

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF HENRY
CITY OF STOCKBRIDGE

RESOLUTION NO. R13-555

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING CITY COUNCIL MEETING RULE THREE SO AS TO SUPPLEMENT THE CITY CHARTER'S PROVISIONS BY CREATING SUPPLEMENTARY RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PUBLIC COMMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.14 (a) OF THE CITY CHARTER AND STOCKBRIDGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.04.180, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THE PURPOSES OF THIS RESOLUTION, AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO ATTEST SIGNATURES AND AFFIX THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE CITY, AS NECESSARY, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, REPEALING INCONSISTENT RESOLUTIONS, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS RESOLUTION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Stockbridge ("City") is a municipal corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia and is charged with providing public services to residents located within the corporate limits of the City; and

WHEREAS, Section 3.14 (a) of the City Charter provides that the City Council may adopt its own rules of procedure and order of business consistent with the provisions of the charter; and

WHEREAS, Stockbridge Code Section 2.04.180 provides that any additional rules relating to council meeting procedures may be made from time to time by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it would be in the best interest of the City, its residents and citizens, and its various officials to clearly set forth additional procedural

rules and procedures relating to public hearings and public comments during meetings so as to keep City Council meetings orderly; and

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it in the best interest of the City of Stockbridge to approve and authorize City Council meeting rules and policies that clarify the procedures to be followed during public hearings and public comment at City Council meetings, and the City will be best served by giving its approval for the above stated purpose.

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STOCKBRIDGE HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS;

Section 1. **Approval** - The City Council of the City of Stockbridge hereby approves and authorizes the enactment of the following Rule 3 regarding its meetings pursuant to its authority under Section 3.14 (a) of the City Charter and Stockbridge Municipal Code Section 2.04.180.

Rule 3 – PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

- (a) Whenever state or local law requires the City to provide a public hearing on a matter coming before the City Council, unless state law directs otherwise the City shall provide a total of fifteen minutes per side for the public to comment on the issue. Each side may divide its fifteen minutes in any way it deems best. This procedure shall apply to zoning matters within the purview of the Georgia Zoning Procedures Law, budget enactment, and any other matter requiring a public hearing under applicable law. Each person participating in the public hearing shall address solely the Mayor and Council, be respectful, provide comment only on the issue in question, and refrain from the use of profanity, derogatory language, or personal insults. The City Council may remove any person violating these rules from Council Chambers.

- (b) Whenever the City allows for public comment from citizens, the City shall allow each speaker no more than three minutes to address the Mayor and Council. Each person providing public comment shall address solely the Mayor and Council, be respectful, provide comment only on the items addressed during that meeting, and refrain from the use of profanity, derogatory language, or personal insults. The City Council may remove any person violating these rules from Council Chambers.

Section 2. **Approval of Execution** - The Mayor is hereby authorized to sign all documents and to perform all other acts necessary to effectuate this Resolution on behalf of the City of Stockbridge. The City Clerk is authorized to execute, attest to, and seal any document which may be necessary to effectuate this Resolution, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

Section 3. **Severability** - To the extent any portion of this Resolution is declared to be invalid, unenforceable, or non-binding, that shall not affect the remaining portions of this Resolution.

Section 4. **Repeal of Conflicting Provisions** - All City resolutions inconsistent with this Resolution are hereby repealed.

Section 5. **Effective Date** - This Resolution shall be effective on the date of its approval by the City Council and Mayor as provided in the City Charter.

SO RESOLVED, this the 21st day of October, 2013.

CITY OF STOCKBRIDGE, GEORGIA


MARK A. ALARCON, MAYOR

ATTEST:


RHONDA A. BLACKMON, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


WILLIAM J. LINKOUS, III, CITY ATTORNEY