

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-02-002

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Monroeville, Alabama, as follows:

Section 1. That Chapter 2, Administration, Sec. 2-11, Rules of Procedure of Council section (h); “No person, not a member of the council, shall be allowed to address the same while in session without permission of the presiding officer” of the Code of Ordinances is hereby repealed and that Section 2-11 (h), Privileges of the Floor Policy for decorum during council meetings to read as follows:

Section 2-11 (h) Privileges of the Floor Policy for decorum during Council Meetings:

- (a) Every petition, communication, or address to the Council at either a public hearing, or privileges of the floor, shall be in respectful language and is encouraged to be in writing.
- (b). Privileges of the Floor
 - 1. Individuals or groups wishing to speak under privileges of the floor at a regular Council meeting shall submit a written request to the City Clerk by 12:00 p.m. on Friday prior to the regular meeting date. The request shall include the speaker's name, address, phone and email, and the topic to be addressed. Any person wishing to speak on behalf of a group shall so indicate and shall identify the name and address of the group or organization.
 - 2. Privileges of the floor shall be for the purpose of allowing members of the public to present any matter which, in their opinion, deserves the attention of the Council. They shall not serve as a forum for debate with the Council.
 - 3. Remarks shall be addressed directly to the Council and not to staff, the audience, or the media.
 - 4. The Mayor shall open the Privileges of the Floor.
 - 5. Speakers shall only present items relevant to the City of Monroeville, Alabama.
 - 6. Each speaker shall clearly state his or her name, address and topic.
 - 7. There shall be a time limit for each individual speaker of five (5) minutes.
 - 8. A representative of a group shall identify the group at the beginning of their presentation. A group may have no more than one (1) spokesperson.
 - 9. The maximum number of speakers who will be allowed to speak during Privileges of the Floor is five(5).
 - 10. Speakers are not permitted to donate time to other speakers.
 - 11. There shall be no comment during Privileges of the Floor on a matter for which a public hearing is scheduled during the same meeting.
 - 12. There shall be no comment during Privileges of the Floor on a matter that has already been the subject of a previous public hearing where no final vote has been taken.
 - 13. Council members shall not discuss issues raised by the public during Privileges of the Floor.
 - 14. Once the Council has heard a presentation from an individual, or organization, on a particular subject, the individual or organization may not make another presentation on the same subject during Privileges of the Floor within three (3) months of the first presentation unless permitted by the Mayor.
 - 15. The above rules notwithstanding, members of the public may present written comments to the Council or to individual Council members.
- (c). No citizen, except the Mayor, Council or City officials, may speak unless permission is first granted by the Mayor during Privileges of the Floor.
- (d). No speaker's time shall be extended except by consent of a majority of the Council members present during Privileges of the Floor.

(e). Persons appearing before the Council during Privileges of the Floor will **not** be allowed to:

1. Campaign for public office;
2. Promote private business ventures;
3. Use profanity or vulgar language or gestures;
4. Use language which insults or demeans any person. Citizens have the right to comment on the performance, conduct, and qualifications of public figures;
5. Make statements unrelated to their topic;
6. Interrupt other speakers or engage in behavior that disrupts the meeting including but not limited to applause, cheers, jeers, yelling, shouting, etc.;
7. Engage in behavior that intimidates others or incites violence or disorder;
8. Address the Council on issues that do not concern the services, policies or affairs of the City;
9. Make unduly repetitive statements;
10. Refuse to stop talking after the allotted time has expired;
11. Address the Council on a matter to which the speaker is a party and is currently pending before a court, quasi-judicial body, board or administrative forum.
12. Complaints related to personnel matters shall be handled at the discretion of the Mayor and presented in Executive Session to the Council.
13. Matters regarding the general reputation and character of an individual
14. Pending Criminal Investigations.

(f). The Mayor shall preserve order and decorum at Council meetings. Any citizen who fails to comply with the directive of the Mayor to comply with these rules may be held by the Mayor to be out of order and ordered to leave the speaker's podium. The Mayor may order the expulsion of any person who fails to comply with the Mayor's directive and who engages in disruptive behavior.

Any person so expelled shall not be readmitted for the remainder of the meeting from which expelled.

Any person who has been so expelled and who at a later meeting again engages in behavior justifying expulsion may also be barred from attendance at future Council meetings for a specified and reasonable period of time not to exceed six (6) months, or upon a still subsequent expulsion a period not to exceed one (1) year either by the presiding officer, subject to appeal to a majority vote of the Council members present, or by motion passed by the Council.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its adoption and publication as required by law.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 2nd day of February, 2021

City of Monroeville, Alabama
A Municipal Corporation

Charles E. Andrews, Mayor

ATTEST

Mary Jackson, City Clerk

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR REQUEST

Note: There is a five (5) minute time limit per speaker and must be a relevant item specific to the City of Monroeville, Alabama.

Speaker's Name: _____

(Any person wishing to speak on behalf of a group shall so indicate and shall identify the name and address of the group or organization.)

Address: _____

Phone # _____ Email: _____

Please mark your City Council Member:

- ☐ Al Brewton, Councilmember, District 1
- ☐ Thelma McDaniel, Councilmember, District 2
- ☐ Kendrick Ruffin, Councilmember, District 3
- ☐ Anthony Thomas, Councilmember, District 4
- ☐ Larry Hines, Councilmember, District 5
- ☐ Melvin Foukal, Councilmember, District 6

Topic to be addressed:

Return your completed request in person, by mail, by email, or by fax before 12:00 p.m. on the Friday prior to the meeting date:

Physical Address

City Hall
125 E. Claiborne Street
Monroeville, AL 36460

Email

mayor@monroevilleal.gov

Fax 251-743-3547

Mailing Address

City Hall
PO Box 147
Monroeville, AL 36461

Please contact City Hall at 251-575-2081 for assistance.

PLEASE SEE ORDINANCE 2021-02-002 FOR PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR POLICY ATTACHED