

RESOLUTION NO. R-2026-07-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTON, TEXAS, ADOPTING RULES OF PROCEDURE AND RULES OF DECORUM FOR MEETINGS OF THE WESTON CITY COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 22.038 OF THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE; ESTABLISHING CONTENT-NEUTRAL STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR PERSONS ATTENDING AND ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL; AFFIRMING THE AUTHORITY OF THE PRESIDING OFFICER TO PRESERVE ORDER AND TO DIRECT THE REMOVAL OF PERSONS WHO DISRUPT A MEETING; ADOPTING REASONABLE RULES REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENT UNDER SECTION 551.007 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE; PROVIDING A REPEALER; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Weston, Texas (the “City”) is a Type-A general-law municipality located in Collin County, Texas, created in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 6 of the Texas Local Government Code and operating pursuant to the enabling legislation of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Section 22.038 of the Texas Local Government Code gives the governing body of a Type-A municipality the authority to determine the rules of its proceedings, and the presiding officer has the authority and duty to preserve order and decorum at meetings of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, Section 551.007 of the Texas Government Code requires a governmental body to allow members of the public to address it regarding items on its agenda, and authorizes the body to adopt reasonable rules regarding the public’s right to address it, including rules that limit the total amount of time a member of the public may speak; and

WHEREAS, the disruption of a lawful public meeting and disorderly conduct are separately addressed by Sections 42.05 and 42.01 of the Texas Penal Code, which remain fully applicable and are not limited or superseded by this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the City Council intends that the rules adopted by this Resolution regulate the conduct of persons at its meetings in a content-neutral manner and shall not be applied to restrict any speech protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or Article I, Section 8 of the Texas Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to adopt formal, written rules of procedure and decorum in place of the informal decorum notice previously printed on its meeting agendas;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTON, TEXAS:

SECTION 1

FINDINGS

The findings and recitals set forth above are found to be true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution as if fully set forth herein.

SECTION 2

RULES OF PROCEDURE

- (a) The Mayor, or in the Mayor's absence the Mayor Pro Tem, shall preside at all meetings of the City Council and shall preserve order and decorum.
- (b) Business shall be conducted in the order set out on the posted agenda. The presiding officer may, subject to the Council's rules and applicable law, take items out of order to facilitate the efficient conduct of the meeting.
- (c) To the extent not inconsistent with state law, the City's ordinances, or these rules, the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, may serve as a general guide for parliamentary procedure; however, no failure to observe such parliamentary guidance shall invalidate any action taken by the Council.
- (d) A member of the City Council who wishes to speak shall first be recognized by the presiding officer and shall confine remarks to the question under debate.

SECTION 3

DECORUM - MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

While the City Council is in session, its members shall preserve order and decorum, shall not delay or interrupt the proceedings or refuse to obey the orders of the presiding officer, and shall confine debate to the matter under consideration.

SECTION 4

PUBLIC COMMENT AND DECORUM - PERSONS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

- (a) A member of the public wishing to address the City Council shall do so during the designated public comment period or when otherwise recognized by the presiding officer, and shall comply with any sign-in procedure provided by the City.
- (b) Each speaker shall be allowed up to three (3) minutes to address the Council, unless the presiding officer, or the Council by majority vote, adjusts the time limit uniformly and in a content-neutral manner. The Council may accommodate speakers requiring a translator as provided by Section 551.007 of the Texas Government Code.
- (c) Speakers shall address the presiding officer, shall not engage Council members or staff in direct debate, and are requested to confine their remarks to matters within the jurisdiction of the City.
- (d) The City Council is not required to respond to comments made during the public comment period and, except as permitted by law, may not deliberate or act on a subject that is not on the posted agenda.
- (e) These rules regulate the time, place, and manner of addressing the Council and the conduct of persons in attendance. They shall be applied without regard to the viewpoint or content of any speech. The use of words that a listener may find offensive or profane is not, by itself, a basis for removal; a person may be addressed under Section 5 only when his or her conduct actually disrupts, disturbs, or impedes the orderly progress of the meeting, or falls within a category of speech unprotected by law.

SECTION 5

PRESERVATION OF ORDER; AUTHORITY OF THE PRESIDING OFFICER

If any person, whether a member of the public or otherwise, disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of a City Council meeting, the presiding officer shall follow a graduated response as circumstances permit:

- (a) first, warn the person that his or her conduct is disrupting the meeting and request that the conduct cease;
- (b) second, if the conduct continues, rule the person out of order and direct that the person cease speaking or return to order;
- (c) third, if the person persists in disrupting the meeting after being warned and ruled out of order, direct the person to leave the meeting and, if necessary, direct a peace officer or present Sergeant-at-Arms to remove the person from the meeting; and
- (d) at any time, recess the meeting, or take such other lawful action as may be reasonably necessary to restore and preserve order.

Nothing in this Section limits the authority of a peace officer to enforce the Texas Penal Code, including Sections 42.05 and 42.01.

SECTION 6

NON-EXCLUSIVE; NO CRIMINAL PENALTY CREATED

The rules adopted by this Resolution are procedural rules governing the conduct of City Council meetings and the preservation of order. This Resolution does not create a criminal offense or civil penalty and does not limit, replace, or supersede any remedy or offense available under state law, including Sections 42.05 and 42.01 of the Texas Penal Code.

SECTION 7

REPEALER

The informal decorum notice previously printed on City Council meeting agendas, and any prior rule, resolution, or practice in conflict with this Resolution, is hereby superseded to the extent of the conflict. This Resolution supplements, and does not repeal or amend, Resolution No. R-2006-01-01 (Council Code of Conduct), which remains in full force and effect. Staff is directed to conform the standing agenda notice to the rules adopted herein.

SECTION 8

SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Resolution, or its application to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or applications of this Resolution that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Resolution are declared severable.

SECTION 9

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, and it is so resolved.

RESOLVED AND ENTERED by the City Council of the City of Weston, Texas, this the 14 day of July, 2026.

APPROVED:


Matt Marchiori, Mayor

ATTEST:


Britt Murry, City Secretary

