Rules of the Common Council and Standing Committees Style Definition: Normal: Font: Arial, Justified Style Definition: Footer: Font: +Body, Left, City of Stoughton, Wisconsin Tab stops: 3", Centered + 6", Right + Not at 3.25" + 6.5" Adopted September 13, 2011 Style Definition: Footnote Text: Font: 10 pt, Space After: 0 pt Adopted pursuant to the authority granted in Wis. Stat. § 62.11(3). Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt, Font color: Auto, Not Expanded by / Condensed by Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt, Font color: Rule 1. Rule 1. MEETINGS Auto, Not Expanded by / Condensed by Regular Meetings Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt, Font color: Auto, Not Expanded by / Condensed by Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt, Font color: Following the spring election of each year, the Common Council shall meet on Auto, Not Expanded by / Condensed by the third Tuesday of April for the purpose of organization. Regular meetings of the Formatted: Heading 1, Space Before: 0 pt, Common Council shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month Line spacing: single at 7:00 pm, in the council chambers. Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt, Font color: Auto, Not Expanded by / Condensed by If any meeting date, as fixed by paragraph (1) above, falls on a legal holiday or **Formatted** election day, the meeting shall instead be held on the first business day Formatted succeeding that holiday or election day at the same hours and place, unless the meeting is cancelled or another date is specified by the council president. Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt, Font color: Auto Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt, Font color: Auto Special Meetings Formatted The mayor or council president may call special meetings by written notice to Formatted each council member and the mayor. The notice shall be delivered to all council-**Formatted** members either personally, electronically to those who have consented to electronic delivery of notices from the city, or left at their usual abode at least 24 Formatted hours before the meeting, unless for good cause a 24-hour notice is impossible or Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt, Font color: Auto impractical. In that case, a shorter notice may be given, but the notice may not at Formatted any time be provided less than 6 hours in advance of the meeting. The notice shall **Formatted** specify the time, place, and purpose of the meeting. Attendance by any council Formatted member is a waiver of any defect of notice. **Formatted** Adjournment **Formatted** Any council member may move to adjourn a meeting. If any agenda item is not considered before-**Formatted** a motion to adjourn, it shall automatically be referred to the council's eouncil's next regular Formatted: Right: 0" meeting, unless the motion provides for a specific date and hour. Formatted: Font: Arial, 11 pt, Font color: Auto Rule 2. Rule 2. QUORUM REQUIRED Formatted A quorum is necessary for the transaction of any council business. Two-thirds of all members of **Formatted** the council shall constitute a quorum. In determining whether a quorum is present, neither **Formatted** vacancies nor the mayor shall be included in calculating the number of members of the council or Formatted: Right: 0", Space Before: 0 pt in calculating the number of members present. , excluding Formatted Rule 3. Rule 3. PRESIDING OFFICER Formatted Designation Of **Formatted** The mayor shall be the presiding officer of the meetings of the council. In the absence of the **Formatted** mayor, the president of the council shall preside at the meetings of the council. and be styled Formatted: Right: 0" Acting Mayor, If both the mayor and the council president are absent, the vice president of the **Formatted** council shall preside at the meetings of the council. If the mayor, council president, and vice president are absent, the clerk shall call the council to order and preside until the council selects a member to preside at the meeting.

B. Function

The presiding officer shall preserve order, conduct the proceedings of the council, and be its parliamentarian. If a member does not follow the council's parliamentary rules, the presiding officer may, on his or her own motion, or shall, at any members' request, call the offending member to order. The council, if appealed to, shall decide the matter,

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officer may, on his or her own motion, or shall, at any members' request, call the offending member to order. The council, if appealed to, shall decide the matter.

C. Question of Order

Any alderperson may raise a point, or question of order. The question of order must be raised at the time the alleged breach of order occurs. The presiding officer may confer with legal counsel during the meeting. The presiding officer shall, in turn, immediately rule on the question of order, subject to an appeal by a member to the council. The appeal may be sustained by a majority vote of the members present, exclusive of the presiding officer.

D. Motion

The mayor or other presiding officer may speak on any question. If the mayor or other presiding officer wishes to make a motion, he or she must first vacate the chair and designate the council president to preside while the motion is pending. If the mayor or other presiding officer vacates the chair while a motion is pending, the next officer in line to preside at the meeting shall preside while the motion is pending.

E. Veto

The mayor may veto all acts of the council as permitted by law. The council may override the mayor's mayor's veto by a two-thirds vote of all members of the council.

Rule 4. Rule 4. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Wisconsin law requires the chief presiding officer of the Common Council or suchperson's designee to give public notice of every Common Council meeting. Such notice
must set forth the time, date, place, and subject matter of the meeting, including that intended for
consideration of any contemplated closed session. The mayor or mayor's mayor's designee shall
give notice of every Common Council meeting in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting
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Rule 5. Rule 5. ABSENCE OF MEMBERS

If any alderperson, for any reason, cannot attend a regularly scheduled meeting of the Common-Council, he or she shall notify the city clerk and council president as soon as practically able prior to the meeting, of his or her anticipated absence, for the purpose of determining a quorum.

Rule 6. Rule 6. ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The business of the council shall be conducted in the following order:

- 1. Call to order by the presiding officer
- 2. Roll call
- 3. Presentation of accounts and other claims against the city
- 4. Presentation of committee reports and minutes
- 5. Communication, reports of city officers, and recommendations of the mayor
- 6. Comments and suggestions from the preregistered citizens
- 7. Consideration of the minutes of the prior meeting(s)...), approval if correct, and correction of mistakes if any.
- 8. Consent agenda
- 9. Unfinished business from previous meetings (old business).
- 10. New business

The council may chose to take business out of order.

Rule 7. Rule 7. INTRODUCTION OF BUSINESS.

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A. Introduction Requirements

All new, proposed ordinances, resolutions, memorials, communications, or other new business (collectively ""New Business")" shall be in writing writing, shall contain a brief statement of their content,

shall indicate the name of the presenting member(s) or presenting committee, and, prior to their

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consideration by council, shall be delivered to the clerk. Once a proper and timely request to addan item to At the Common Council agenda has been madefirst opportunity, the Mayorelerk shall approve placement of place, the item on the agenda for one of the next two regular Common Council meetings following such timely request. introduction to the council, Any item added to an agenda alderperson may require at any time the direction of reading in full of any matter while it is before the Common Council council. Any new business not presented by a standing committee, shall not be removed from referred by, the agenda withoutcouncil to such committee or committees as the approval council may designate, unless referral is waived by a 3/4 vote, of the Common Council. members present.

B. B. Agenda

The following individuals and/or bodies may request the city clerk to add an item to the Common-Council agenda, provided the request is made timely, as determined by the City Clerk.

- 1. The mayorpresiding officer
- 2. The Common Council or any alderperson
- 3. Any standing committee of the Common Council or the chair thereof
- Any city committee, board or commission, or the chair thereof, with respect to an item of business referred to such committee, board or commission by the Common Council, or with respect to an item which such committee, board, or commission is required by law to report or recommend to the Common Council.

item of business referred to such committee, board or commission by the Common Council, or with respect to an item which such committee, board, or

commission is required by law to report or recommend to the Common Council. The final agenda and packet must be approved by the mayor council president prior to distribution to the common council. and must be sent to council members no less than 5 days prior to the meeting. Once approved by the mayor council president, the agenda may not be amended without approval from the mayor. The mayor and council president shall make reasonable efforts. Once a proper and timely request to cooperatively reviewadd an item to the Common Council agenda before it is approved. Except as otherwise provided by this rule, the final agenda and packet must be sent to council members no less than 5 days prior to the meeting. The mayor may has been made, the Council President shall approve sending the finalplacement of the item on the agenda for one of the next two regular Common Council meetings following such timely request. Any item added to an agenda to council members, or amending the agenda, less than 5 days prior to the meeting, when the mayor deems appropriate to protect the City's interests or to avoid unnecessary delay or hardship for at the City or interested parties direction of the Common Council shall not be subject to removal by the council president.

C. Reintroduction Restricted

Unless otherwise provided by city ordinance, or unless allowed by approval of a motion forreconsideration pursuant to Rule 10, no proposed ordinance or resolution, having been once defeated, may again be introduced in the same or in substantially the same form until 30 days after the date when that ordinance or resolution was defeated.

Rule 8. Rule 8. PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

A. Selection

The council president shall be selected by a majority vote of all council members at the annual-organizational meeting conducted on the third Tuesday of April.

B. Absence of Mayor

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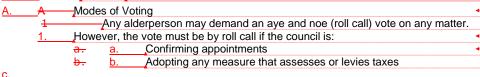
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During the mayor's mayor's absence or inability to serve, the council president shall be acting mayor and shall be vested with the powers and duties of the mayor, except the council president may not approve a council act that the mayor has vetoed. When acting as the presiding officer at meetings of the Common Council, the council president or other presiding officer retains his or her right to vote as an alderperson and if he or she exercises that right, may not vote in case of a tie.

Rule 9. Rule 9. VOTING



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- e. Appropriating or distributing money
- d. Creating any liability or charge against the city or any fund of the city
- 2. No member may explain his or her vote during the calling of ayes and noes.
- All ayes and noe votes shall be recorded in the journal (minutes of the commoncouncil) by the clerk.

B. Majority Vote Required

Any item appearing on the agenda of the Common Council that requires the vote of council for approval or passage must be approved by a simple majority except where a different vote is required by law.

C. Tie Vote

The mayor shall not vote except in the case of a tie. When the mayor does vote in the case of a tie, his or her vote shall be counted in determining whether a sufficient number of the council has voted favorably or unfavorably on any measure.

D. Abstentions

A council member who abstains from voting on a matter for the stated reason that voting would-violate or might be perceived to violate a law or ethical standard, shall not be counted for determining the number of members present if passage of that measure requires a favorable vote by a majority or other fractional vote (i.e. 2/3 or 3/4) of the members "present" or the presence of a quorum for purposes of that particular vote.

E. Vote Change

A council member may change his or her vote on a matter up to the time the result of the vote is announced.

Rule 10. Rule 10. RECONSIDERATION

Any member who voted with the prevailing side on any question may move for a reconsideration of the vote immediately after the vote on the question is determined, or at the next succeeding regular meeting of the council. A If the motion to reconsider is defeated motion for , it may not again be immediately presented to the council. If the underlying motion subject to reconsideration is not subject to further reconsideration, on the agenda for the next succeeding meeting then it too could be voted on, but otherwise the underlying motion shall be voted on at a subsequent meeting when properly noticed. Council actions that have already been implemented, such as approval of contracts that have been signed or ordinances that have become effective are not subject to reconsideration. Nothing in this rule prohibits the reintroduction of any business, subject to the restriction in Rule 7 C.

Rule 11. Rule 11. ORDINANCES

A. Readings of Ordinances

All proposed ordinances shall be read a total of two (2) times at two separate meetings before the council may vote on any of them. Each shall be read:

- a. At the time the proposed ordinance is first submitted to the councilfor its consideration (first reading).
- b. Immediately prior to the council's actual vote on it (second reading).
- B. 2. The council may dispense with any required reading except that if the purpose of waiving a second reading is to bring an ordinance to a vote at the meeting the ordinance is first submitted to the council, a 2/3 vote is required.

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B. Legal Review

All ordinances under consideration shall be reviewed by the city attorney for the purposes of accuracy and enforceability prior to being considered by the council.

Rule 12. Rule 12. COMMITTEES

A. Special Committees

The council may provide for special committees as it may from time to time deem necessary. Appointments to these special committees shall be made by the mayor.

B. Committee Minutes

Each committee shall keep minutes. Minutes shall be approved by a majority of the committee at a subsequent committee meeting. After approval by the committee, the minutes shall be filed with the clerk.

C. Notice of Committee Meetings

The committee chairperson or designee shall file notice of each committee meeting with the clerk. The notice shall comply with notice requirements found in Wis. Stats. 19.84.

D. Absence of Member.

If any member of a committee cannot attend a scheduled committee meeting, he or she shall notify the city clerk of his or her anticipated absence as soon as practically able prior to the meeting.

E. Quorum.

The mayor, as ex officio member of standing committees, has the right, but not the obligation, to participate in the proceedings of committees, and he or she is not counted in determining the number required for a quorum or whether a quorum is present at a meeting.

D. Committee Agenda

The chair of each committee shall approve all agenda items. He or she shall consider all referrals for the purpose of establishing said agendas.

Rule 13. Rule 13. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD.

A. Public Comment

A citizen may address the council provided the citizen registers with the clerk before the meeting is called to order, and indicates his or her interest to address the council; and provided the agenda provides for a public comment period.

B. E. Time Limited

With the exception of informational and public hearings, speakers shall be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes. The city clerk will maintain the timer and inform the speaker when 30 seconds remain.

C. COther Restrictions

If the presiding officer decides the comments are not relevant or are abusive, the presiding officer may:

- Order the citizen to modify his or her comments
- 2. Order the citizen to refrain from speaking
- 3. Order the citizen to leave council chambers
- Take such other steps as may be necessary to insure the efficient conduct of the council'scouncil's business

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D. Registration and Time

The city clerk will arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of the council meeting to distribute registration forms as requested. Each form will be dated, numbered, and distributed on a "first-come, first-served" basis.

A completed registration form is required to speak by each individual completing

his or her own form and is limited to addressing one subject per meeting only

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2. Speakers will utilize the microphone at the podium and will begin	by stating their Formatted: Not Expanded by / Conden	nsed by
name and address prior to addressing the council	Formatted	
The maximum time allotted for public comment is 30 minutes	Formatted	(
4. The council reserves the right to restrict or increase time limits	Formatted	<u></u>
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Rule 14. Rule 14. MANNER OF DELIBERATION	Formatted	
A. Manner Of		<u></u>
No alderperson shall address the council until recognized by the presiding	ig officer. The	
alderperson shall then address the presiding officer and keep all remarks to the		(
discussion. The alderperson shall also avoid personal confrontation when speaking	g. Formatted	<u> </u>
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B. Motions	Formatted	<u> </u>
No motion shall be discussed or acted upon until it has been seconded. No r	motion shall be Formatted	(
withdrawn without the consent of those alderpersons making and seconding the m	notion. Formatted	(
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C. Motions: Precedence Of	Formatted	(
-When a question is under consideration, no motion shall be entertain		(
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Fix the time to adjourn	•	<u> </u>
2. Adjourn	Formatted	(
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The above motions shall take precedence in the order listed.	Formatted	<u> </u>
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Rule 15. Rule 15, CONSENT AGENDA	Formatted	<u> </u>
A. <u>Clerk's Clerk's</u> , Responsibilities	Formatted	<u> </u>
The city clerk may create a subsection on any council agenda entitled, "-consent	agenda."- In a	(
consent agenda the clerk shall place matters that, in the clerk's clerk's judgment,		(
noncontroversial and do not require a special vote or specific action by the counc		(
agenda shall be approved by the council president prior to being placed on the cou	uncil agenda.	<u> </u>
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B. Procedure for Adoption		(
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The following procedure shall apply when a consent agenda is used:

all matters listed on the consent agenda

consent agenda

1.

2.

No separate discussion or debate may be permitted on any matter listed on the

A single motion, seconded and adopted by a majority vote of all members of the

council shall be required to approve, adopt, and act or otherwise favorably resolve

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- Any alderperson may request removal of any item or part of an item included inthe consent agenda. At the time the consent agenda is considered, the removal
 of an item as requested by an alderperson shall be approved without debate or
 vote
- 4. If an item or any part of an item has been removed from the consent agenda in accordance with this rule, the council shall consider that item at an appropriate time during the council'scouncil's regular order of business.

Rule 16. ROBERT'S Rule 16. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

In the absence of a standing rule, the council and committees shall be governed by the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, unless contrary to State law.

Rule 17. Rule 17. SUSPENSION OF RULES

These rules or any part of them may be suspended in connection with any matter underconsideration by a recorded vote of two___thirds of the members present.

Rule 18. VALIDITY OF COUNCIL ACTIONS

Rule 18. VALIDITY OF COUNCIL ACTIONS

No action by the Common Council shall be invalid or subject to challenge on the grounds that such action was taken in violation of the Rules of the Common Council.

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