

BILL NO. 22-028

ORDINANCE NO. 4913

FIRST READING 10.18.2022

SECOND READING 11.01.2022

**AN ORDINANCE REVISING CHAPTER 2 - ADMINISTRATION, ARTICLE III. –
CITY COUNCIL, DIVISION 2 RULES AND ORDER OF BUSINESS; OF THE
REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HANNIBAL TO MAKE SPECIFIC
PROVISIONS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the Citizens of Hannibal to provide the ability to make public comment at the meeting of the City of Hannibal.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HANNIBAL MISSOURI:

SECTION ONE: That Chapter 2 - Administration, Article III. – City Council, Division 2 Rules and Order Of Business of the Revised Ordinances of the City Of Hannibal is hereby amended to include a new Section 2-185 which shall provide as follows:

Sec. 2-185, Public Comment

At each meeting of the City Council there shall be a portion of the meeting set aside for public comment.

1. In order to comment a party shall be required to sign in and provide a brief statement of the general topic upon which they wish to comment.
2. The Council shall promulgate rules regarding the length of time each commenter shall be allowed to speak.
3. The council shall also determine the location on the agenda for public comment.
4. In the event that any commenter misuses the public comment period, the Mayor or Mayor Pro tem in the Mayor's absence shall be empowered to terminate that commenter's speaking privilege. Misuse shall include, but not be limited to use of obscenity, attacks on individuals or businesses, discussion of topics which are not reasonably related to the City of Hannibal or the business of the City.


SECTION TWO: It hereby is declared to be the intention of the City Council that each and every part, portion and sub-portion of this Ordinance shall be separate and severable from each and every other part, portion or sub-portion hereof and that the City Council intends to adopt each said part, portion or sub-portion separately and independently of any other part, portion or sub-portion. In the event that any part of this Ordinance shall be determined to be or to have been unlawful or unconstitutional, the remaining parts, portions and sub-portions shall be and remain in full force and effect.

SECTION THREE: All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance, in so far as they conflict, are hereby repealed.

SECTION FOUR: That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption and approval.

Adopted this 1st day of November, 2022

Approved this 1st day of November, 2022


James R. Hark, Mayor

ATTEST:


Angelica N. Zerbonia, MRCC, CMO - City Clerk

MEMO

To: Hannibal City Council

From: City Attorney

Re: Public comment

The council instructed me to prepare a proposed ordinance regarding public comment. Please see attached. Based on the discussion I believe the goal is to create a general ordinance and allow the council to promulgate rules, which is the format I have used here.