
**THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**ORDINANCE
NUMBER 2019-043**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE III (“ADMINISTRATION”) OF
CHAPTER 30 (“CITY COUNCIL – GENERAL PROVISIONS”) OF
THE CODE OF BLUE ISLAND, ILLINOIS, TO ESTABLISH AND
RECORD RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND THE
RECORDING OF PUBLIC MEETINGS**

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ORDINANCE NO. 2019-043

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE III (“ADMINISTRATION”) OF CHAPTER 30 (“CITY COUNCIL – GENERAL PROVISIONS”) OF THE CODE OF BLUE ISLAND, ILLINOIS, TO ESTABLISH AND RECORD RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND THE RECORDING OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

WHEREAS, the corporate authorities of the City of Blue Island (“City”) have the authority to adopt ordinances and to promulgate rules and regulations pertaining to its government and affairs; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.06(g) of the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/2.06(g), provides that “[a]ny person shall be permitted an opportunity to address public officials under the rules established and recorded by the public body”; and

WHEREAS, the Attorney General has determined that public bodies must take formal action to establish and record rules for public comment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the corporate authorities of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, by and through its statutory powers, as follows:

Section 1. The above recitals are incorporated herein and made a part hereof, as if fully set forth in their entirety.

Section 2. Title III (“Administration”) of Chapter 30 (“City Council – General Provisions”) of the Code of Blue Island, Illinois, is hereby amended by adding Sections 30.06 and 30.07 as follows:

§ 30.06 RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

(A) *Public Comment.*

(1) *Committee meetings.* Any member of the general public (“Speaker”) may orally or in writing address items that are on the agenda of any open meeting of a standing committee of the Blue Island City Council (“Council”) or any subcommittees thereof and subject to the rules provided in this Section.

(2) *Council meetings.* Speakers may orally or in writing address any item, including those not on the meeting agenda, at any open meeting of the Council and subject to the rules provided in this Section.

(B) *Public Comment Rules.*

Oral public comment at meetings shall be subject to the rules set forth below:

(1) Speakers must be physically present at the meeting. An individual who is unable to be physically present at the meeting may give written comments to

another individual to be read by that individual at the meeting. Written comments must adhere to all other rules for public comment in this Section. An individual reading written comments may read such comments from only one other individual at a given meeting.

(2) During the period for public comment at Council meetings, Speakers must come forward to the podium at Council meetings if they are physically able to do so. During the period for public comment at committee or subcommittee meetings, the location from which Speakers must address the committee or subcommittee, if physically able to do so, shall be determined by the Presiding Officer.

(3) Speakers must give their full names prior to speaking during public comment. Speakers shall not be required to provide their home addresses during public comment.

(4) After being recognized by the Mayor or Presiding Officer, Speakers must address the Council, committee, or subcommittee directly, and not members of the public.

(5) Each speaker is allotted a maximum of four minutes to speak. The four-minute time period shall be monitored by the City Clerk. Speakers who are reading written comments submitted by other individuals must adhere to this time frame.

(6) Speakers shall refrain from using obscene, profane, abusive, or inciting language or gestures.

(C) Posting of Public Comment Rules. Public comment rules will be posted on the City's website, at the East Annex, and with the sign-in sheet at each public meeting.

§ 30.06 RULES FOR RECORDING PUBLIC MEETINGS.

(A) Policy. It is the City's policy to cooperate with representatives of the media and with other members of the public who wish to record public meetings by tape, film or other means.

(B) Procedural Rules.

(1) Any person may record the proceedings of a public meeting by tape, film, or other means subject to the rules of this Section.

(2) Meetings closed to the public may not be recorded except as required and authorized by the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq.

(3) The Mayor or Presiding Officer may designate a location for recording equipment or restrict the movements of individuals who are using the recording

equipment for the purpose of reasonably preserving meeting decorum and facilitating the conduct of business.

(4) If a witness at any open meeting refuses to testify on the grounds that he may not be compelled to testify if any portion of his testimony is to be broadcast or televised or if motion pictures are to be taken of him while he is testifying, the Mayor or other Presiding Officer holding the meeting shall prohibit such recording during the testimony of the witness, in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2.05. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to extend the right to refuse to testify at any meeting not subject to the provisions of Section 8-701 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

Section 3. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity thereof shall not affect any of the other provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 5. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication in pamphlet form as provided by law. A full, true and complete copy of this ordinance shall be published in pamphlet form, by authority of the City Council as corporate authorities.

(Intentionally left blank.)

ADOPTED this 27th day of August, 2019, pursuant to a roll call vote as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	PRESENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman Johnson			X		
Alderman Alexander	X				
Alderman Bilotto	X				
Alderman Cazares			X		
Alderman Rita	X				
Alderman Donahue	X				
Alderman Hawley	X				
Alderman Fahrenwald	X				
Alderman Mech	X				
Alderman Hill	X				
Alderman Cantelo-Zylman	X				
Alderman Carr	X				
Alderman Slattery			X		
Alderman Klinker	X				
Mayor Vargas					
TOTAL	11		3		

APPROVED by the Mayor on August 27, 2019.

DOMINGO F. VARGAS
 MAYOR OF THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND,
 COUNTY OF COOK AND STATE OF ILLINOIS

ATTESTED and Filed in my office this
 27th day of August, 2019.


 RANDY HEUSER, CITY CLERK

PUBLISHED in pamphlet form this
 27th day of August, 2019.


 RANDY HEUSER, CITY CLERK