

CITY OF LOMPOC
CITY COUNCIL HANDBOOK

~~Bob Lingl, Jenelle Osborne, Mayor~~

~~Jim Mosby, Mayor Pro Tem~~
~~Gilda Cordova, Council Member (District 1)~~

~~Victor Vega, Council Member (District 2)~~

~~Dirk Starbuck, Council Member (District 3)~~

~~Jeremy Ball, Council Member (District 4)~~

~~Jenelle Osborne, Council Member~~

Adopted January 6, 1987
Amended September 30, 1987
Revised March 16, 1999
Amended March 6 and April 3, 2001
Revised February 16, 2010
Revised April 20, 2010
Amended April 19, 2011
Amended December 6, 2011
Amended August 20, 2013
Amended June 17, 2014
Amended February 17, 2015
Amended November 3, 2015
Amended December 19, 2017
Amended March 2, 2021

copies of reports are available to the public, verbatim reading of staff reports is not required and is strongly discouraged.

B4.8 Decorum and Order, Audience

Members of the public attending Council meetings should observe the same rules of order and decorum applicable to the Council Members and City staff. Any person making impertinent, slanderous, or profane remarks or who becomes rude, boisterous, abusive, disruptive, demeaning, profane, or unprofessional while attending the Council meeting may be removed from the room and such person may be barred from further audience at the meeting in question. Unauthorized remarks from the audience, heckling, stamping of feet, whistles, yells, applause, and similar demonstrations should not be permitted by the Presiding Officer. Aggravated cases may be prosecuted on appropriate complaint signed by the Presiding Officer or a Council Member.

The Presiding Officer may order the meeting room cleared and Council may continue in session if the meeting is willfully interrupted by a person or group of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting infeasible without removal of individuals who are willfully disrupting the meeting. In these cases, only matters appearing on the agenda may be considered. Representatives of the press or other news media, except those participating in the disturbance, and individuals not responsible for disturbance of the orderly conduct of the meeting, will be allowed to remain at the meeting or may be readmitted. Cal. Gov. Code §54957.9.

B4.9 Public Comment

Addressing the Council: Subject to compliance with rules of order and decorum, members of the public have an absolute right to address the Council at open meetings during oral communications segments of the agenda. Restricting speakers to the subject at hand and proper decorum is Constitutionally permitted.

Manner of Addressing Council: At the appropriate time, any person wishing to address the Council should stand and wait to be recognized by the Presiding Officer. After being recognized, the speaker may state his/her name and place of residence for the record. The speaker should address the Council from the podium.

~~All remarks and questions should be addressed to the Council as a whole and not to any specific Council Member, staff, the audience, or the media. No question should be asked a Council Member or staff member without first obtaining permission from the Presiding Officer.~~

Comments should be fundamentally impersonal: the subject of the debate is the issue, not its proponent. A motion and its consequences may be attacked vigorously, but speakers should not attack the motives, character, or personality of a member, speaker, or any other person, either directly or by implication or innuendo. Improper language, irrelevancy, dilatory tactics, rude behavior, and disorderly conduct, including, but not limited to, use of signs or other means to disrupt the meeting should not be used. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no speaker will be censured or prohibited from speaking based upon the content of his/her remarks, but may be removed from the meeting if the Presiding Officer or a majority of the Council Members determines the speaker is out of order pursuant to the foregoing.

Time Limitation: Every member of the public addressing the Council shall limit his/her remarks to a maximum of three minutes during all speaking opportunities, provided that comment shall not exceed two minutes per speaker during oral communications just prior to adjournment. When large