

CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No. 80

RESOLUTION

R - 2021

Introduced City Council on June 2, 2021

Amends Council Rules by starting the meetings at 6:30 PM, putting Contract Approvals under the Order of Business, creating a Consent Agenda and 'codifying' the practice the body has used to change their rules.

Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That

WHEREAS, Allentown City Council conducts a council meeting to approve contracts prior to its regularly scheduled council meeting; and

WHEREAS, merging these meetings into a full council meeting starting at 6:30 PM creates efficiencies and reduces costs; and

WHEREAS, Council seeks to 'codify' their practice of changing Council rules by introduction of a resolution and approval at a future meeting by explicitly stating it in their rules; and

WHEREAS, Council is interested in creating efficiencies in approving routine items on their agenda freeing up time to spend on other items that entail public input and more thorough discussions through the creation of a consent agenda. (The consent agenda is an instrument under Robert's Rules of Order that enables the body to consider and approve a grouping of routine items that do not require board discussion and to take action through a single agenda item. In voting to approve (i.e. consent to) what is on the consent agenda, the board is on record as having approved/accepted or given its blessing to these matters.)

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, Allentown City Council hereby adopts the following changes to their rules:

1. Amends Rule I to start council meetings at 6:30 PM and to read as follows:

RULE I - MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

A. Regular Meetings: Regular meetings will be held on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 ~~6:30~~ P.M. in Council Chambers or at other such locations as agreed by Council. Council may, by resolution, cancel a meeting in the advent it is deemed not necessary due to lack of business. (25892 3/2/88; 26216 3/21/90 Art. II, §212; 13910-Charter Referendum; 28856 4/4/12)

2. Amends Rule XVII by explicitly stating the process Council has made changes to their rules and to read as follows:

RULE XVII – AMENDMENTS

Council rules may be amended through the resolution process providing there is two weeks between introduction of the proposed rule change and final approval. A proposed amendment to these Rules may be presented in writing at a regular meeting of Council held at least two weeks prior to the date when the same is

~~to be fully considered. It will be adopted only by the affirmative vote of four (4) Members of Council.~~

3. Establishes a Consent Agenda adding the following as D under RULE IV – AGENDA and to read as follows:

D. Consent Agenda: Items placed on the consent agenda shall be voted on unless two members of council approve a motion to take the items from the consent agenda and voted on under the appropriate heading during the course of the meeting.

4. Changes the Order of Business to include Contract Approvals and the Consent Agenda and to read as follows:

RULE III

ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business will be as follows:

Invocation
Pledge to the Flag
Roll Call
Courtesy of the Floor
Contract Approvals
Minutes of Previous Meeting
Old Business
Communications
Reports
Appointments
Ordinances for Final Passage
Consent Agenda
Resolutions for Final Passage
(Appointments would be included here since they are now resolutions)
Ordinances for Introduction
Resolutions for Introduction
New Business
Good and Welfare
Adjournment