legislative Body member voted.

ARTICLE 5 – ORDER OF BUSINESS

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5.1 Order of Business

The order of business of each meeting shall be as contained in the agenda prepared by the Clerk/Secretary unless the majority of the Legislative Body members consent to take items out of order. The order of business at meetings of the Legislative Body may be as follows, in accordance with the procedures specified below:

1. Call Meeting to Order.
 - Pledge of Allegiance
 - Roll Call
2. Agenda Approval.
3. Presentations.
4. Closed Session Report, if applicable.
5. Public Comments, Correspondence, Appointments, and Reports.
6. Consent Items. (See Section 5.3 below.)
7. Public Hearings.
8. Reports of Officers.
9. Discussion Items.
10. Announcements from Legislative Body Members.
11. Items for Future Agendas (New Items; Existing Items).
12. Adjournment.

5.2 Call to Order

The meeting of the Legislative Body shall be called to order by the Presiding Officer, or the Vice-Chair in the Presiding Officer's absence. In the absence of both the Presiding Officer and Vice Chair, the meeting shall be called to order by the Clerk/Secretary and the three Legislative Body members present shall elect by majority vote a Presiding Officer for that meeting.

5.3 Consent Items

Matters of a routine or generally uncontested nature and non-controversial, shall be placed on the agenda as Consent Items and may be approved by the Legislative Body in a single motion by adoption of the Consent Calendar. Matters of a routine or generally uncontested nature and non-controversial may include a matter where the City Manager believes (i) the matter would most likely be unanimously approved by the Legislative Body, or (ii) there is not likely to be public comment on the matter, or (iii) a public presentation of the matter would not be particularly beneficial to the community or public interest. The approval of the Consent Calendar shall signify the approval of each matter or recommendation included therein. All matters on the Consent Calendar shall be the subject to public comment procedures in Article 6. Upon the request of any member of the Legislative Body or upon the request of a member of the public made through the Presiding Officer, a matter may be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion and/or action. Any such item shall be considered as part of the Excluded Consent Calendar. Each matter proposed for consideration as part of the Consent Items, including any recommended action, shall be described on the notice and agenda posted for the meeting. Ordinances shall not be

placed on the Consent Calendar for approval unless the ordinance has first been read or the reading of the ordinance has been waived as required by law.

5.4 City Representatives and Advisory Bodies (City Council Only)

(a) From time to time the Council may be required to assign a representative of the City to non-City boards, commissions, or organizations (e.g., boards or commissions of another agency or joint powers authority). Except as otherwise required by law or by the policies of the non-City organization, the Mayor shall make all such appointments of City representatives on non-City organizations after consultation with the City Council. Council appointments to non-City organizations shall be considered and made with the goal of keeping the appointee in the organization for a long enough period of time that the appointee may gain seniority and/or a position of leadership within the organization. This goal shall be construed to mean that the same appointee should remain within a non-City organization for at least two years where reasonably possible and convenient for said appointee. Nothing herein, however, shall be construed to limit or waive the City Council's power to remove appointees pursuant to subsection (c) below.

(b) The City Council shall have the power to establish advisory committees, commissions, other Legislative Bodies and Non-Governing Bodies. Any committee which is (i) established by ordinance, resolution, or other formal action, (ii) has a fixed regular meeting schedule, (iii) has continuing subject matter jurisdiction over a non-temporary issue, (iv) which continues to conduct business in excess of 180 days, or (v) has a majority membership of officials from other Legislative Bodies, shall be subject to the provisions of the Brown Act.

Advisory bodies and committees may take the following form:

i) The Council may, as the need arises, authorize the appointment of "ad hoc" Council committees composed of two members. Except where otherwise specifically provided by law, the Presiding Officer shall appoint the members of the Council committees, subject to the approval of the Council. Any committee so created shall cease to exist upon the accomplishment of the special purpose for which it was created or when abolished by a majority vote of the Council.

ii) The Council may, subject to the Brown Act, create other committees, boards, and commissions, whether Legislative Bodies or Non-Governing Bodies, to assist in the conduct and operation of the City government with such jurisdiction and duties as the Council may specify. Except as otherwise required by law, the Mayor shall make appointments of members to such committees, boards, or commissions subject to the approval of the Council. The procedure of filling vacancies and provision of notice thereof shall be subject to the provisions of the Maddy Act (Government Code, Sections 54970-54974).

iii) Sub-Legislative Bodies, including Non-Governing Bodies, shall be responsible for reporting the Body's activities to the City Council. The members of a Sub-Legislative Body or Non-Governing Body shall operate within the jurisdiction established by the Council and shall not have authority to make subcommittees unless specifically granted such authority by action of the City Council. Staff members may be assigned to assist any Council-created committee by the City Manager; staff members so assigned shall not be members of the committee unless specifically appointed as such by action of the Council.

(c) Absent any other provision to the contrary, members of any non-City organization, or City committees, boards or commissions may be removed by the Council without cause by a majority vote of the City Council. Any member of the City Council may place the question of such removal on the agenda. Any committees, boards, or commissions so created may be abolished by a majority vote of the City Council by repeal of the enacting ordinance or resolution.

5.5 Budgets

The City Council shall have the power to approve the City budget, and each Legislative Body shall have the power to approve the budget of funds specifically apportioned to control of that Legislative Body (e.g., the Successor Agency Board shall approve the budget of the Agency and the Housing Authority Board shall approve the budget of the Authority). Approval of the budget constitutes approval of a proposed plan of expenditures and revenues. It does not constitute an authorization for expenditure. With respect to any given expenditure the applicable procedure shall be followed. Adoption of the budget does not, unless otherwise specified by resolution, constitute authorization for any specific employment class or position.

5.6 Items from Members, the City Manager, and the City Treasurer

(a) There is a specific item on the agenda - “Announcements from Legislative Body Members” - for receiving general comments, announcements, and/or suggestions from members of the Legislative Body. This can be used to inform the public concerning upcoming events, report on members’ attendance at conferences and seminars, and for requests by members that staff look into specific matters. Legislative Body members shall report at this time on any conferences, seminars or other events they attended and for which they received compensation or reimbursement from the City. Such report should include the dates of attendance, and a brief description of the subject matter of topics covered at the events. These matters may not be discussed among the Legislative Body members, opined upon, or deliberated, and if they do not concern a matter on the agenda, shall be handled by the Presiding Officer according to the same procedures set out for Public Comment in Section 6.2. No action may be taken on such matters without being placed on a subsequent agenda.

(b) There is an agenda item referred to as “New Items.” Matters are listed under this item pursuant to Section 3.5 where a member has asked that the matter be scheduled for discussion of whether a future staff report should be prepared. The listing of the matter allows a discussion of whether a staff report should be prepared, or it may be held in the “Existing Items” section of the agenda to keep track of if the City Council determines that a staff report should be prepared for a future agenda.

(c) There is an agenda item referred to as “City Manager’s Report.” This may be used by the City Manager similarly to the item for members of the Legislative Body in Subsection (a) above to make announcements without separately listing the matter on the agenda, and subject to the same restriction that there may be no discussion or action on such matter.

(d) There is an agenda item referred to as “City Treasurer’s Report.” The City Treasurer shall attend the meetings of the Legislative Body, unless excused. The City Treasurer may report on (i) the activities of the Budget and Finance Committee, and (ii) the duties of the City Treasurer as imposed under State law, except such duties otherwise delegated by the City Council to the City Clerk or the Administrative Services Director.

(e) There is an agenda item referred to as “City Council Committee Reports.” Under this agenda item, City Council members may report on meetings of committees that City Council members are assigned to attend by the Council.

ARTICLE 6 – PUBLIC COMMENT AND PRESENTATIONS

ARTICLE 6– PUBLIC COMMENT AND PRESENTATIONS

6.1 City Council Meeting Presentations

City Council presentations are for providing information to the Mayor and Council, City management, and the community about activities of interest and value, including activities, events and infrastructure projects relating to the City, honors and celebrations for organizations, corporations and residents which reflect their service to the Banning community, honors, and recognitions for City staff for outstanding service or commitment to the City’s mission and goals. **Please Note:** This is not the appropriate time to seek funds from the City and/or endorsements from City Council or discuss politics.

All presentations are to be no more than five minutes in length, including all speakers for the group being recognized. Please see the attached “Exhibit B” for a complete copy of the Banning City Council Meeting Presentation Policy contained and incorporated as an exhibit to this Manual.

6.2 Public Comment

At the beginning of any Legislative Body meeting, the public shall be afforded the right to comment on any and all issues (not on the agenda) within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Legislative Body. Such general public comment on non-agendized issues shall be taken at the beginning of the meeting under a “Public Comments” heading. Each speaker will be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes to provide comments on non-agendized issues. With regard to matters not on the agenda, the Legislative Body may ask questions of persons who raise new matters during the Public Comment period or otherwise. However, all Legislative Body questions must be limited to facts-only informational inquiries, and the Legislative Body may not discuss the merits, express any opinions, or ask questions that convey opinions or thought processes with respect to any non-agendized issue. The public shall also be afforded the right to comment on every item appearing on the agenda prior to the Legislative Body’s consideration of that item, as provided in Section 6.5 below.

6.3 Time Limitations

The time limit to speak for public comments is five (5) minutes during a noticed public hearing and to provide comments on all other agendized items, provided that these limits do not apply to a project applicant speaking at a public hearing pursuant to Article 7. All such time limits shall be noticed on the agenda for the meeting. Notwithstanding these time limits, the Presiding Officer has the full prerogative to maintain meeting order and decorum as provided in Section 9.1 and Article 9 generally, and the Presiding Officer may reasonably reduce the time if there are a significant number of speakers or extend time if he/she finds such extension is reasonably necessary to allow the speaker to complete his/her message without repetition or unnecessary tangents.

6.4 Reserved

(a) Additional Procedures for Public Comment on Agenda Items. Members of the public shall have the opportunity to address the Legislative Body on each and every item listed on the agenda. Public comment on agenda items must be heard prior to the Legislative Body's consideration/discussion of the item. Public comments on an agenda item may be heard either in combination with the Public Comment period at the start of the meeting, or at the time the Legislative Body opens the item, or both, as determined by the Legislative Body and set forth in the agenda.

(b) The purpose of the public comment period is to receive input from the public, not to create a debate between the Members and the public. Members should generally refrain from debating members of the public during the period for public comment, but if Members desire to clarify comments by members of the public, they may ask factual questions, and if necessary, should do so during the public comment period.

(c) The Presiding Officer should clearly open and close the public comment period. After the close of the public comment period or after a motion has been made, no member of the public shall address the Legislative Body without first securing permission of the Presiding Officer.

ARTICLE 7 – NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS

ARTICLE 7– NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS

7.1 Public Hearings; Notice; Fairness

(a) Matters noticed to be heard by the Legislative Body shall commence at the time specified in the notice of hearing, or as soon thereafter as is reasonably possible, and shall continue until the same has been completed or until other disposition of the matter has been made.

(b) Legislative Body members shall not overtly or implicitly promise a particular action by City staff or by any Legislative Body. Where a Legislative Body member is contacted about an issue that will be presented to any Legislative Body of the City, it is appropriate to give a brief overview of City policy, to refer to City staff for further information, or to suggest that the concern be brought to the whole Council at the hearing or Council meeting, as appropriate.

(c) All public hearing notices shall be issued and published in compliance with any statutory notice requirements applicable to the particular hearing at issue and such notice shall inform interested persons of the statute of limitations to challenge the validity any action taken Legislative Body on such matter.

(d) Although every Legislative Body member has a right to their own personal opinions, Legislative Body members should by their demeanor show an ability to listen to a variety of viewpoints and demonstrate a reasonable willingness to consider all sides of an issue before them. For quasi-adjudicative matters involving public hearings, the members of the Legislative Body shall not prejudice the matter prior to the public hearing, shall be fair and impartial, and shall decide the matter based upon the evidence and the statutorily required findings.

(e) For such matters, Legislative Body members should avoid expressing an opinion or divulging their thought process until after the public hearing has been completed.

7.2 Continuance of Hearings

(a) Any hearing being held or noticed or ordered to be held by the Legislative Body may, by order or notice of continuance, be continued, or re-continued to any subsequent meeting in the manner provided for adjourned meetings.

(b) When it is the decision of the Legislative Body to continue an item, which appears on the agenda, prior to hearing any report, testimony or taking evidence on the item, the Legislative Body may make such intent known at the beginning of the meeting. At that time, the public shall be offered the opportunity to speak regarding the intent to continue the item. At the time regularly scheduled for the hearing of the item, the Legislative Body shall then take action to continue the item after again informing the public of the intent to continue the matter. No testimony or evidence shall be taken at that time unless the speaker will not be available at the continued hearing date. When the Legislative Body has continued the public hearing on an item after its commencement, persons testifying at the first public hearing may be permitted by the Presiding Office to again address the Legislative Body on the item at the renewed hearing, provided the testimony is not redundant.

(c) Continuances of a public hearing to a date certain need not be re-noticed unless (i) the hearing has not been continued to a date certain, or (ii) has been continued three or more times and the Presiding Officer believe confusion may be created as to the time of the hearing.

7.3 Conduct of Hearings

(a) When a matter for public hearing comes before the Legislative Body, the Presiding Officer shall request that staff present the staff report and any other relevant evidence, but the presentation of the staff report prior to the formal opening of the public hearing shall not prevent its consideration as evidence. Any such evidence shall be made a part of the record of the public hearing. The Presiding Officer shall permit members of the Legislative Body to ask questions of staff but should prevent expressions of opinion by members of the Legislative Body before the conduct of the hearing.

(b) The Presiding Officer shall thereafter open the public hearing and inquire if there are any persons present who desire to address the Legislative Body on the matter. Any person desiring to speak or present evidence upon being recognized, may speak or present evidence relevant to the matter being heard. Any testimony shall be truthful.

(c) Members of the Legislative Body who wish to ask questions of the speakers, during the public hearing portion, may do so but should be mindful that the purpose of the public hearing is to obtain testimony and evidence from the speakers, and not to debate the merits of the matter with speakers. Members should avoid debate and expressions of personal opinion until after the close of the public hearing. Unlike public comment periods, generally there should be no response to speaker comments until after the close of the hearing. The Presiding Officer shall conduct the hearing in such a manner as to afford due process to all affected persons.

(d) All persons interested in the matter being heard by the Legislative Body shall be entitled to submit written evidence or remarks, as well as other graphic evidence. All such evidence presented shall be retained by the Clerk/Secretary as part of the record. Each speaker may only speak once during the public hearing unless the Legislative Body requests additional clarification later in the process.

(e) Upon closing of the public hearing by the Presiding Officer, no additional public testimony shall be solicited or received by the Legislative Body without reopening the public hearing. If, however, the Legislative Body receives relevant new evidence after the close of the public hearing and such new evidence may impact the Legislative Body motion or vote, the Legislative Body may re-open the public hearing to obtain public comments upon such new evidence.

(f) The Presiding Officer has the prerogative to establish special rules, such as to require group spokesmen, to limit the number of speakers, to limit the total time for testimony, to allow speakers to give time to others, or otherwise control the hearing, provided that (i) speakers are treated fairly, and that (ii) any such special rules are announced in advance of their application. The Presiding Officer always retains the prerogative to cut off speakers who are unduly repetitious, and to permit the extension of time to speakers.

7.4 Extra-Meeting Contacts on Matters Set for Public Hearing

- (a) Legislative Body members should minimize their contacts with, applicants, or other persons who will be the subject of a quasi-adjudicative public hearing matter to be heard before the Legislative Body. Legislative Body members should avoid extra-meeting contacts with persons who will be the subject of a public hearing before the Body or with advocacy groups or special interests.
- (b) If a Legislative Body member is contacted directly by such person outside the meeting setting, the member shall refrain from expressing any viewpoints or thought processes to the person until after the public hearing. The Legislative Body member may explain that they are unable to express any viewpoint on the matter until all evidence has been heard in the course of a public hearing and should encourage any such person to present their position in writing or orally at the public hearing.
- (c) At the commencement of the public hearing, the Legislative Body member must disclose publicly any extra-meeting contacts or discussions had which may be relevant to the decision.
- (d) The limitations set forth in this Section shall not be read as preventing a Legislative Body member from inspecting a site that will be relevant to a public hearing, although such sight inspection should be disclosed on the record at the beginning of the public hearing.

ARTICLE 8 – MEETING OFFICERS

ARTICLE 8 - MEETING OFFICERS

8.1 Presiding Officer

(a) The meeting shall be presided over and chaired by the Presiding Officer, or, in the Presiding Officer's absence, the Vice Chair. The Presiding Officer shall have the authority to rule any speaker out of order, including speakers during the public comment period if the subject raised is not within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Legislative Body, or during a public hearing if the speaker is not presenting testimony or evidence relevant to the matter which is the subject of the public hearing. The Presiding Officer shall have the responsibility for the conduct of meetings in an orderly manner and to prevent the obstruction of business, and in carrying out this responsibility shall have the authority to give the floor to any member of the Legislative Body or the public by recognizing them, to prevent the misuse of legitimate forms of motions or privileges, to take matters up out of order, to caution speakers as to disruptive behavior, and to order any persons willfully interrupting the meeting to be removed from the room, including as provided in Article 9.

(b) The Vice Chair shall generally take the place of the Presiding Officer in the absence of the Presiding Officer. In the absence of the Vice Chair, the Presiding Officer may call any other member to take his or her place as Presiding Officer; such substitution not to continue beyond adjournment.

(c) Any determination made by the Presiding Officer may be appealed by the making of a Motion to Appeal the Ruling by any other member of the Legislative Body. The Presiding Officer's determination will stand unless a majority of the Legislative Body members vote in favor of the Motion to Appeal the Ruling, in which case the ruling of the Presiding Officer will be overridden. The Motion to Appeal the Ruling is governed by the Rosenberg's Rules of Order attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

8.2 Representation of Legislative Body

(a) The Mayor is the designated representative of the City and the City Council for purposes of presenting and expressing the official City position on an issue. If individual members of the Council or other Legislative Bodies are contacted by the media for a statement of official City position, the member should refer such inquiries to the Mayor. Otherwise, public or media statements by a Legislative Body member should be clearly characterized as comments upon a personal viewpoint.

(b) Members of the City Council may use official City letterhead to correspond with other public officials and with consultants, but any such correspondence shall state that the views expressed therein are personal and not the position of the City unless the City Council has officially adopted such position. No other Legislative Body may take a position officially representing the City unless authorized to do so by the City Council.

8.3 Email and Social Media Policy

(a) Members of the Legislative Body are provided with City email accounts which may be utilized for the conduct of City business, including communications with constituents.

Members should be aware that all such communications may be subject to the Public Records Act (Government' Code Section 7920.000 *et seq.*). The use of private email accounts for City business may also make them subject to disclosure.

(b) Members of the Legislative Body are subject to the Brown Act in the use of email and social media.

(c) Email communications may not be used to develop a collective consensus or decision on any matter. Email communications to the entire Body should be avoided but may be permitted to provide factual information, such as arranging an event, where no discussion or exchange of opinions on a matter within the jurisdiction of the Legislative Body is initiated or occurs.

(d) Members of the Legislative Body may engage in separate conversations or communications on an internet-based social media platform to answer questions, provide information to the public, or to solicit information from the public regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Legislative Body. A majority of the Legislative Body members shall not use any internet-based social media platform to discuss among themselves business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Legislative Body. A Legislative Body member shall not respond directly to any communication on an internet-based social media platform regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Legislative Body that is made, posted, or shared by any other member of the Legislative Body.

8.4 Clerk/Secretary

The Clerk/Secretary, or their deputy, shall attend all meetings of the Legislative Body unless excused and shall keep the official minutes and perform such other duties as may be requested by the Legislative Body.

8.5 City Manager

(a) The City Manager, or designee, shall attend all meetings of the Legislative Body unless excused. The City Manager may make recommendations to the Legislative Body and shall have the right to take part in all discussions of the Legislative Body but shall have no vote. The City Manager shall provide the Legislative Body with a staff report providing sufficient information to be the basis for any action by the Legislative Body at its meeting. Any officer or employee of the City, when directed by the City Manager, shall attend any meeting of the Legislative Body, and may present information relating to matters before the Legislative Body.

(b) The City operates under the city manager form of government (Government Code Section 34851 *et seq.*). The City Manager has the power to: (i) administer the day-to-day affairs of the City; (ii) hire and fire City employees (except the City Attorney); and (iii) perform such other functions as the City Council chooses to authorize by ordinance. The City Manager shall carry out the City Council's policy direction through the day-to-day management of City functions.

8.6 General Counsel

(a) The General Counsel, or deputy, shall attend all meetings of the City Council unless excused and shall upon request of any member give an opinion, either written or oral, on questions of law. The General Counsel, or deputy, shall attend all meetings of such other Legislative Bodies as directed by the City Council or City Manager. The General Counsel serves as advisory parliamentarian for the City and is available to answer questions or interpret situations according to parliamentary procedures. Final rulings on parliamentary procedure are made by the Presiding Officer, subject to the appeal of the full Legislative Body pursuant to Section 8.1 above. All ordinances and resolutions, all contracts, deeds, and easements or other legal instruments shall be approved as to form by the General Counsel. Agreements may be approved as to form by the General Counsel when exceeding purchasing ordinance and policy guidelines. In any case of ambiguity or uncertainty in the interpretation or application of this Manual to any procedure, the Presiding Officer may direct such question to the General Counsel for a ruling.

(b) Any member of the Legislative Body may request from the General Counsel a legal opinion regarding any matter related to the interests of the City. Where a legal opinion involves substantial cost, the request for the opinion must first be approved by the City Manager or by a majority of the Legislative Body. The General Counsel is the legal representative of the City acting through its Legislative Body. There is a continuing legal question as to whether the General Counsel may have an attorney-client relationship with any individual member of the Legislative Body or the City staff. As a consequence, any discussion with the General Counsel which leads to the conclusion that the interests of the City are at risk must be revealed to all relevant members of the Legislative Body and the City staff by the General Counsel. The General Counsel shall not have an attorney-client relationship with individual Council members. The General Counsel is required to maintain the confidentiality of such communications from persons outside the City to the extent required or permitted by law and the code of ethics.

(c) The General Counsel has no statutory duty or authority under the Political Reform Act to provide Political Reform Act advice to any Legislative Body member but should provide advice to members when requested. However, a Legislative Body member may not rely on advice from the General Counsel to provide him or her with immunity from FPPC enforcement or prosecution. Such immunity may be obtained only through a written advice letter obtained from the FPPC, on the question in issue, by the Legislative Body member. A Legislative Body member enjoys no privilege of attorney/client confidentiality in reviewing these matters with the General Counsel. Any advice given to an individual member of a Legislative Body cannot be withheld from the rest of the City or Legislative Body. If, after receipt of an opinion of the General Counsel, the Legislative Body member wishes to participate in the decision-making process with immunity from prosecution or enforcement, the General Counsel shall assist the Legislative Body member in making direct contact with the FPPC for informal or formal advice upon which the Legislative Body member can rely.

(d) *[City Council Only]*. It often happens that other jurisdictions or the League of California Cities or other regional or statewide association will ask the City to participate in the filing of a letter or brief before a court in a matter deemed to be of concern to all or a great many cities. These “friend of the court” or “amicus” briefs have the effect of informing the court how widespread will be its opinion and how that opinion will affect cities. Such participation is

normally without direct cost to the City. In considering whether to direct General Counsel to file an amicus brief, the City Council shall consider whether such brief would represent or propose a position that conflicts with, or causes strife amongst, other City- related interests such as, without limitation, the interests of employee organizations, law enforcement or public safety.

i) Upon receipt of the request, the General Counsel shall make the request available through the City Manager to the Council. Upon a determination by any Council member that there is an interest in participating in the action in the manner proposed, the Council member shall inform the City Manager or General Counsel who shall place the matter as an item for discussion in closed session on the agenda of the next Legislative Body meeting. The General Counsel may otherwise place an amicus request on the agenda on his or her initiative.

ii) In lieu of the foregoing process, where there is urgency to the matter, General Counsel is authorized to undertake the filing of the letter or brief where (i) in the opinion of General Counsel the legal matter significantly affects the interests of the City, (ii) the General Counsel has consulted with and received the approval of the City Manager, (iii) the cost to the City will not exceed \$5,000, and (iv) the General Counsel makes a written report of the action to the Legislative Body.

iii) Approval given to the General Counsel to defend, or seek or refrain from seeking, appellate review or relief, or to enter as an amicus curiae in any form of litigation as the result of a closed session consultation shall be reported in open session at the public meeting during which the closed session is held. The report shall identify, if known, the adverse party or parties and the substance of the litigation. In the case of approval given to initiate or intervene in an action, the announcement need not identify the action, the defendants, or other particulars, but shall specify that the direction to initiate or intervene in an action has been given and that the action, the defendants, and the other particulars shall, once formally commenced, be disclosed to any person upon inquiry, unless to do so would jeopardize the agency's ability to effectuate service of process on one or more unserved parties, or that to do so would jeopardize its ability to conclude existing settlement negotiations to its advantage.

8.7 Conflicts of Interest

All Legislative Body members are subject to the provisions of California Law, such as Chapter 1, Title 9, of the California Government Code, relative to conflicts of interest, and to conflicts of interest codes adopted by the Legislative Body. Any Legislative Body member prevented from voting because of a conflict of interest shall refrain from in any way participating in the matter giving rise to the conflict. Where abstention from a matter is made on the basis of a conflict of interest arising from a financial interest in the decision, the Legislative Body member shall announce their abstention from the matter when it is first opened, and then shall set forth the reason for the abstention with the degree of specificity at least equal to the disclosure of the Legislative Body member's financial interests on the Legislative Body member's annual statement of financial interests; immediately after such announcements, the Legislative Body member shall leave the room. The Legislative Body member shall not overhear the staff report, participate in the discussion or deliberations, and shall not otherwise make or participate in making the decision or in any way attempt to use his or her official position to influence the decision. This shall not prevent the conflicted Legislative Body member from coming before the Legislative Body solely

during the public comment period as an affected citizen to state his/her opinion on how the matter impacts their disqualifying interests.

8.8 Reserved

8.9 No Financial Interest in Agreements

A member of a Legislative Body shall not have a financial interest in an agreement within the meaning of (Government Code Section 1090 *et seq.*) made in their official capacity. An agreement in which a Legislative Body member has a financial interest shall be null and void whether the member participates in the making of the contract or not, unless a remote or non-interest exception applies under Government Code Sections 1091 or 1091.5.

8.10 Ethical Standards

A member of a Legislative Body shall maintain the highest ethical standards and shall adhere to all laws and the ordinances and regulations of the City in carrying out their duties.

8.11 Confidential Information

No Legislative Body member may disclose confidential information to any unauthorized person. A violation of this rule shall subject the violator to censure by the Legislative Body as provided in Section 9.5 herein.

ARTICLE 9 – DECORUM AND ORDER

ARTICLE 9– DECORUM AND ORDER

9.1 Decorum and Order – Legislative Body Members

(a) Any member of the Legislative Body wishing to speak, or any member of the public wishing to address the Legislative Body must first obtain the floor by being recognized by the Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer must recognize any member of the Legislative Body who seeks the floor when appropriately entitled to address the Legislative Body. The Legislative Body member shall confine himself or herself to the question under debate.

(b) Any member of the Legislative Body, including the Presiding Officer, may bring a matter of business properly before the Legislative Body for decision by making a motion. Any Legislative Body member, including the Presiding Officer, except the Legislative Body member making the motion, may second a motion. Once a motion is seconded, it may be opened for discussion and debate.

(c) The Presiding Officer shall determine all points of order, subject to the right of any member to appeal to the majority Legislative Body.

(d) A Legislative Body member, once recognized, shall not be interrupted while speaking unless called to order by the Presiding Officer, unless a Point of Order is raised by another Legislative Body member, or unless the speaker chooses to yield to questions from another Legislative Body member.

(e) Any Legislative Body member called to order while speaking shall cease speaking immediately until the question of order is determined. If ruled to be in order, the member shall be permitted to proceed. If ruled to be not in order, the member shall comply with ruling of the Presiding Officer.

(f) Legislative Body members shall accord the utmost courtesy to each other, to City or Legislative Body employees, and to the public appearing before the Legislative Body and shall refrain at all times from rude and derogatory remarks, reflections as to integrity, abusive comments, and statements as to motives and personalities, which disrupt, disturb, or otherwise impede the orderly conduct of the Legislative Body meeting.

(g) Any Legislative Body member may move to require the Presiding Officer to enforce the rules and the affirmative vote of a majority of the Legislative Body shall require the member to so act.

(h) The members of the Legislative Body shall not engage in communications during the Legislative Body meeting (including breaks) regarding matters being considered on the agenda unless and until the Legislative Body has opened that agenda item. In order to minimize exposure to a Brown Act violation, Legislative Body members are discouraged from discussing any City business during breaks or before and after meetings; City business may only be discussed by a quorum of Legislative Body members when it is opened as a duly noticed agenda item.

(i) The members of the Legislative Body shall always be attentive and show respect to those addressing the Legislative Body provided that nothing shall prevent the enforcement of the

rules of decorum herein.

(j) No Legislative Body member attending a meeting of another Legislative Body shall make any statement or, give the appearance or indicate in any way that they are representing the Legislative Body unless they have been authorized to do so by the Legislative Body. When making a comment at such a meeting, the Legislative Body member should make it clear that they are speaking solely as an individual. Unless officially appointed to participate on a committee, Legislative Body members should make an effort not to insert themselves into or take positions on matters which will ultimately be decided upon by the Legislative Body.

(k) The Legislative Body may punish its own members for misconduct pursuant to Section 9.5.

9.2 Decorum and Order – Employees

(a) Members of administrative staff and employees of the Legislative Body shall observe the same rules of procedure and decorum applicable to Legislative Body members. The City Manager shall ensure that all staff and employees observe such decorum. Any staff members, including the City Manager, desiring to address the Legislative Body or members of the public shall first be recognized by the Presiding Officer. All remarks shall be addressed to the Presiding Officer and not to any individual Legislative Body member or member of the public.

(b) Questions of City staff and/or requests for follow-up or additional background information should be directed only to the City Manager, General Counsel, Assistant City Manager, or Department Heads. The Office of the City Manager should be copied on any request, except those to the General Counsel. When in doubt about what staff contact is appropriate, Legislative Body members should ask the City Manager for direction. Materials supplied to a Legislative Body member in response to a request will be made available to all members of the Legislative Body so that all have equal access to information.

(c) Legislative Body members should not solicit any type of political support (financial contributions, display of posters or lawn signs, name on support list, etc.) from City staff. City staff may, as private citizens with constitutional rights, support political candidates but all such activities must be done away from the workplace.

9.3 Decorum and Order – Public

(a) Members of the public attending Legislative Body meetings shall observe the same rules of order and decorum applicable to the Legislative Body. All remarks and questions should be addressed to the Presiding Officer and not to any individual Legislative Body member, staff member or other person.

(b) Any person conducting their public remarks or behavior before the Legislative Body in such a way as to actually cause disruption to the conduct of the meeting may be removed from the room by the sergeant-at-arms as directed by the Presiding Officer. Unauthorized remarks from the audience, stamping of feet, whistles, yells, and similar disruptive demonstrations shall not be permitted by the Presiding Officer, who may direct the sergeant-at-arms to remove such offenders from the room or call a recess of the meeting. Aggravated cases may be prosecuted on

appropriate complaint signed by the Presiding Officer.

(c) Members of the public shall be allowed to video or audio record a public meeting unless such recording becomes an actual and unreasonable disruption to the Legislative Body's ability to carry-out the meeting.

9.4 Enforcement of Decorum

(a) The Banning Police Chief or designee shall be ex-officio sergeant-at-arms of the Legislative Body. He shall carry out all orders and instructions given him by the Presiding Officer for the purpose of maintaining order and decorum in the Legislative Body meeting. Upon instructions from the Presiding Officer, it shall be the duty of the sergeant-at-arms to eject any unruly person from the Legislative Body meeting chamber or place him or her under arrest or both for conduct actually disrupting to the Legislative Body proceedings. Such person may be barred from further participation in the meeting.

(b) Generally, if the Presiding Officer intends to eject a person for disruption of a meeting, a public warning should be issued. Examples of remarks or behavior that cause actual disruption of the Legislative Body proceedings include:

- Unauthorized remarks from the audience, stamping of feet, whistles, yells, outbursts, catcalls, cursing, applause, offensive or obscene gestures or similar demonstrations which disrupt, disturb, or otherwise impede the Legislative Body proceedings
- Interrupting speakers or speaking when not recognized
- Calling members of the audience names or threatening them
- Extended discussion of matters beyond the jurisdiction of the Legislative Body
- Physical threats to any person
- Shouting into the microphone
- Dumping objects on the floor of the chamber where the proceeding is held for symbolic or other reasons.
- Speaking beyond the time limits
- Being unduly repetitious

(c) Examples of non-disruptive conduct include:

- Silent gestures by members of the audience, such as a thumbs up or thumbs down that are not otherwise disruptive of the meeting.
- Catcalls or booing during a time allowed for applause that does not otherwise disrupt the meeting.
- Criticisms of public officials or staff during a time reserved for public comment that does not otherwise violate this Manual and does not disrupt the meeting.

(d) As set forth in Government Code Section 54957.9, in the event that any meeting is willfully interrupted by a group or groups of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of such meeting unfeasible and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully

interrupting the meeting, the Legislative Body members may order the meeting room cleared and continue in session. Only matters appearing on the agenda may be considered in such a session. Duly accredited representatives of the press or other news media, except those participating in the disturbance, shall be allowed to attend any session held pursuant to this Section. Nothing in this Section shall prohibit the Legislative Body from establishing a procedure for readmitting an individual or individuals not responsible for willfully disturbing the orderly conduct of the meeting.

9.5 Censure of Legislative Body Members

(a) It shall be a violation of this section for any sitting member of a Legislative Body to violate any general law or regulation, and any, rule, law, ordinance, or resolution of the City of Banning. It shall also be a violation of this section for any sitting member of a Legislative Body to violate an administrative policy of the City which has been adopted following a vote of the Legislative Body or the City Council on the matter and which by its terms is expressly made applicable to the Legislative Body.

(b) Any violation of the foregoing paragraph by a Legislative Body member may be punished through the administration of a public censure of the member by the member's Legislative Body. Such censure may be in addition to any other punishment applicable to the violation. For purposes of this section, "censure" shall mean the adoption of a motion setting forth a statement of disapproval of a Legislative Body member's conduct.

(c) When evaluating a request for defense made by the censured member in litigation arising from the censured conduct, the record of the censure shall be considered by the Legislative Body. Such record shall not be determinative. Failure of the Legislative Body to censure the conduct of a member does not constitute waiver of the Body's right to refuse to defend the member in an action.

(d) A Legislative Body member may not be made the subject of a motion for censure without first being given notice of the violation and an opportunity to correct the violation if it can reasonably be corrected. Upon a continued violation or failure to correct, the charged member shall be given notice and an opportunity to be heard as follows:

- (i) Only a sitting member of the Legislative Body whose member commits the violation may initiate proceedings for the censure of one of its members.
- (ii) Proceedings shall be commenced by the presentation of a written statement of charges to the subject Legislative Body member with a copy delivered concurrently to the Clerk/Secretary by the member initiating the charge. Initiation shall not require the prior approval of the Legislative Body. The statement of charges shall be given at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting at which the censure motion is proposed to be brought. The notice shall contain, at a minimum, the designation of the specific rule, law regulation, etc. which the member is claimed to have violated and a statement of the date, place, and time at which the violation occurred. The statement shall further contain a description of the conduct of the member which is alleged to constitute the violation. The statement of charges shall be delivered to all

other Legislative Body persons.

(iii) Within seven (7) days after delivery of the statement of charges, the charged member should deliver a written response to the other members of the Legislative Body unless the charged member chooses to defer to response to the hearing.

(e) The motion for censure shall be agendized and considered at the first regular meeting occurring ten (10) days following the delivery of the statement of charges to the member and Clerk/Secretary. The hearing may not be continued except upon the absence from the meeting of a member of the Legislative Body other than the member bringing the charge or the member who is the subject of the charge.

(i) The hearing shall be conducted in an open session by the Presiding Officer unless the Presiding Officer is a party to the action, in which case the Vice Chair or some other member shall conduct the proceedings.

(ii) The hearing shall generally proceed by a reading of the charges by the charging member. The charging member may present witnesses; the charged member may answer in rebuttal; members of the public may speak in favor or opposed to the charge; and the remaining members may speak to the charges in that order.

(iii) Passage of the motion for censure shall require a majority vote of the members of the Legislative Body. The voting members shall not go into closed session for deliberation.

(f) If the motion for censure does not pass the proceedings shall be at an end. A new motion for censure on the same grounds of violation may not thereafter be commenced against the same Legislative Body member for a period of 1 calendar year from date of the vote. However, new proceedings may be commenced on the same charges within the 1-year period on the vote of 4 members of the Legislative Body.

(g) If the motion for censure does pass, such motion shall become a part of the public record a copy of which shall be made available upon demand to any member of the public and notice of same shall be placed in the administrative file of the Legislative Body member.

9.6 Persons Authorized To Be Within Platform/Dais

No person except Legislative Body officials or authorized Legislative Body staff shall be permitted behind the Legislative Body dais without permission or consent of the Presiding Officer.

9.7 Personal Privilege

If a Legislative Body member is personally offended by the remarks of another member, the offended Legislative Body member should make notes of the actual words used and call for a “point of personal privilege” that challenges the other member to justify or apologize for the language used. The Presiding Officer will maintain control of this discussion. The right of a

member to address the Legislative Body on a question of personal privilege shall be limited to cases in which his integrity, character, or motives are assailed, questioned, or impugned.

ARTICLE 10 – PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

ARTICLE 10 – PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

10.1 Procedures In Absence Of Rules

(a) Unless otherwise specified in this Manual or by ordinance or resolution, meetings of the Legislative Body shall be conducted with the most recently revised edition of Rosenberg's Rules of Order serving as a procedural guideline. In the event of any conflict between Rosenberg's Rules and this Manual, the provisions of this Manual shall govern.

(b) Any provision of these rules not governed by the Government Code may be temporarily suspended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members of the Legislative Body. Such suspension may be moved at any time by a member. The vote on any such suspension shall be taken by yeas or nays and entered upon the record.

(c) Motions, motion procedures and precedence of motions shall be conducted in accordance with Exhibit "A" hereto.

10.2 Voting

(a) After a full opportunity for debate if it appears that there is a consensus of opinion among the members of the Legislative Body on the matter to be voted upon, the Presiding Officer may state the consensus of the Legislative Body and ask if there is any objection. If there is no objection, the consensus as so stated shall become the order of the Legislative Body. The Presiding Officer may also determine that a consensus exists following a call for a vote by any member of the Legislative Body by a Motion to Call the Question.

(b) Except as in Subsection (a) above, otherwise, all votes of the Legislative Body shall be taken by electronic vote. In the event the electronic voting machine is not functioning or otherwise unavailable, vote shall be by roll call vote. The order voting shall be alphabetical with the Presiding Officer voting last. The Clerk/Secretary shall call the names of all members seated when a roll call vote is ordered or required. Members shall respond 'aye', 'no' or 'abstain.' After every vote, the Legislative Body shall declare the result and, on all but consensus votes, shall note for the record the number of votes for or against the question. The ayes and noes shall be taken upon the passage of all ordinances and resolutions and entered upon the official record of the Legislative Body.

10.3 Votes Needed

(a) Usually, in the absence of a contrary statutory provision (such as urgency measures), a majority of a quorum which constitutes a simple majority of the Legislative Body may act for that body. However, resolutions, orders for the payment of money, and all ordinances require a recorded majority vote of the total membership of a Legislative Body.

(b) State law may dictate certain instances in which the number of votes required is greater than a majority of all Legislative Body members. As a matter of convenience, questions on which the voting requirement is varied by the State statutes and these rules, include, without limitation, the following:

- (i) Levying Taxes - Ordinances providing for the Assessment and collection of taxes require the approval of two-thirds of the members of the whole Council.
- (ii) Assessment - Assessments require a two-thirds vote of the whole Council.
- (iii) Bonds and Certificates of Participation - Authorizing these financial instruments the issuing requires a two-thirds vote of the total Council.
- (iv) Eminent Domain - The exercise of Eminent Domain requires a two-thirds vote of the total Council.
- (v) Certain Parliamentary Motions – Motions requiring a supermajority vote are noted in Rosenberg’s Rules of Order attached hereto.

(c) Any official with a conflict of interest is not counted for purposes of establishing a quorum, and must not vote on, make, participate in any way in, or attempt to influence the decision. A Legislative Body member abstaining on any other grounds than a conflict under the Political Reform Act shall be counted as present for purposes of a quorum and such abstentions are counted with the majority. The Legislative Body member who leaves the dais solely to avoid participating in a specific item shall, in absence of a conflict, be counted as if they were present but abstaining and such abstentions are also counted with the majority.

(d) Reconsider

Any Legislative Body member who voted with the majority may move to reconsider any action at the same meeting or at an adjourned meeting following the meeting at which the action was taken, provided that reconsideration shall not be permitted where a party other than the City has acted in reliance on the Legislative Body’s action and would be substantially prejudiced by such reconsideration. The Clerk shall apprise the City Attorney of any facts constituting substantial prejudice and may rely upon the determination of the City Attorney.

- In the event that the subject of the reconsideration is a motion that failed as the result of a tie vote, any Legislative Body member who voted against the earlier motion may move for reconsideration at the following meeting. The member seeking reconsideration must have the matter agendized unless the motion will be made at the same meeting where the original action was taken.
- If the motion to reconsider passes, then the original item may be reconsidered at that time or agendized for the next meeting which meets any applicable noticing requirements.

After a motion for reconsideration has once been acted upon, no other motion for reconsideration thereof shall be made without unanimous consent of the Legislative Body.

(e) Adjournment

To adjourn a meeting, the Presiding Officer shall ask the Legislative Body members whether there is a consensus to adjourn the meeting. If a Legislative Body member makes a motion to adjourn, and this motion is followed by a second, then the Presiding Officer shall have

the Legislative Body members vote on the adjournment motion. The meeting is adjourned if there is a majority vote of the Legislative Body members on a motion or if there is a consensus to adjourn, at which time the Presiding Officer shall pronounce the time that the meeting is adjourned.

10.4 Tie Votes

Tie Votes shall be lost motions unless an additional Motion is made which obtains a majority vote to break the tie. When all Legislative Body members are present, a tie vote on whether to grant an appeal from official action shall be considered a denial of such appeal. In such case the findings in support of the decision shall be those of the lower body. If a tie vote results at a time when less than all members of the Legislative Body are present, the matter shall automatically be continued to the agenda of the next regular meeting of the Legislative Body, unless otherwise ordered by the Legislative Body.

10.5 Abstentions

Members of the Legislative Body are discouraged from abstaining from a vote for reasons other than a legally-disqualifying, financial conflicts of interest. However, if a member chooses to abstain from voting as a result of what he/she perceives as a personal or non-financial conflict of interest, the member may do so after stating for the record the nature of the perceived conflict. In the event of such a perceived conflict (as opposed to a legally disqualifying conflict), the member is not required to leave the dais.

(a) A Legislative Body member shall generally express their positions on all matters except those where they are required to abstain due to legally recognized conflict of interest.

(b) A Legislative Body member who has appealed the action of any person or body of the City on a matter which does not constitute a conflict of interest for the member under any law, may participate in the hearing on the appeal, unless there is clear and convincing evidence that such member is not objective or the member feels that they are unable to remain neutral, or as may be otherwise advised by the General Counsel. Notwithstanding any contrary provisions herein, in bringing an appeal, the Legislative Body member need not give reasons for making the appeal.

(c) A Legislative Body member may abstain from action on a matter where in the member's opinion, there might be a public perception that participation in the discussion or decision would be inappropriate even though the member has no disqualifying financial interest within the meaning of FPPC rules and regulations.

10.6 Votes Of Members Previously Absent

(a) A Legislative Body member who was not present at a meeting should generally not vote on the approval of minutes for that meeting, but the voting on such minutes shall have no effect on the validity of the minutes.

(b) A Legislative Body member may vote on a continued item after an absence from the earlier public hearing of the matter if, prior to the vote, the member affirms on the record that they have familiarized themselves with the record of the earlier meeting and are prepared to vote

on the issue. If the member shall abstain from the vote, the member shall be counted towards the quorum on the issue and the abstention shall be counted with the vote of the majority of the quorum.

(c) The forgoing shall not apply to the matter of a vote on the minutes of a meeting at which the member was not in attendance. In that instance, the member abstaining on the grounds of non-attendance at the meeting to which the minutes pertain shall not be counted towards the quorum on the issue and the abstention shall not be counted with the votes of the majority of the quorum.

10.7 Appeals by Members of Legislative Body

Except where otherwise provided, a member of the Legislative Body shall be deemed an interested person in any matter by a subordinate body and shall have standing to appeal to the Legislative Body any decision by a Sub-Legislative Body, or any determination made by any official of City by filing a written appeal. The appeal shall not state any grounds for the appeal and the resulting hearing shall be *de novo*. The appeal must be filed within 10 days of the making of the decision being appealed and shall be filed with the Clerk/Secretary who shall give written notice to the applicant and provide written notice to other persons as required for the original action. The hearing shall be held at the first regular meeting of the Council for which notice can be legally given. No appeal fee shall be required to be paid for such appeals.

10.8 Findings and Decisions

Decisions of a Legislative Body, when acting as a quasi-adjudicative body (public hearings) should be framed in terms of “findings” of fact, potentially relevant conclusions of law, and ultimate decisions showing the basis for the decision and the nexus between the findings, the conclusions, and the decision. The Legislative Body members must consider any legally-mandated findings applicable to a matter and consider the evidence presented to them in light of such findings in making their decisions.

10.9 Curfew

A 10:00 p.m. curfew is imposed upon City Council meetings. Matters taken up by the Council before 10:00 p.m. may be concluded, but no new matters shall be taken up after 10:00 p.m. except upon a unanimous vote of the Council members present, but such extension shall only be valid for one hour and each hour thereafter shall require a renewed action for the meeting to continue. The City Manager shall arrange the regular order of business on Council agendas to minimize any adverse effects this curfew may have regarding the timely conduct of important City business. This Section 10.9 shall supersede Resolution No. 2016-44.

ARTICLE 11 — PROCEDURES FOR CONSIDERATION OF DEMANDS FOR CORRECTIVE ACTION

ARTICLE 11- PROCEDURES FOR CONSIDERATION OF DEMANDS FOR CORRECTIVE ACTION

11.1 Requirement of Written Demand

Prior to any person commencing a judicial action for injunction or mandamus to declare any action taken by the Legislative Body void because of failure to observe Brown Act requirements, such person must first serve upon the Clerk/Secretary a written demand clearly describing the challenged action, the nature of the claimed violation, and the corrective action sought. Such demand must be served upon the Clerk/Secretary within ninety (90) days of the alleged violation or thirty (30) days if the action was taken in open session but in violation of Section 54952.2 of the Government Code. Failure to serve any such demand within this thirty (30) day period shall result in the loss of any right to challenge any action alleged to have been taken in violation of Sections 54953, 54954.2, 54954.5, 54954.6, 54956, or 54956.5 of the Government Code.

If the written demand is timely served, the Legislative Body has up to thirty (30) days to cure and correct its action. If the Legislative Body does not act, any lawsuit must be filed within the next fifteen (15) days.

11.2 Consideration of Corrective Action

Upon receipt of such a demand, consideration of the demand shall immediately be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Legislative Body. If the demand is received less than 72 hours prior to the time set for the next meeting, the Legislative Body may determine that the notice constitutes the initiation of litigation, and that the need to take action on the threatened litigation arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda and may consider it at that meeting pursuant to Article 3 Section 13, above. A description of any item so placed on the agenda shall include both consideration of the demand, and the possibility of corrective action by the Legislative Body.

In considering such demands, the Legislative Body shall first determine by motion whether to reconsider the prior action. The motion to reconsider shall be in order as long as made by a party on the prevailing side. If no motion to reconsider is carried the Clerk/Secretary shall inform the demanding party in writing of the Legislative Body's decision not to cure or correct the challenged action.

11.3 Implementing Corrective Action

If a motion to reconsider passes, the Presiding Officer may entertain a motion to take corrective action. Any motion taking corrective action shall address the concerns raised in the consideration of corrective action. The motion taking corrective action may include a motion to rescind prior action taken, as appropriate. Passage of a motion to rescind invalidates prior action only as of the time of the passage of the motion, and not from the date of the initial action. A motion implementing corrective action resulting from a written demand is out of order if the action complained of: (i) was in connection with the sale or issuance of notes, bonds, or other evidence of indebtedness, or any contract, agreement, or incident thereto; (ii) gave rise to a contractual obligation upon which a party has, in good faith, detrimentally relied; or (iii) was taken in connection with the collection of any tax.

In any event, the Legislative Body shall notify the party making the demand in writing of its decision to take corrective action and shall describe any corrective action taken. This notice shall be given to the demanding party as soon as possible after the meeting, but in no event more than 30 days after receipt of the demand.

ARTICLE 12 – MISCELLANEOUS

ARTICLE 12 – MISCELLANEOUS

12.1 Interpretation

This Manual shall be liberally construed to effectuate its purpose and no ordinance, resolution, proceeding or other action of the Legislative Body shall be invalidated, or the legality thereof otherwise affected by the failure or omission of the Legislative Body to technically comply with, observe or follow the within rules. The City Council may, by resolution, adopt further rules of interpretation or practice.

12.2 Amendments

This Manual may be amended from time to time as necessary by resolution passed by a majority vote of the City Council at any regular or special meeting, provided that no such amendment shall be adopted unless at least seven days' written notice thereof has been previously given to all Legislative Body members serving the City. Such notice shall identify the section or sections of the Manual proposed to be amended.

12.3 Power to Issue Subpoenas

The Legislative Body may issue subpoenas requiring attendance of witnesses or production of books or other document for evidence or testimony any action or proceeding pending before it. (Government' Code Section 37104.) Subpoenas shall be signed by the Presiding Officer and attested by the Clerk. They may be served as subpoenas are in civil actions.

EXHIBIT A
(ROSENBERG'S RULES OF ORDER)



Rosenberg's Rules of Order

REVISED 2011

Simple Rules of Parliamentary Procedure for the 21st Century

By Judge Dave Rosenberg



MISSION AND CORE BELIEFS

To expand and protect local control for cities through education and advocacy to enhance the quality of life for all Californians.

VISION

To be recognized and respected as the leading advocate for the common interests of California's cities.

About the League of California Cities

Established in 1898, the League of California Cities is a member organization that represents California's incorporated cities. The League strives to protect the local authority and autonomy of city government and help California's cities effectively serve their residents. In addition to advocating on cities' behalf at the state capitol, the League provides its members with professional development programs and information resources, conducts education conferences and research, and publishes *Western City* magazine.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dave Rosenberg is a Superior Court Judge in Yolo County. He has served as presiding judge of his court, and as presiding judge of the Superior Court Appellate Division. He also has served as chair of the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee (the committee composed of all 58 California presiding judges) and as an advisory member of the California Judicial Council. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Rosenberg was member of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors, where he served two terms as chair. Rosenberg also served on the Davis City Council, including two terms as mayor. He has served on the senior staff of two governors, and worked for 19 years in private law practice. Rosenberg has served as a member and chair of numerous state, regional and local boards. Rosenberg chaired the California State Lottery Commission, the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board, the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District, the Yolo County Economic Development Commission, and the Yolo County Criminal Justice Cabinet. For many years, he has taught classes on parliamentary procedure and has served as parliamentarian for large and small bodies.

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INTRODUCTION

The rules of procedure at meetings should be simple enough for most people to understand. Unfortunately, that has not always been the case. Virtually all clubs, associations, boards, councils and bodies follow a set of rules — *Robert's Rules of Order* — which are embodied in a small, but complex, book. Virtually no one I know has actually read this book cover to cover. Worse yet, the book was written for another time and for another purpose. If one is chairing or running a parliament, then *Robert's Rules of Order* is a dandy and quite useful handbook for procedure in that complex setting. On the other hand, if one is running a meeting of say, a five-member body with a few members of the public in attendance, a simplified version of the rules of parliamentary procedure is in order.

Hence, the birth of *Rosenberg's Rules of Order*.

What follows is my version of the rules of parliamentary procedure, based on my decades of experience chairing meetings in state and local government. These rules have been simplified for the smaller bodies we chair or in which we participate, slimmed down for the 21st Century, yet retaining the basic tenets of order to which we have grown accustomed. Interestingly enough, *Rosenberg's Rules* has found a welcoming audience. Hundreds of cities, counties, special districts, committees, boards, commissions, neighborhood associations and private corporations and companies have adopted *Rosenberg's Rules* in lieu of *Robert's Rules* because they have found them practical, logical, simple, easy to learn and user friendly.

This treatise on modern parliamentary procedure is built on a foundation supported by the following four pillars:

- 1. Rules should establish order.** The first purpose of rules of parliamentary procedure is to establish a framework for the orderly conduct of meetings.
- 2. Rules should be clear.** Simple rules lead to wider understanding and participation. Complex rules create two classes: those who understand and participate; and those who do not fully understand and do not fully participate.
- 3. Rules should be user friendly.** That is, the rules must be simple enough that the public is invited into the body and feels that it has participated in the process.
- 4. Rules should enforce the will of the majority while protecting the rights of the minority.** The ultimate purpose of rules of procedure is to encourage discussion and to facilitate decision making by the body. In a democracy, majority rules. The rules must enable the majority to express itself and fashion a result, while permitting the minority to also express itself, but not dominate, while fully participating in the process.

Establishing a Quorum

The starting point for a meeting is the establishment of a quorum. A quorum is defined as the minimum number of members of the body who must be present at a meeting for business to be legally transacted. The default rule is that a quorum is one more than half the body. For example, in a five-member body a quorum is three. When the body has three members present, it can legally transact business. If the body has less than a quorum of members present, it cannot legally transact business. And even if the body has a quorum to begin the meeting, the body can lose the quorum during the meeting when a member departs (or even when a member leaves the dais). When that occurs the body loses its ability to transact business until and unless a quorum is reestablished.

The default rule, identified above, however, gives way to a specific rule of the body that establishes a quorum. For example, the rules of a particular five-member body may indicate that a quorum is four members for that particular body. The body must follow the rules it has established for its quorum. In the absence of such a specific rule, the quorum is one more than half the members of the body.

The Role of the Chair

While all members of the body should know and understand the rules of parliamentary procedure, it is the chair of the body who is charged with applying the rules of conduct of the meeting. The chair should be well versed in those rules. For all intents and purposes, the chair makes the final ruling on the rules every time the chair states an action. In fact, all decisions by the chair are final unless overruled by the body itself.

Since the chair runs the conduct of the meeting, it is usual courtesy for the chair to play a less active role in the debate and discussion than other members of the body. This does not mean that the chair should not participate in the debate or discussion. To the contrary, as a member of the body, the chair has the full right to participate in the debate, discussion and decision-making of the body. What the chair should do, however, is strive to be the last to speak at the discussion and debate stage. The chair should not make or second a motion unless the chair is convinced that no other member of the body will do so at that point in time.

The Basic Format for an Agenda Item Discussion

Formal meetings normally have a written, often published agenda. Informal meetings may have only an oral or understood agenda. In either case, the meeting is governed by the agenda and the agenda constitutes the body's agreed-upon roadmap for the meeting. Each agenda item can be handled by the chair in the following basic format:

First, the chair should clearly announce the agenda item number and should clearly state what the agenda item subject is. The chair should then announce the format (which follows) that will be followed in considering the agenda item.

Second, following that agenda format, the chair should invite the appropriate person or persons to report on the item, including any recommendation that they might have. The appropriate person or persons may be the chair, a member of the body, a staff person, or a committee chair charged with providing input on the agenda item.

Third, the chair should ask members of the body if they have any technical questions of clarification. At this point, members of the body may ask clarifying questions to the person or persons who reported on the item, and that person or persons should be given time to respond.

Fourth, the chair should invite public comments, or if appropriate at a formal meeting, should open the public meeting for public input. If numerous members of the public indicate a desire to speak to the subject, the chair may limit the time of public speakers. At the conclusion of the public comments, the chair should announce that public input has concluded (or the public hearing, as the case may be, is closed).

Fifth, the chair should invite a motion. The chair should announce the name of the member of the body who makes the motion.

Sixth, the chair should determine if any member of the body wishes to second the motion. The chair should announce the name of the member of the body who seconds the motion. It is normally good practice for a motion to require a second before proceeding to ensure that it is not just one member of the body who is interested in a particular approach. However, a second is not an absolute requirement, and the chair can proceed with consideration and vote on a motion even when there is no second. This is a matter left to the discretion of the chair.

Seventh, if the motion is made and seconded, the chair should make sure everyone understands the motion.

This is done in one of three ways:

1. The chair can ask the maker of the motion to repeat it;
2. The chair can repeat the motion; or
3. The chair can ask the secretary or the clerk of the body to repeat the motion.

Eighth, the chair should now invite discussion of the motion by the body. If there is no desired discussion, or after the discussion has ended, the chair should announce that the body will vote on the motion. If there has been no discussion or very brief discussion, then the vote on the motion should proceed immediately and there is no need to repeat the motion. If there has been substantial discussion, then it is normally best to make sure everyone understands the motion by repeating it.

Ninth, the chair takes a vote. Simply asking for the “ayes” and then asking for the “nays” normally does this. If members of the body do not vote, then they “abstain.” Unless the rules of the body provide otherwise (or unless a super majority is required as delineated later in these rules), then a simple majority (as defined in law or the rules of the body as delineated later in these rules) determines whether the motion passes or is defeated.

Tenth, the chair should announce the result of the vote and what action (if any) the body has taken. In announcing the result, the chair should indicate the names of the members of the body, if any, who voted in the minority on the motion. This announcement might take the following form: “The motion passes by a vote of 3-2, with Smith and Jones dissenting. We have passed the motion requiring a 10-day notice for all future meetings of this body.”

Motions in General

Motions are the vehicles for decision making by a body. It is usually best to have a motion before the body prior to commencing discussion of an agenda item. This helps the body focus.

Motions are made in a simple two-step process. First, the chair should recognize the member of the body. Second, the member of the body makes a motion by preceding the member’s desired approach with the words “I move ...”

A typical motion might be: “I move that we give a 10-day notice in the future for all our meetings.”

The chair usually initiates the motion in one of three ways:

1. **Inviting the members of the body to make a motion**, for example, “A motion at this time would be in order.”
2. **Suggesting a motion to the members of the body**, “A motion would be in order that we give a 10-day notice in the future for all our meetings.”
3. **Making the motion**. As noted, the chair has every right as a member of the body to make a motion, but should normally do so only if the chair wishes to make a motion on an item but is convinced that no other member of the body is willing to step forward to do so at a particular time.

The Three Basic Motions

There are three motions that are the most common and recur often at meetings:

The basic motion. The basic motion is the one that puts forward a decision for the body’s consideration. A basic motion might be: “I move that we create a five-member committee to plan and put on our annual fundraiser.”

The motion to amend. If a member wants to change a basic motion that is before the body, they would move to amend it. A motion to amend might be: “I move that we amend the motion to have a 10-member committee.” A motion to amend takes the basic motion that is before the body and seeks to change it in some way.

The substitute motion. If a member wants to completely do away with the basic motion that is before the body, and put a new motion before the body, they would move a substitute motion. A substitute motion might be: “I move a substitute motion that we cancel the annual fundraiser this year.”

“Motions to amend” and “substitute motions” are often confused, but they are quite different, and their effect (if passed) is quite different. A motion to amend seeks to retain the basic motion on the floor, but modify it in some way. A substitute motion seeks to throw out the basic motion on the floor, and substitute a new and different motion for it. The decision as to whether a motion is really a “motion to amend” or a “substitute motion” is left to the chair. So if a member makes what that member calls a “motion to amend,” but the chair determines that it is really a “substitute motion,” then the chair’s designation governs.

A “friendly amendment” is a practical parliamentary tool that is simple, informal, saves time and avoids bogging a meeting down with numerous formal motions. It works in the following way: In the discussion on a pending motion, it may appear that a change to the motion is desirable or may win support for the motion from some members. When that happens, a member who has the floor may simply say, “I want to suggest a friendly amendment to the motion.” The member suggests the friendly amendment, and if the maker and the person who seconded the motion pending on the floor accepts the friendly amendment, that now becomes the pending motion on the floor. If either the maker or the person who seconded rejects the proposed friendly amendment, then the proposer can formally move to amend.

Multiple Motions Before the Body

There can be up to three motions on the floor at the same time. The chair can reject a fourth motion until the chair has dealt with the three that are on the floor and has resolved them. This rule has practical value. More than three motions on the floor at any given time is confusing and unwieldy for almost everyone, including the chair.

When there are two or three motions on the floor (after motions and seconds) at the same time, the vote should proceed *first* on the *last* motion that is made. For example, assume the first motion is a basic “motion to have a five-member committee to plan and put on our annual fundraiser.” During the discussion of this motion, a member might make a second motion to “amend the main motion to have a 10-member committee, not a five-member committee to plan and put on our annual fundraiser.” And perhaps, during that discussion, a member makes yet a third motion as a “substitute motion that we not have an annual fundraiser this year.” The proper procedure would be as follows:

First, the chair would deal with the *third* (the last) motion on the floor, the substitute motion. After discussion and debate, a vote would be taken first on the third motion. If the substitute motion *passed*, it would be a substitute for the basic motion and would eliminate it. The first motion would be moot, as would the second motion (which sought to amend the first motion), and the action on the agenda item would be completed on the passage by the body of the third motion (the substitute motion). No vote would be taken on the first or second motions.

Second, if the substitute motion *failed*, the chair would then deal with the second (now the last) motion on the floor, the motion to amend. The discussion and debate would focus strictly on the amendment (should the committee be five or 10 members). If the motion to amend *passed*, the chair would then move to consider the main motion (the first motion) as *amended*. If the motion to amend *failed*, the chair would then move to consider the main motion (the first motion) in its original format, not amended.

Third, the chair would now deal with the first motion that was placed on the floor. The original motion would either be in its original format (five-member committee), or if *amended*, would be in its amended format (10-member committee). The question on the floor for discussion and decision would be whether a committee should plan and put on the annual fundraiser.

To Debate or Not to Debate

The basic rule of motions is that they are subject to discussion and debate. Accordingly, basic motions, motions to amend, and substitute motions are all eligible, each in their turn, for full discussion before and by the body. The debate can continue as long as members of the body wish to discuss an item, subject to the decision of the chair that it is time to move on and take action.

There are exceptions to the general rule of free and open debate on motions. The exceptions all apply when there is a desire of the body to move on. The following motions are not debatable (that is, when the following motions are made and seconded, the chair must immediately call for a vote of the body without debate on the motion):

Motion to adjourn. This motion, if passed, requires the body to immediately adjourn to its next regularly scheduled meeting. It requires a simple majority vote.

Motion to recess. This motion, if passed, requires the body to immediately take a recess. Normally, the chair determines the length of the recess which may be a few minutes or an hour. It requires a simple majority vote.

Motion to fix the time to adjourn. This motion, if passed, requires the body to adjourn the meeting at the specific time set in the motion. For example, the motion might be: “I move we adjourn this meeting at midnight.” It requires a simple majority vote.

Motion to table. This motion, if passed, requires discussion of the agenda item to be halted and the agenda item to be placed on “hold.” The motion can contain a specific time in which the item can come back to the body. “I move we table this item until our regular meeting in October.” Or the motion can contain no specific time for the return of the item, in which case a motion to take the item off the table and bring it back to the body will have to be taken at a future meeting. A motion to table an item (or to bring it back to the body) requires a simple majority vote.

Motion to limit debate. The most common form of this motion is to say, “I move the previous question” or “I move the question” or “I call the question” or sometimes someone simply shouts out “question.” As a practical matter, when a member calls out one of these phrases, the chair can expedite matters by treating it as a “request” rather than as a formal motion. The chair can simply inquire of the body, “any further discussion?” If no one wishes to have further discussion, then the chair can go right to the pending motion that is on the floor. However, if even one person wishes to discuss the pending motion further, then at that point, the chair should treat the call for the “question” as a formal motion, and proceed to it.

When a member of the body makes such a motion (“I move the previous question”), the member is really saying: “I’ve had enough debate. Let’s get on with the vote.” When such a motion is made, the chair should ask for a second, stop debate, and vote on the motion to limit debate. The motion to limit debate requires a two-thirds vote of the body.

NOTE: A motion to limit debate could include a time limit. For example: “I move we limit debate on this agenda item to 15 minutes.” Even in this format, the motion to limit debate requires a two-thirds vote of the body. A similar motion is a *motion to object to consideration of an item*. This motion is not debatable, and if passed, precludes the body from even considering an item on the agenda. It also requires a two-thirds vote.

Majority and Super Majority Votes

In a democracy, a simple majority vote determines a question. A tie vote means the motion fails. So in a seven-member body, a vote of 4-3 passes the motion. A vote of 3-3 with one abstention means the motion fails. If one member is absent and the vote is 3-3, the motion still fails.

All motions require a simple majority, but there are a few exceptions. The exceptions come up when the body is taking an action which effectively cuts off the ability of a minority of the body to take an action or discuss an item. These extraordinary motions require a two-thirds majority (a super majority) to pass:

Motion to limit debate. Whether a member says, “I move the previous question,” or “I move the question,” or “I call the question,” or “I move to limit debate,” it all amounts to an attempt to cut off the ability of the minority to discuss an item, and it requires a two-thirds vote to pass.

Motion to close nominations. When choosing officers of the body (such as the chair), nominations are in order either from a nominating committee or from the floor of the body. A motion to close nominations effectively cuts off the right of the minority to nominate officers and it requires a two-thirds vote to pass.

Motion to object to the consideration of a question. Normally, such a motion is unnecessary since the objectionable item can be tabled or defeated straight up. However, when members of a body do not even want an item on the agenda to be considered, then such a motion is in order. It is not debatable, and it requires a two-thirds vote to pass.

Motion to suspend the rules. This motion is debatable, but requires a two-thirds vote to pass. If the body has its own rules of order, conduct or procedure, this motion allows the body to suspend the rules for a particular purpose. For example, the body (a private club) might have a rule prohibiting the attendance at meetings by non-club members. A motion to suspend the rules would be in order to allow a non-club member to attend a meeting of the club on a particular date or on a particular agenda item.

Counting Votes

The matter of counting votes starts simple, but can become complicated.

Usually, it’s pretty easy to determine whether a particular motion passed or whether it was defeated. If a simple majority vote is needed to pass a motion, then one vote more than 50 percent of the body is required. For example, in a five-member body, if the vote is three in favor and two opposed, the motion passes. If it is two in favor and three opposed, the motion is defeated.

If a two-thirds majority vote is needed to pass a motion, then how many affirmative votes are required? The simple rule of thumb is to count the “no” votes and double that count to determine how many “yes” votes are needed to pass a particular motion. For example, in a seven-member body, if two members vote “no” then the “yes” vote of at least four members is required to achieve a two-thirds majority vote to pass the motion.

What about tie votes? In the event of a tie, the motion always fails since an affirmative vote is required to pass any motion. For example, in a five-member body, if the vote is two in favor and two opposed, with one member absent, the motion is defeated.

Vote counting starts to become complicated when members vote “abstain” or in the case of a written ballot, cast a blank (or unreadable) ballot. Do these votes count, and if so, how does one count them? The starting point is always to check the statutes.

In California, for example, for an action of a board of supervisors to be valid and binding, the action must be approved by a majority of the board. (California Government Code Section 25005.) Typically, this means three of the five members of the board must vote affirmatively in favor of the action. A vote of 2-1 would not be sufficient. A vote of 3-0 with two abstentions would be sufficient. In general law cities in

California, as another example, resolutions or orders for the payment of money and all ordinances require a recorded vote of the total members of the city council. (California Government Code Section 36936.) Cities with charters may prescribe their own vote requirements. Local elected officials are always well-advised to consult with their local agency counsel on how state law may affect the vote count.

After consulting state statutes, step number two is to check the rules of the body. If the rules of the body say that you count votes of “those present” then you treat abstentions one way. However, if the rules of the body say that you count the votes of those “present and voting,” then you treat abstentions a different way. And if the rules of the body are silent on the subject, then the general rule of thumb (and default rule) is that you count all votes that are “present and voting.”

Accordingly, under the “present and voting” system, you would **NOT** count abstention votes on the motion. Members who abstain are counted for purposes of determining quorum (they are “present”), but you treat the abstention votes on the motion as if they did not exist (they are not “voting”). On the other hand, if the rules of the body specifically say that you count votes of those “present” then you **DO** count abstention votes both in establishing the quorum and on the motion. In this event, the abstention votes act just like “no” votes.

How does this work in practice?

Here are a few examples.

Assume that a five-member city council is voting on a motion that requires a simple majority vote to pass, and assume further that the body has no specific rule on counting votes. Accordingly, the default rule kicks in and we count all votes of members that are “present and voting.” If the vote on the motion is 3-2, the motion passes. If the motion is 2-2 with one abstention, the motion fails.

Assume a five-member city council voting on a motion that requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, and further assume that the body has no specific rule on counting votes. Again, the default rule applies. If the vote is 3-2, the motion fails for lack of a two-thirds majority. If the vote is 4-1, the motion passes with a clear two-thirds majority. A vote of three “yes,” one “no” and one “abstain” also results in passage of the motion. Once again, the abstention is counted only for the purpose of determining quorum, but on the actual vote on the motion, it is as if the abstention vote never existed — so an effective 3-1 vote is clearly a two-thirds majority vote.

Now, change the scenario slightly. Assume the same five-member city council voting on a motion that requires a two-thirds majority vote to pass, but now assume that the body **DOES** have a specific rule requiring a two-thirds vote of members “present.” Under this specific rule, we must count the members present not only for quorum but also for the motion. In this scenario, any abstention has the same force and effect as if it were a “no” vote. Accordingly, if the votes were three “yes,” one “no” and one “abstain,” then the motion fails. The abstention in this case is treated like a “no” vote and effective vote of 3-2 is not enough to pass two-thirds majority muster.

Now, exactly how does a member cast an “abstention” vote?

Any time a member votes “abstain” or says, “I abstain,” that is an abstention. However, if a member votes “present” that is also treated as an abstention (the member is essentially saying, “Count me for purposes of a quorum, but my vote on the issue is abstain.”) In fact, any manifestation of intention not to vote either “yes” or “no” on the pending motion may be treated by the chair as an abstention. If written ballots are cast, a blank or unreadable ballot is counted as an abstention as well.

Can a member vote “absent” or “count me as absent?” Interesting question. The ruling on this is up to the chair. The better approach is for the chair to count this as if the member had left his/her chair and is actually “absent.” That, of course, affects the quorum. However, the chair may also treat this as a vote to abstain, particularly if the person does not actually leave the dais.

The Motion to Reconsider

There is a special and unique motion that requires a bit of explanation all by itself; the motion to reconsider. A tenet of parliamentary procedure is finality. After vigorous discussion, debate and a vote, there must be some closure to the issue. And so, after a vote is taken, the matter is deemed closed, subject only to reopening if a proper motion to consider is made and passed.

A motion to reconsider requires a majority vote to pass like other garden-variety motions, but there are two special rules that apply only to the motion to reconsider.

First, is the matter of timing. A motion to reconsider must be made at the meeting where the item was first voted upon. A motion to reconsider made at a later time is untimely. (The body, however, can always vote to suspend the rules and, by a two-thirds majority, allow a motion to reconsider to be made at another time.)

Second, a motion to reconsider may be made only by certain members of the body. Accordingly, a motion to reconsider may be made only by a member who voted in the majority on the original motion. If such a member has a change of heart, he or she may make the motion to reconsider (any other member of the body — including a member who voted in the minority on the original motion — may second the motion). If a member who voted in the minority seeks to make the motion to reconsider, it must be ruled out of order. The purpose of this rule is finality. If a member of minority could make a motion to reconsider, then the item could be brought back to the body again and again, which would defeat the purpose of finality.

If the motion to reconsider passes, then the original matter is back before the body, and a new original motion is in order. The matter may be discussed and debated as if it were on the floor for the first time.

Courtesy and Decorum

The rules of order are meant to create an atmosphere where the members of the body and the members of the public can attend to business efficiently, fairly and with full participation. At the same time, it is up to the chair and the members of the body to maintain common courtesy and decorum. Unless the setting is very informal, it is always best for only one person at a time to have the floor, and it is always best for every speaker to be first recognized by the chair before proceeding to speak.

The chair should always ensure that debate and discussion of an agenda item focuses on the item and the policy in question, not the personalities of the members of the body. Debate on policy is healthy, debate on personalities is not. The chair has the right to cut off discussion that is too personal, is too loud, or is too crude.

Debate and discussion should be focused, but free and open. In the interest of time, the chair may, however, limit the time allotted to speakers, including members of the body.

Can a member of the body interrupt the speaker? The general rule is “no.” There are, however, exceptions. A speaker may be interrupted for the following reasons:

Privilege. The proper interruption would be, “point of privilege.” The chair would then ask the interrupter to “state your point.” Appropriate points of privilege relate to anything that would interfere with the normal comfort of the meeting. For example, the room may be too hot or too cold, or a blowing fan might interfere with a person’s ability to hear.

Order. The proper interruption would be, “point of order.” Again, the chair would ask the interrupter to “state your point.” Appropriate points of order relate to anything that would not be considered appropriate conduct of the meeting. For example, if the chair moved on to a vote on a motion that permits debate without allowing that discussion or debate.

Appeal. If the chair makes a ruling that a member of the body disagrees with, that member may appeal the ruling of the chair. If the motion is seconded, and after debate, if it passes by a simple majority vote, then the ruling of the chair is deemed reversed.

Call for orders of the day. This is simply another way of saying, “return to the agenda.” If a member believes that the body has drifted from the agreed-upon agenda, such a call may be made. It does not require a vote, and when the chair discovers that the agenda has not been followed, the chair simply reminds the body to return to the agenda item properly before them. If the chair fails to do so, the chair’s determination may be appealed.

Withdraw a motion. During debate and discussion of a motion, the maker of the motion on the floor, at any time, may interrupt a speaker to withdraw his or her motion from the floor. The motion is immediately deemed withdrawn, although the chair may ask the person who seconded the motion if he or she wishes to make the motion, and any other member may make the motion if properly recognized.

Special Notes About Public Input

The rules outlined above will help make meetings very public-friendly. But in addition, and particularly for the chair, it is wise to remember three special rules that apply to each agenda item:

Rule One: Tell the public what the body will be doing.

Rule Two: Keep the public informed while the body is doing it.

Rule Three: When the body has acted, tell the public what the body did.



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EXHIBIT B

BANNING CITY COUNCIL MEETING PRESENTATION POLICY

City Council presentations are for providing information to the Mayor and Council, City management, and the community about activities of interest and value including:

- Activities, events, and infrastructure projects relating to the City.
- Honors and celebrations for organizations, corporations and residents related to Banning.
- Honors and celebrations for organizations, corporations and resident which reflect their service to the Banning community.
- Honors and recognitions for City staff for outstanding service or commitment to the City's mission and goals.
- Please note this is not the appropriate time to seek funds from the City and/or endorsements from City Council or discuss politics.

Presentation Length

All presentations are to be no more than five minutes in length; this is to include all speakers for the group being recognized.

Presentation Schedule

City Council begins at 5:00 p.m. with an invocation and pledge to the American flag followed by presentations. All honorees or groups are to arrive no later than 4:45 p.m.

Presentation Location

Presentations take place in the Council Chambers inside Banning City Hall located at 99 E. Ramsey Street. Parking is available in the Police Department parking lot located at 125 E. Ramsey Street (just off Hays Street) adjacent to the Council Chambers, or in the City Hall parking lot located at the corner of Hays and San Gorgonio.

Presentation Technical Support

The City has the capability to display PowerPoint (or equivalent) during the presentation. If a PowerPoint is to be used during the presentation:

- The PowerPoint is to be no more than 10 slides with limited text; and
- To be submitted to the City Clerk's Office no later than the Thursday prior to the scheduled Tuesday City Council meeting (2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month).
 - PowerPoints are subject to editing for appropriateness.
 - PowerPoints which do not meet these standards will not be used.

EXHIBIT C
ROSENBERG'S RULES OF ORDER
CHEAT SHEET

To:	You say:	Interrupt Speaker	Second Needed	Debatable	Amendable	Vote Needed
Adjourn	"I move that we adjourn" (Only needed prior to the end of the agenda)	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Recess/intermission	"I move that we recess until..."	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
Complaint about noise, room temp., etc.	"Point of privilege"	Yes	No	No	No	Chair Decides
Motion to table	"I move that we table it"	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
End debate	"I move the previous question" or "Call the question"	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
Introduce a motion	"I move that..." or "I move to..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Amend a motion	"I move that this motion be amended by..." (You can also ask for a friendly amendment, which is less formal; if mover and second concur, no vote needed)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Refer to a committee	"I move that the question be referred to a committee for more study"	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Motion to Limit or Extend Debate	"I move to limit debate to _ minutes per speaker" or "I move to extend debate by _ minutes"	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3
Motion to Withdraw a Motion	"I withdraw the motion."	Yes	No	No	No	None

To:	You say:	Interrupt Speaker	Second Needed	Debatable	Amendable	Vote Needed
Object to procedure or personal affront	"Point of order"	Yes	No	No	No	Chair decides
Request information	"Point of information"	Yes	No	No	No	None
Reconsider something already disposed of	"I move we now (or later) reconsider our action relative to..." (Only a member of the prevailing side can make a motion to reconsider)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
Vote on a ruling by the Chair	"I appeal the Chair's decision"	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority