



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Master

File Number: 67061

File ID: 67061	File Type: Ordinance	Status: Report of Officer
Version: 1	Reference:	Controlling Body: COMMON COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Lead Referral: COMMON COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	Cost:	File Created Date : 08/20/2021
File Name: Clarify Process for Designating Location and Means of Council Meetings		Final Action:
<p>Title: Amending Sections 2.01 and 2.15 of the Madison General Ordinances to clarify the process for designating a location and the means of conducting individual Common Council meetings.</p>		
Notes: 6521councilmtgs		
Code Sections:	CC Agenda Date: 10/05/2021	
Indexes:	Agenda Number: 31.	
Sponsors: Keith Furman, Juliana R. Bennett, Grant Foster and Yannette Figueroa Cole	Effective Date:	
Attachments:	Enactment Number:	
Author: Michael Haas	Hearing Date:	
Entered by: jphelps@cityofmadison.com	Published Date:	

Approval History

Version	Date	Approver	Action
1		Michael Haas	Approved as to Form
1		Ryan Pennington	Approve

History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	Attorney's Office	08/20/2021	Referred for Introduction				
Notes: Common Council Executive Committee (9/21/21); Common Council (9/21/21)							

1	COMMON COUNCIL	08/31/2021	Referred	COMMON COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	09/28/2021	
1	COMMON COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	09/21/2021	Refer	COMMON COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	09/28/2021	Pass
1	COMMON COUNCIL	09/21/2021	Re-refer	COMMON COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE		Pass
Notes:						
1	COMMON COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	09/28/2021	RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT - REPORT OF OFFICER			Fail
			Ayes: 3	Lindsay Lemmer; Patrick W. Heck and Juliana R. Bennett		
			Noes: 4	Syed Abbas; Barbara Harrington-McKinney; Nasra Wehelie and Sheri Carter		
			Excused: 1	Arvina Martin		
1	COMMON COUNCIL	10/05/2021				

Text of Legislative File 67061

Fiscal Note

No City appropriation required.

Title

Amending Sections 2.01 and 2.15 of the Madison General Ordinances to clarify the process for designating a location and the means of conducting individual Common Council meetings.

Body

These ordinance amendments allow Common Council meetings to be held in-person or telephonically or electronically based upon a determination of the Mayor and Council President, subject to a vote of the Common Council.

The Common Council of the City of Madison do hereby ordain as follows:

1. Section 2.01 entitled "Meetings" of the Madison General Ordinances is amended as follows:

"2.01 - MEETINGS.

(1) The stated meeting of the Common Council shall be held in the Council Chambers, or at a location or by a means determined pursuant to Section 2.15 of the Madison General Ordinances, on the first and third Tuesdays of every month at 6:30 p.m., except in August and December the Common Council will meet only on the first Tuesday. A special November meeting or meetings will be held for the Capital and Operating Budgets. Following a regular City of Madison election, the newly elected Common Council also shall hold an organizational meeting on the third Tuesday of April. The Council will establish the meeting dates for all meetings by resolution and post the schedule at least annually, and may modify meeting dates for holidays and elections."

2. Section 2.15 entitled "Presence Required at Meetings; Electronic Communications" of the Madison General Ordinances is amended as follows:

"2.15 - PRESENCE REQUIRED AT MEETINGS; ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS.

- (1) (a) No member shall be allowed to vote by proxy.
 - (b) Meetings ~~shall not~~ may be conducted in person or telephonically or electronically unless a special or emergency meeting is held, or as detailed in determined pursuant to (c). If the Mayor and the Common Council President do not designate a location and means of conducting a meeting, and if the Council does not otherwise determine, the meeting shall be conducted in person.
 - (c) ~~Notwithstanding (b), when there is an officially declared city, county, state or federal emergency and necessary members of the Council are unable to attend a meeting in person; or when the Director of Public Health Madison and Dane County determines it is reasonable and necessary for the prevention or suppression of disease, regularly scheduled meetings may be held telephonically or via the internet.~~ The Mayor and the Common Council President shall determine if a regularly scheduled meeting of the Council is to be held in person, telephonically or via the internet. The Mayor and the Common Council President shall designate the location and means of conducting individual Council meetings as an item on the agenda of the immediately-preceding regular meeting. At such immediately-preceding regular meeting, the Council may, by a vote of the majority of its members, alter the location and means of conducting the upcoming meeting. Notwithstanding a determination of the Council under this subsection, in the event of inclement weather or other exigent circumstances affecting the ability of the Council and the public to attend a meeting in person, the Mayor and the Common Council President may direct that the meeting be held telephonically or via the internet. Such decision shall be communicated to all members of the Council and to the public by noon the day before the meeting.
 - (d) If a meeting is conducted telephonically or via the internet, the meeting notice shall so state. The Mayor shall direct appropriate staff to ensure that all technical preparations are made for such a meeting, including ensuring said meeting is compliant with the open meetings laws, Wis. Stats. §§ 19.81-19.98.
- (2) No member of the Council shall communicate electronically with another member of the Council during a meeting on any matter on the meeting agenda, unless the electronic communication is saved and available under the Public Records Law and unless such communication in no way violates the Open Meetings Law."