

CITY OF MONESSEN
WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION NO. 6 of 2023

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN, WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA ESTABLISHING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT ALL ADVERTISED, REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN;

WHEREAS, Section 710 of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act, 65 Pa.C.S.A. § 701, *et seq.* provides that an agency, such as the City of Monessen, may adopt, by official action, all reasonable rules and regulations necessary for the conduct of its meetings and the maintenance of order at said meetings; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to §710 and §710.1 of the Act, any person attending an advertised, regular and/or special meeting of the Council of City of Monessen shall have the right to comment on matters of concern, official action or deliberation which are or may be before the Council prior to taking official action; and

WHEREAS, Council of the City of Monessen is desirous of establishing, by the adoption of this Resolution, rules and regulations for public participation at all advertised regular and special meetings of the Council of the City of Monessen that are necessary for the conduct of its meetings and the maintenance of order at said meetings.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Council of the City of Monessen and is hereby resolved as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to §710 and §710.1 of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act, 65 Pa.C.S.A. § 701, *et seq.*, public participation at all advertised, regular and/or special meetings of

the Council of the City of Monessen is hereby authorized pursuant to the following rules and regulations:

- a. It is the policy of the Council to afford an opportunity to the citizens of the City to show their viewpoints and ideas with the Council subject to reasonable controls over the length of presentations and the particular time when citizens will be heard.
- b. To permit fair and orderly expression of public comment and to operate its meetings in an orderly, businesslike and efficient manner, the Council, under the direction of the presiding officer, will provide one or more periods during each meeting for public participation. The comment period will be identified on the Agenda for each advertised regular and/or special meeting. Comments and questions at a regular or special meeting may deal with any topic related to the conduct of the City.
- c. Public participation shall be permitted only as indicated on the Order of Business for each Agenda.
- d. Participants must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface their comments by an announcement of:
 1. Their name;
 2. Address; and
 3. Group affiliation, if appropriate.
- e. Each participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes in duration.
- f. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic.
- g. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually.
- h. The presiding officer may:
 1. Interrupt or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy; personally directed, abusive, obscene or irrelevant;
 2. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
 3. Call for a recess or adjournment to another time when a lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meetings as to warrant such action;
 4. Delegate a response to any statement or question to the appropriate department head; and

5. Waive these rules with consent of the majority of Council.

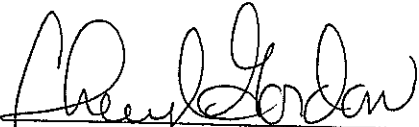
Section 2. Any resolution or part of a resolution in conflict herewith is hereby repealed.

RESOLVED this 6th day of July, 2023, by the Council of the City of Monessen.


ATTEST:

CITY OF MONESSEN

By:


Cheryl Gordon
City Clerk

By:


Ron Mozer
Mayor