

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-253

RESOLUTION ADOPTING RULES REGARDING THE PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDLAND, TEXAS, REGARDING AN ITEM ON AN AGENDA FOR AN OPEN MEETING IN ACCORDANCE WITH TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE § 551.007

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Texas enacted Texas Government Code § 551.007 relating to the right of a member of the public to address a governmental body regarding an item on an agenda for an open meeting of the body to address the body regarding the item at the meeting before or during the body's consideration of the item; and

WHEREAS, Texas Government Code § 551.007 provides that a governmental body may adopt reasonable rules regarding the public's right to address the body, including rules that limit the total amount of time that a member of the public may address the body on a given item; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it to be in the public interest to adopt rules regarding the public's right to address the City Council during an open meeting in accordance with Texas Government Code § 551.007;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MIDLAND, TEXAS:

THAT the City Council of the City of Midland, Texas, hereby adopts the following rules regarding the public's right to address the City Council during an open meeting:

- (i) A member of the public who wishes to address the Council regarding an item on an agenda for an open meeting shall complete a Request to Speak before Midland City Council Form ("*Request Form*") and submit the Request Form to the City Secretary prior to the open meeting being called to order.
- (ii) The City Secretary shall make sufficient Request Forms available to the public at a reasonably convenient location where the open meeting is held. The City Secretary shall promptly deliver completed Request Forms, if any, to the Mayor or presiding member of the Council.
- (iii) A member of the public who addresses the Council shall first state his or her full name and address. All comments shall be directed to the Council.
- (iv) A member of the public who addresses the Council shall limit his or her

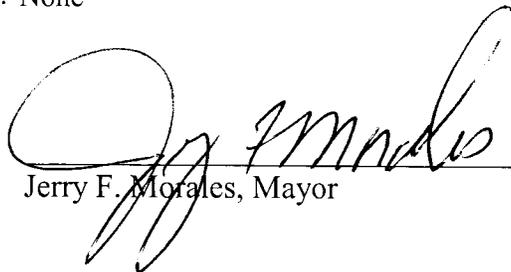
comments to not more than three (3) minutes; provided, however, that a non-English speaking member of the public who addresses the Council through a translator shall limit his or her comments to not more than six (6) minutes. The City Secretary may notify the Council upon the expiration of the applicable time limit. The Mayor or presiding member of the Council may allow additional time at his or her sole discretion.

- (v) The provision of Section (iv) providing a member of the public who addresses the Council through a translator twice the amount of time as a member of the public who does not require the assistance of a translator shall apply only if simultaneous translation equipment that allows the Council to hear the translated public testimony simultaneously is not utilized at the open meeting of the Council.

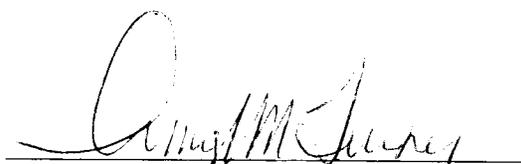
On motion of Council member Love, seconded by Council member Robnett, the above and foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Midland at a regular meeting on the 27th day of August, A.D., 2019, by the following vote:

Council members voting "AYE": Trost, Hotchkiss, Love, Morales, Dufford, Lacy, Robnett

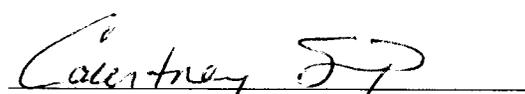
Council members voting "NAY": None


Jerry F. Morales, Mayor

ATTEST:


Amy Turner, City Secretary

RECOMMENDED AND APPROVED:


Courtney Sharp, City Manager

APPROVED ONLY AS TO FORM:



John Ohnemiller, City Attorney



City Council Agenda

[Signature]
Approved for Agenda:
CSharp
City Manager's Office

MEETING DATE: 8/27/2019

APPROVED

TO: City Council / City Manager

FROM: Courtney Sharp

SUBJECT: Consider a Resolution adopting rules regarding the public's right to address the City Council of the City of Midland.

Purpose:

Consider a Resolution adopting rules regarding the public's right to address the City Council of the City of Midland, Texas, regarding an item on an agenda for an open meeting in accordance with Texas Government Code 551.007

Recommended City Council Action

Approve Deny Directional / Informational

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Discussion:

The purpose of this resolution is to establish clear guidelines/rules for those wishing to speak publicly during City of Midland, Texas, City Council Open Meetings. The rules will include instructions on several items listed within the resolution.