

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF WILL)
TOWN OF JOLIET)

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-05
RULES REGARDING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
AT TOWNSHIP MEETINGS**

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois has enacted "The Open Meetings Act" (5 ILCS 120/1, et seq.) which, at 5 ILCS 120/2.06(g) provides: "Any person shall be permitted an opportunity to address public officials under the rules established and recorded by the public body",

WHEREAS, the opportunity to address Township Officials at Township Meetings is an important right and duty of the residents of Joliet Township, and

WHEREAS, the Township Board, to assist them in making the best decisions on matters that effect Township residents, values the input, thoughts and comments of Township residents and believes that said public input is very helpful in carrying out their official duties; and

WHEREAS, respect for the duties of Township Officials and for the democratic process should be adhered to, and, in this regard, standards of civility and a sense of decorum at all Township meetings must be maintained, and

WHEREAS, Joliet Township desires to adopt rules concerning the time, place and manner in which members of the public may address officials at Township meetings in order to maintain decorum at public meetings and in order to ensure that public meetings are efficiently conducted,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY the Supervisor and Board of Trustees, as follows:

In order to secure the rights of the residents of Joliet Township to a fair and just representation before their elected officials, and in order to guarantee to those duly elected officials an orderly and dignified forum in which to represent the rights of said residents, no person shall be allowed to engage in any activity that will disturb or disrupt the orderly proceedings of any public Township meeting.

In order to attain this objective, the following Rules of conduct are established:

1. Any person who desires to address the Township Board, or any other subsidiary board or

committee of the Township, at the time allotted by the said board for public comment, shall be permitted to speak only upon recognition of the presiding officer and, in so speaking, such person shall adhere to the following rules and provisions:

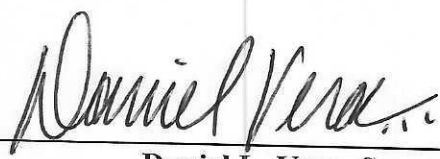
- a. Each person addressing the board shall state his/her name for the record.
 - b. Each person shall be granted no more than three (3) minutes per meeting to address the Board, unless such time is extended by the presiding officer.
 - c. Commentary shall be limited to township business.
 - d. Commentary shall be directed to the presiding officer unless that officer permits the commentary to be directed to board members or other officers present.
 - e. Profanity shall not be used in any form or manner.
 - f. Commentary shall take place in a professional manner which displays mutual respect for all persons involved.
2. Members of the audience will not engage in conversation while the meeting is in session.
 3. Members of the audience will not be permitted free movement about the meeting room while meetings are in session. Members of the audience may enter or leave the meeting room at any time provided such entrance or exit is made quietly and in an orderly fashion.
 4. Battery operated recording equipment will be permitted, provided the operation of said equipment is silent. The microphone or sound recording device shall not be placed in the section of the meeting room designated for the use of the public officials, unless otherwise permitted by the presiding officer.
 5. No audio or visual recording equipment may be set or used in any manner so as to obstruct the view of any person in the audience.
 6. Individuals who appear to be visibly intoxicated or under the influence of any drugs shall not be allowed to address the board.
 7. The consumption of any food product is prohibited at any meeting while the meeting is in session.

8. The presiding officer at each meeting, or his designee, shall be responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of this ordinance and shall be empowered to reprimand and/or eject any and all persons violating the provisions of this ordinance.
9. This ordinance shall be effective upon its passage.

PASSED this 9th day of June, 2020.


Temporary Deputy Clerk

APPROVED this 9th day of June, 2020.


Daniel L. Vera, Supervisor

Roll Call Vote:

Voting in Favor: Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera

Voting Against: NONE

Not Voting: NONE