

RULES OF CONDUCT FOR BROOKLYN PARK COUNCIL MEETINGS

Adopted May 14, 2018

1. The public is encouraged to attend Council meetings and to provide their input during the scheduled input time and during public hearings. However, certain rules need to be established and must be observed regarding public attendance at, and participation in, meetings to ensure that others have an opportunity to speak and to allow the City Council to conduct its business without disruption. Those who attend Council meetings shall comply with these rules and failure to comply with these rules may result in the person being asked to leave the meeting. These rules apply to all public meetings held by the City Council and, to the extent practicable, meetings held by the City's commissions and boards.
2. Unless addressing the City Council, or entering or leaving the meeting room, all persons in the audience shall remain seated in the seats provided in their current location. No person shall stand or sit in the aisles unless permitted by the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem. No person shall block any doorways or interfere with those attempting to speak at open forum or during a public meeting. No person, other than Councilmembers and staff, shall enter the area behind the dais in the Council Chambers during Council meetings.
3. Any actions, such as cheering, yelling, finger snapping, whistling, handclapping or foot stomping that disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of the Council meeting is prohibited.
4. Members of the audience and speakers shall not wear or display signs, placards, banners, or similar items at any time that impedes or obstructs the view of other audience members. In no event shall signs, placards, banners or similar items be larger than 8½ by 11 inches, be illuminated, or be attached to any pole, stick, or other device.
5. Speakers shall not make personal attacks, air personality grievances, make political endorsements, or make political campaign statements.
6. Members of the audience shall respect the rights of others. No person in the audience at a Council meeting shall engage in conduct that disrupts the orderly conduct of the meeting, including, but not limited to, the utterance of loud, threatening or abusive language, whistling, clapping, stamping of feet, repeatedly waving of arms or other disruptive acts or gestures.
7. Photographs, audiotapes, and videotapes may be taken from any seat available to the public in the meeting room or from the rear of the meeting room. Except when presentations are being made, photographs, audiotapes and videotapes may not be

taken from the side or middle aisles or from the front of the Council Chambers because such practices disrupt and disturb the audience, public speakers, and Councilmembers and interfere with the orderly conduct of the meeting. Photographs, audiotapes, and videotapes shall not be taken in any manner that disturbs or disrupts the audience, speakers, or Councilmembers or otherwise disrupts the Council meeting.

8. Animals are prohibited in the Council Chambers, except for trained K-9 police dogs and trained service animals as defined under State and Federal law.
9. The Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem, with the assistance of law enforcement, shall be responsible for maintaining the order of the meeting. These rules shall be enforced as follows:
 - a. The Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem has the authority to issue a verbal warning to a person violating these rules;
 - b. If the person issued a warning continues to violate the rules and disrupt the meeting, the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem will direct the person to be excluded from the meeting room; and
 - c. The exclusion shall be for the remainder of the meeting at which the violation of these rules occurred.
10. Repeated violations of these Rules of Conduct may result in the exclusion of a person from future City Council meetings for a time period specified by the City Council.