



~~**REPORTS FROM THE PUBLIC:**~~  
**RULES FOR MAKING PUBLIC COMMENT**  
**ON AGENDA & NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

The Bloomington Common Council greatly values the voices of its citizens and welcomes public comment on non-agenda items of community concern at two points on its *Regular Session* agenda. Citizens may make general comments at either the beginning of the meeting under *Reports from the Public* (limited to a total cumulative time of 20 minutes) or at the end under *Additional Reports from the Public* (limited to a total **cumulative time** of 25 minutes).

In order to conduct meetings in the most effective manner possible, the following rules apply **to periods of general public comment and to periods of public comment on a particular item:**

- 1) At each meeting, citizens may speak at only *one* of the two opportunities for **general** public comment, but not both.
- 2) Citizens are limited to one **comment report**, not to exceed **three five (3 5)** minutes. ~~If there are many people who wish to speak during one of the public comment periods, the Chair may reduce the time allowed for each individual.~~ When giving your **comment report**, please state your name for the record and speak directly into the microphone.
- 3) All **in-person comments reports** must be made from the podium; speakers may not approach the Council dais without permission of the Chair.
- 4) Reports are intended to be statements from speakers; speakers may not engage the Council in a question-and-answer exchange during the *Reports from the Public* periods.
- 5) The City Council encourages civility in public discourse and requests that speakers refrain from language which would incite an immediate breach of the peace; refrain from undue repetition, extended discussion of irrelevancies, obscenity, and personal attacks against private individuals unrelated to the operation of the City.

These rules are intended to foster a fair, respectful, and productive meeting. Any person who violates these rules will be declared out of order by the Chair **and will receive a warning. If an attendee receives three (3) warnings, the Chair may, upon issuing the third warning, direct: 1) the attendee to leave the meeting; and 2) a law enforcement officer to remove the attendee from the meeting, if the attendee refuses to leave when directed by the Chair for a violation of these rules.**

**Nothing in these rules may be construed to prohibit a law enforcement officer from immediately removing an attendee from a meeting if: 1) removal of the attendee is necessary to maintain order or ensure the safety of another person; 2) the attendee commits a criminal offense; or 3) the attendee violates these rules governing the conduct of the meeting. Ind. Code § 5-14-1.5-3.3 (effective July 1, 2024). ~~A person who persists in violating these rules may be removed from the meeting.~~**