



CITY OF ALLENTOWN

57

**RESOLUTION**

**R – 2020**

***Introduced by the Administration and City Council on May 6, 2020***

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**CREATING MULTIPLE AVENUES FOR RESIDENTS TO RECEIVE INFORMATION PRIOR TO COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL MEETINGS ON AGENDA ITEMS TO ENHANCE DECISION-MAKING**

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**WHEREAS**, City Council is a key conduit for interested citizens and taxpayers to connect to their government; and

**WHEREAS**, participation and information gathering in regard to local government dependent on a person's ability to physically show up at a particular place and at a particular time is a dead fossilized process based on a 1950s paradigm that is not as relevant in today's social media and communication environment; and

**WHEREAS** Allentown City Council is desirous of creating multiple avenues for residents to receive information prior to committee and council meetings on agenda items to enhance decision-making.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the following be added to RULE I MEETINGS OF COUNCIL as Letter E: Citizens Opportunity to Request Information Prior to Meetings.

**E. CITIZENS OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST AND RECEIVE INFORMATION PRIOR TO MEETINGS:**  
Council must provide reasonable opportunity for interested citizens and taxpayers to ask questions and receive information to the Council on matters before committee or council prior to the meetings. Request for information from citizens and taxpayers shall be forwarded to the City Clerk. In addition, Council members requesting information shall also forward the information to the City Clerk. Requests shall be made at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. The Clerk shall make every reasonable effort to have the request and answers posted on the agenda found on the city website.