

oral reports
1-10-17

Jackie Henderson

From: Justin Wilson
Sent: Monday, January 09, 2017 11:56 PM
To: Timothy Lovain; Paul Smedberg; Willie Bailey; John Chapman; Del Pepper; Allison Silberberg
Cc: Mark Jinks; Jackie Henderson; James Banks
Subject: Re: Public Comment/NLC Blog Post

Colleagues,

As a follow-up to this NLC Blog post that I circulated before the holidays, I would like to have a discussion tomorrow evening during orals about how we manage public comment going forward.

In 2014, Council adopted the resolution that governs how we run our meetings including the public comment period of Public Hearings. The below boldface language is in our resolution. Out of deference to those who have showed up to testify before or against scheduled public hearing docket items, I would like to see us better adhere to the language in our resolution.

Some version of this same language has been in Council's meeting resolutions dating back to at least 1975:

"(c) If more speakers are signed up than would be allotted for in 30 minutes, the Mayor may organize speaker requests by subject or position, and allocate appropriate times, trying to ensure that speakers on unrelated subjects will be allowed to speak during the 30 minute public discussion period.

(d) If speakers seeking to address council on the same subject cannot agree on a particular order or method that they would like the speakers to be called on, the speakers shall be called in the chronological order in which their request forms were received.

(e) Any speakers not called during the public discussion period will have the option to speak at the conclusion of the meeting, after all docketed items have been heard."

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From: Justin Wilson <justin.wilson@alexandriava.gov>
Sent: Saturday, December 24, 2016 11:29:17 AM
To: Timothy Lovain; Paul Smedberg; Willie Bailey; John Chapman; Del Pepper; Allison Silberberg
Cc: Mark Jinks; Jackie Henderson; James Banks
Subject: Public Comment/NLC Blog Post

Colleagues,

I just ran across this NLC Blog post about managing public comment period at meetings:

<https://citiesspeak.org/2016/11/29/the-first-amendment-is-not-the-last-word-at-public-meetings/>

Some good ideas for us to think about in the New Year.

Have a great holiday.

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