



L201957549 10/28/2019 12:42:31 PM

Recorded - Benton County, AR

Brenda DeShields, Circuit Clerk

## ORDINANCE NO. 122

### AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A PROCEDURE FOR CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AT TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS IN THE TOWN OF AVOCA.

WHEREAS, the Town of Avoca currently lacks, and is in urgent need of, a procedure that will govern citizen participation at any regular or special meeting of the Avoca Town Council.

WHEREAS, the purpose of a Town council meeting is to permit the elected officials to conduct the Town's business.

WHEREAS, the Avoca Town Council values and seeks to encourage the participation of the Town's citizens in council meetings.

WHEREAS, the Town of Avoca seeks to establish a fair, orderly and practical way to receive citizen comments as well as to permit the council to conduct its business without disruption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF AVOCA, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. The Avoca Town Council hereby establishes a procedure for citizen participation at Town council meetings.

SECTION 2. Any citizen residing with the Town of Avoca or owning a business or property with in the Town of Avoca wishing to address an item on the agenda will be allowed three minutes per person to address the council. The citizen must confine his or her remarks to the agenda item and must indicate the agenda item on the sign-in sheet provided.

SECTION 3. After all agenda items have been concluded, citizens will have an opportunity to address the council concerning matters not otherwise on the agenda. Each citizen who wishes to speak will be allotted three minutes per person and must indicate the non-agenda item on the sign-in sheet provided.

SECTION 4. No citizen will be denied the right to speak because of the citizen's viewpoint. The Town Attorney will keep the citizen's time and shall notify the Mayor or presiding officer when the citizen's time has expired. After the time has expired, the citizen may remain to answer any questions from the mayor or Town council, or any other person recognized by the presiding official. Citizens shall speak from the podium.

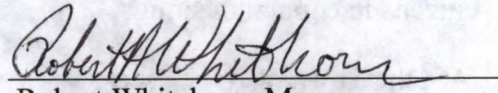
SECTION 5. Citizens speaking or otherwise making noise during the council meeting other than as provided in this policy will be ruled out of order by the mayor or presiding officer and will be asked to remain silent until such time as they are recognized to speak under this policy. Noncompliance with this request will be considered disruptive and the offending party may be required to leave the meeting.



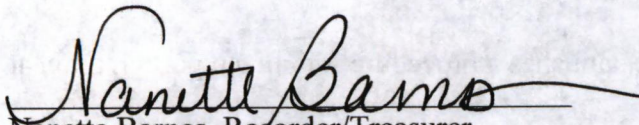
SECTION 7. Emergency Clause. The immediate enactment of this ordinance is necessary as citizen participation at Town council meetings occurs with regularity and a procedure is necessary to conduct the meetings in a fair, orderly and lawful fashion; therefore in order to ensure the preservation of the public health, safety and welfare, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 8th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2019.



  
Robert Whitehorn, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Nanette Barnes, Recorder/Treasurer

User Name: VILLI  
CERTIFICATE OF RECORD  
STATE OF ARKANSAS, COUNTY OF BENTON  
I hereby certify that this instrument was  
Filed and Recorded in the Official Records  
L201957549 10/28/2019 12:42:31 PM  
Brenda DeShields, Circuit Clerk  
BENTON CO, AR FEE \$15.00