



City of Orting

City Council Rules of Procedure

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1. General Rules

1.1 Meetings to be Public:

The meetings of the City Council shall be open to the public with the exception of executive sessions for certain limited topics (as defined in RCW Chapter 42.30). After minutes have been approved, the City Clerk will post the minutes on the website and retain the minutes in a fire proof safe or file, and retain them in accordance with Washington State Retention schedules.

1.2 Quorum:

A simple majority of Councilmembers shall be in attendance to constitute a quorum and be necessary for the transaction of business. If a quorum is not present, those in attendance will be named and they shall adjourn to a later time, but no adjournment shall be for a longer period than until the next regular meeting.

1.3 Attendance, Excused Absences:

RCW 35A.12.060 provides that a Councilmember shall forfeit his/her office by failing to attend three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the Council without being excused by the Council. The member shall contact the Mayor or the City Clerk prior to the meeting and state the reason for his/her inability to attend the meeting. The Mayor shall inform the Council of the member's absence, state the reason for such absence and inquire if there is a motion to excuse the member. Upon passage of such motion by a majority of members present, the absent member shall be considered excused and the City Clerk will make an appropriate notation in the minutes. If the motion is not passed, the City Clerk will note in the minutes that the absence is unexcused.

1.4 Remote Participation

Councilmembers are encouraged to attend meetings in person as often as possible. In the event that you are not able to attend meetings in person remote attendance preferably visually, and audibly will be permitted.

1.5 Council Meeting Staffing:

The City Administrator, City Clerk, City Treasurer, City Engineer and City Attorney shall attend all meetings of the Council unless excused. The staff may make recommendations to the Council and may take part in the discussions of the Council, but shall have no vote. The City Attorney shall give an opinion, either written or oral, on legal questions. The City Attorney shall act as the Council's parliamentarian.

Other City staff may be asked to attend if their expertise is required to answer questions or make a report on a specific agenda item.

1.6 Journal of Proceedings:

The City Clerk will keep an account of all proceedings of the Council. In accordance with statutory requirements, all proceedings will be either audio or video recorded and then written minutes will be prepared by the City Clerk, as the official record of the Council meeting. All Planning Commission and Civil Service Commission meetings will be audio recorded and written minutes shall be retained according to Washington State Record Retention Schedule. Committee meetings may be audio and video recorded and written minutes shall be retained according to Washington State Record Retention schedules.

1.7 Right of Floor:

Any Councilmember desiring to speak shall be recognized by the Chair and shall confine his/her remarks to one subject under consideration or to be considered. Councilmembers may speak about the subject under consideration for a reasonable length of time.

1.8 Rule of Order:

Except as otherwise provided herein, *Robert's Rules of Order* shall be the guideline procedures for the proceedings of the Council.

1.9 Councilmember Seating:

A Councilmember's seat at the dais will be determined as follows or as mutually agreed upon by Council:

- (A) The Mayor shall sit in the center seat, and the Deputy Mayor shall sit to the Mayor's right.

2. Types of Meetings:

2.1 Regular Council Meetings:

The Council shall meet on the second, and last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm, at Orting City Hall (104 Bridge St S. Orting, WA 98360, or at another location the City Council may deem appropriate and noticed). The Council may reschedule regular meetings to a different date or time by a motion and majority vote of the Council. All meetings shall be open to the public.

2.1.1 Regular Study Sessions:

The Council shall hold, as regular meetings, study sessions at Orting City Hall on the third Wednesday of each month, at 6:00 pm., unless otherwise noticed. Study sessions may be used by the city council to receive reports and presentations, review and evaluate complex matters, and/or engage in preliminary analysis of city issues or city council business.

2.2 Special Meetings and Workshops:

Special meetings may be called by the Mayor or any three members of the Council in conformance with Chapter 35A.12 RCW. The City Clerk shall prepare a notice of the special meeting stating the time, place and business to be transacted. The City Clerk shall notify each member of the Council, as required by law, of the special meeting. The City Clerk shall give at least 24 hours' notice of the special meeting and post that notice to the City's website, to the City's official newspaper, The News Tribune, and to the front window at City Hall and at the location of the City Council meeting. No subjects other than those specified in the notice shall be considered during the meeting. The Council may not make final disposition on any matter not mentioned in the notice. All special meetings shall be open to the public. The Council may meet informally in study sessions and workshops (open to the public), at the call of the Mayor or of any three or more members of the Council. Discussions and conclusions shall be informal and do not constitute official actions of the Council.

2.3 Council Committee Meetings:

There shall be three standing council committees: Public Works; Public Safety; and Community and Government Affairs. Committee assignments shall be made in accordance with Rule 3.9. There shall be two councilmembers on each committee, with one serving as Chairperson and one serving as Vice Chairperson. The Chairperson shall chair the Committee meeting. A Councilmember may attend a Council Committee meeting for a Committee to which he or she is not assigned, however the non-committee member attends the Committee meeting as an observer and the Chair or presiding officer of the Committee determines the extent of the Councilmember's participation in the meeting.

Council Committees shall establish a regular time, date location for their meetings, and the City Clerk will maintain a list of committee meeting times, dates and locations. All meetings shall be publicly noticed and open to the public.

Agenda items for Council Committee Meetings may be submitted by any of the following: (1) the Mayor; (2) the City Administrator or his or her designee; and (3) a Department Director, with consent of the City Administrator; and/or (4) a City Councilmember.

Unless otherwise stated in these rules, the Council Committee may make recommendations on agenda items to the Council for consideration at a study session. In the event of a dispute between the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson on a particular agenda item, where no consensus can be reached, both recommendations may be submitted to the full council to debate at a study session.

2.4 Emergency Meetings:

An emergency meeting is a Special Council meeting called without 24-hour notice. An emergency meeting deals with injury or damage to persons or property or the

likelihood of such injury or damage, when time requirements of a 24-hour notice is impractical and would likely increase such injury or damage. Emergency meetings may be called by the City Administrator or the Mayor or two Councilmembers. The minutes will indicate the reason for the emergency.

2.5 Executive Sessions:

An executive session is a Council meeting that is closed except to the Council, City Administrator and staff members and/or consultants authorized by the Mayor. The public is restricted from attendance and all matters discussed during an executive session are confidential. Executive sessions may be held during regular or special Council meetings or at separate meetings and will be announced by the Mayor. Executive session subjects are limited to considering matters authorized by state law, as set forth in RCW 42.30.110, including considering real property acquisition and sale, public bid contract performance, complaints against public officers and employees, pending litigation, public employment applications and public employee evaluation, and elective office appointments. Before convening in executive session, the Mayor shall publicly announce the purpose for excluding the public from the meeting place, the time when the executive session will be concluded and the potential for action by Council when it reconvenes. Should the session require more time, a public announcement shall be made by the City Clerk, extending the meeting to a specific time. At the end of that time, if the discussion has not concluded, the meeting shall, by public announcement, again be extended to a specific time. If the Council wishes to adjourn at the close of a meeting from executive session, that fact will be announced along with the estimated time for the executive session.

2.6 Council Contact outside an Official Meeting:

Generally, Councilmembers have the same freedoms of association as any other citizen. Councilmembers must take great care when present at the same social, unofficial functions, or in any public setting to refrain from engaging in any activity which could be interpreted as de facto deliberation or action on a matter of city business.

3. Chairs and Duties

3.1 Chair:

The Mayor shall preside as Chair at all meetings of the Council, except as otherwise stated in these rules. In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor shall preside. In the absence of both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, the Council shall elect a Chair for that meeting.

3.2 Call to Order:

The meetings of the Council shall be called to order by the Chair.

3.3 Preservation of Order:

The Chair shall preserve order and decorum; prevent attacks on personalities or the impugning of members' motives and confine members in debate to the question under discussion.

3.4 Points of Order:

The City Attorney who is the parliamentarian, shall determine all points of order, subject to the right of any member to appeal to the Council. If any appeal is taken, the question shall be "Shall the decision of the parliamentarian be sustained?"

3.5 Questions to be stated:

The Chair shall state all motions submitted for a vote and announce the result. A roll call vote may be taken by the City Clerk on any question at the request of the Mayor or any member of the City Council.

3.6 Mayor – Powers:

The Mayor may not make or second motions, but may participate in debate to the extent that such debate does not interfere with chairing the meeting. If the Mayor wishes to participate vigorously in the debate of an issue, the Mayor shall turn over chairing of that portion of the meeting to the Deputy Mayor, or to another Councilmember if the Deputy Mayor is absent. The Mayor's voting rights and veto power are as specified in RCW 35A.12.100.

3.7 Duties:

The Mayor or designee shall:

- (A) Be the official spokesperson for the City.
- (B) Act as the official head of the City for all ceremonial purposes.
- (C) Sign contracts and other documents as appropriate on behalf of the Council.
- (D) Observe and enforce all policies and procedures adopted by the Council.
- (E) Act as presiding officer at all meetings of the Council.
- (F) Preserve order and decorum in the Council Chambers.
- (G) Recognize Councilmembers in the order in which they request the floor.
- (H) Endeavor to keep the discussion moving and within a reasonable timeframe.
- (I) Share information with Councilmembers on meetings, issues, etc., that the Mayor has received as part of his/her official status as Mayor.

3.8 Deputy Mayor – Powers:

- (A) In the event of the temporary disability or illness of the mayor the Deputy Mayor will assume the Mayor's powers.

3.9 Deputy Mayor -- Duties:

- (A) Term of the Deputy Mayor shall be one year. (February 1st, to January 31st.)

- (B) Vacancy of Deputy Mayor

- 1. Planned Vacancy. In the event the Deputy Mayor plans to vacate the office of Deputy Mayor prior to the end of their term, Council shall appoint a new Deputy Mayor based on the Deputy Mayor selection process at the last regular Council meeting the current Deputy Mayor will attend to complete the term.

- 2. Unplanned Vacancy. In the event the Deputy Mayor vacates the office of Deputy Mayor without prior notice before the end of their term, Council shall appoint a new Deputy Mayor based on the Deputy Mayor selection process at the next regular Council Meeting to complete the term.

- (C) Election of Deputy Mayor. At the first meeting of January, the Council shall elect a Deputy Mayor (DM) for a term of one year, beginning February 1st, and ending the last day of January.

- (D) The election process shall be as follows:

- 1. The Deputy Mayor shall serve as the Chair for the nomination process for the position of DM, unless they are a nominee in the process, at which time it will be turned over to the Mayor as Chair. The Chair will repeat each nomination until all nominations have been made. When it appears that no one else wishes to make any further nominations, the Chair will ask again for further nominations and if there are none, the Chair will declare the nominations closed. A motion to close the nominations is not necessary.

- 2. No one Councilmember may nominate more than one person for a given office until every member wishing to nominate a candidate has an opportunity to do so. Second nominations will then be accepted.

- 3. Nominations may be made by another Councilmember, or by self.

- 4. Nominations may include brief supporting comments by the Councilmember.

- 5. A Councilmember may withdraw their nomination from consideration.

6. Nominations do not require a second.
7. After nominations have been closed (see #2 above for second nominations), each nominee will have an opportunity to speak, either at their seat or at the podium. If the nominee chooses to speak, it may not be for longer than three minutes, with a fifteen second wrap-up period. Then voting for DM will precede:
 - a. Voting will be according to alphabetic order, A-Z of nominations made. Any second vote will be by reverse order, Z-A; continuing to reverse as necessary for subsequent votes. This is done to be as fair as possible to all nominees.
 - b. If there is **only one nominee** for the position, the Chair will open the floor for a motion and appointment.
 - c. If there are **two nominees**, the following scenario will be followed:

Scenario #1: 2 Nominees, 7 standing Councilmembers

1. Clerk does a roll call for Councilmembers on their preferred candidates
 2. Nominee A receives 3 votes
 3. Nominee B receives 4 votes
 4. Deputy Mayor is chosen (Nominee/Candidate B) by majority consensus, no further motion of appointment necessary.
- d. If there are **three or more nominees**, the following scenarios will be followed:

Scenario #1: 3 or more Nominees, 7 standing Councilmembers

1. Clerk does a roll call for Council-members on their preferred candidates
2. Nominee A gets 3 votes
3. Nominee B gets 2 votes
4. Nominee C gets 2 votes
5. Nominee A is chosen as Candidate A. Chair sets a second ballot for Nominees B & C to determine second candidate.
6. Clerk does a roll call for Councilmembers on their preferred candidate
7. Nominee B gets 3 votes
8. Nominee C gets 4 votes

9. Nominee C is chosen as Candidate B.
10. Clerk does a roll call for Councilmembers on the two final candidates
11. Candidate A gets 2 votes
12. Candidate B gets 5 votes
13. Deputy Mayor is chosen (Candidate B) by majority consensus, no further motion of appointment necessary.

Scenario #2: 3 or more Nominees, 7 standing Councilmembers

1. Clerk does a roll call for Councilmembers on their preferred candidates
2. Nominee A gets 3 votes
3. Nominee B gets 3 votes
4. Nominee C gets 1 vote
5. Chair need not set a second ballot as there is a top-two
6. Clerk does a roll call for Councilmembers on their preferred candidate from A & B
7. Candidate A gets 5 votes
8. Candidate B gets 2 votes
9. Deputy Mayor is chosen (Candidate A) by majority consensus, no further motion of appointment necessary.

Scenario #3: 3 or more Nominees, 7 standing Councilmembers

1. Clerk does a roll call for Councilmembers on their preferred candidates.
2. Nominee A gets 4 votes
3. Nominee B gets 2 votes
4. Nominee C gets 1 vote
5. Deputy Mayor is chosen (Nominee/Candidate A) by majority consensus, no further motion of appointment necessary.

8. The goals of this procedure are, above all: public transparency, consensus, respect, and fairness.

(E) When filling Council vacancies, see section 8.

(F) An appointment committee consisting of the Deputy Mayor, one (1) Councilmember, and the Mayor shall recommend assignments for the Council Committee Chair and Vice-Chair positions in accordance with the following procedure:

- a) The appointment committee shall provide recommendations for Council Committee assignments to the full Council for its approval no later than the first regular meeting in February.

- b) Each Council member shall be assigned to at least one (1) Council Committee, with the exception of the Deputy Mayor who shall chair the study session and shall not be assigned a role in a Council Committee.
- c) Chairperson selection shall be based on seniority, balance of experience, knowledge and interest prior to assignment.
- d) The appointment committee shall give weighted consideration for those working on long range project.

3.10 Councilmember - Powers:

Any Councilmember may bring forth an item, resolution or ordinance by submitting a timely request to the City Clerk for inclusion on a Council Committee's Agenda or Study Session Agenda. At the request of the Councilmember(s) sponsoring the proposed legislation, their name(s) shall appear on the agenda indicating such sponsorship.

3.11 Councilmember – Duties:

Councilmembers are individually responsible for gathering additional information on issues, calling staff with questions or requesting information to be included in Council Meeting Packets. Councilmembers who attend meetings of another jurisdiction or regional meetings should provide a report.

4. Order of Business and Agenda

4.1 Order of Business:

The order of business for all regular meetings shall be transacted as follows unless the Council, by a majority vote of the members present, suspends the rules and changes the order:

- 1. Call to Order:** The Mayor calls the meeting to order.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call:** The Mayor requests a roll call of Councilmembers and indicates whether an absent Councilmember has requested an excused absence. Excused absences will be handled as stated in Section 1.3 of this document. After roll call any additions or deletions to the agenda should be addressed.
- 4. Public Comments:** Members of the audience may comment on items relating to any matter not on the agenda. Comments are limited to three minutes, or for a person speaking on behalf of a group or organization, comments are limited to five minutes. No speaker may convey or donate his or her time for speaking to another speaker. Persons addressing the Council will be requested to step

to the podium and give their name and address for the record. (See section 7.6 for full public comment rules)

5. Awards, Confirmations & Presentations: The Mayor makes announcements of upcoming meetings and events. Other special presentations may also be scheduled at this time.

6. Public Hearings: See Section 6.

7. Consent Agenda: The Consent Agenda contains items which are of a routine and non-controversial nature which may include, but are not limited to, the following: meeting minutes, payroll, and claims. Any item on the Consent Agenda may be removed and considered separately as an agenda item at the request of any Councilmember.

8. Commission Reports & Committee Reports on Titles of Agenda Bills Moving To Study Session From Committee.

9. Old Business

10. New Business

11. Executive Session

12. Adjournment

4.2 Council Agenda:

4.2.1 Regular Council Meetings. The Mayor, City Administrator and the City Clerk shall prepare the agenda for Council meetings. Subject to the Council's right to amend the agenda, no legislative item shall be voted upon which is not on the Council agenda, except in emergency situations (defined as situations which would jeopardize the public's health, safety or welfare). An item may be placed on a Council regular meeting agenda by any of the following:

- (A) The Deputy Mayor or a majority of the Council (after consideration of the item at a study session);
- (B) The Mayor
- (C) The City Administrator or a Department Director, with the approval of the City Administrator.

Agenda items shall be submitted in final form to the City Clerk no later than 12:00 pm on the Thursday prior to the meeting.

4.2.2 Regular Study Sessions. An item may be placed on a Council study session agenda by any of the following:

- (A) A Councilmember;
- (B) A Council Committee, per Rule 2.3;
- (B) The Mayor; or
- (D) The City Administrator, or a Department Director with the approval of the City Administrator.

Agenda items shall be submitted in final form to the City Clerk no later than 12:00pm on the Thursday prior to the meeting.

Items reviewed by Committee will be scheduled for Council review at a study session, per committee recommendation (see Rule 2.3). Committee Chairs will notify the City Clerk of any upcoming Council agenda items or hearings, so that proper notification may be made.

An item may be delayed if the Mayor and/or City Administrator know it is of particular importance to an absent Councilmember.

4.3 Ordinances:

Ordinances are legislative acts or local laws. They are the most permanent and binding form of Council action and may be changed or repealed only by a subsequent ordinance. Ordinances normally become effective five days after publication in the City's official newspaper, The News Tribune. Ordinances may be passed under any of the agenda sections.

The City Clerk shall assign a permanent ordinance number prior to placing the ordinance on the agenda. The City Attorney shall review the ordinance prior to placing it before the City Council for their consideration.

Upon enactment of the ordinance, the City Clerk shall obtain the signature of the City Attorney and the Mayor. The City Clerk is responsible for notifying American Legal Publishing of new ordinances, so that they will be codified, and Ordinance titles or summaries shall be published in the official newspaper, The News Tribune as a legal publication in the first publication following enactment.

4.4 Resolutions:

Resolutions are adopted to express Council policy or to direct certain types of administrative action by the Mayor. A resolution may be changed by adoption of a subsequent resolution. Resolutions may be passed under any of the agenda sections.

The City Clerk shall assign a permanent resolution number prior to placing the resolution on the agenda. The City Attorney shall review the resolution prior to placing it before the City Council for their consideration.

Upon enactment of the resolution, the City Clerk shall obtain the signature of the City Attorney and the Mayor. After the Mayor's signature, the City Clerk shall sign the resolution.

4.5 Council Packets:

Agendas and packets will be provided to the City Council by 5 pm the Friday prior to the meeting. The City Clerk will post the Agenda Packet on the City's Website and an agenda on the front window of City Hall. Agendas and packet materials will be available at the Council meeting and may be requested at City Hall from the City Clerk by the public.

4.6 Council Confirmation of Mayoral Appointments:

In addition to select Councilmember participation in any Mayoral-defined hiring process, the Council will, per Ordinance 961, confirm the appointment of certain mayoral appointments prior to final hiring actions.

Currently the appointment of the City Administrator, Finance Director, City Clerk, Police Chief, City Attorney, Public Works Director, Building Inspector/Official, and Parks and Recreation Director are subject to Council confirmation. The confirmation of the Municipal Judge is provided pursuant to OMC Chapter 1-10.

The confirmation process, if circumstances allow, should be scheduled for televised meetings. These meetings should be broadly advertised via the official publication, reader boards, City website, social media pages, etc. to allow maximum public notification. The Mayor may request a Special Meeting if pressing and extenuating hiring circumstances exist.

The confirmation process is as follows:

- (A) Prior to the meeting, the Council will be provided a copy of the Employment Application and/or resume (with personal information redacted) for review in the Council Packet. Staff may provide other pertinent information as appropriate.
- (B) During the Confirmation agenda item of the Council meeting the:
 1. Mayor or City Administrator will introduce the nominated applicant and briefly recap the process that resulted in the nominee being selected for the position,
 2. The applicant (if available to attend) will provide a brief background and description of their qualifications to the Council.
 3. Council will have a question and answer opportunity with the applicant and/or staff to last up to 30 minutes (time may be extended upon majority Council consent), and

4. Public Testimony will be taken with each speaker given a maximum of three minutes to provide comments. All comments must be directed toward the Chair and limited to the confirmation discussion. Two-way discussions are discouraged.
- (C) An executive session in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(g) may be requested by any Councilmember to “evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee” if questions or concerns arise that should not be discussed in a public forum. Final actions must take place in an open meeting.
- (D) After the question and answer session, upon resumption of the regular meeting after an Executive Session (if requested), and upon a motion, the Council will vote to confirm the hire/ nomination on a simple majority vote of the present Council quorum.

5. Consensus, Motions and Decorum

5.1 Consensus Votes:

When a formal motion is not required on a Council action or opinion, a consensus voice vote may be taken. The Chair will state the action or opinion. The Council as a group will indicate concurrence or non-concurrence. When the Council concurs or agrees to an item that does not require a formal motion, the Mayor will summarize the agreement at the conclusion of the discussion.

5.2 Motions:

- (A) **Making a Motion.** Motions shall be clear and concise and not include arguments for or against the motion within the motion. No motion shall be entertained or debated until duly seconded and announced by the Chair. A motion that does not receive a second dies. After a motion and second, the Mayor will indicate the names of the Councilmembers making the motion and second. After a motion has been made and seconded, the Councilmember making the motion may speak to the motion and then the Council may discuss their opinions on the issue prior to the vote. Motions that do not need a second include nominations, withdrawal of motion, agenda order, request for a roll call vote, and point of order.
- (B) **Audience Comment.** Audience comment on a motion may be taken after the briefing on the motion occurs and before the motion is voted on by the Council.
- (C) **Restatement of Motions.** The City Council votes on motion as restated by the Chair if the motion is amended.
- (D) **Votes on Motions.** Each member present shall vote on all questions put to the Council except on matters in which he or she has a conflict of interest. If

a conflict of interest exists, such member shall disqualify himself or herself prior to any discussion of the matter. If a majority of Council arrives at a consensus to put up an issue for vote and a Councilmember is not there when the vote takes place, the Councilmember cannot bring the item back.

- (E) Failure to Vote on a Motion.** Any Councilmember present who fails to vote without a valid disqualification shall be declared to have voted in the affirmative on the question.
- (F) Unanimous Vote.** If the vote is unanimous, the Mayor shall state that the motion has passed unanimously according to the number of Councilmembers present such as “7-0” or “6-0”.
- (G) Roll Call Vote.** If a vote is not unanimous, and the Mayor or a Councilmember requests it, each Councilmember shall state his/her vote and the City Clerk shall record it. The City Clerk then restates the outcome of the vote. For example, the outcome may be restated as, “Councilmembers A, B, C and D vote ‘yes’. Councilmembers E, F and G vote ‘no’. The vote is 4-3 to adopt Ordinance No_____. The motion carries.”
- (H) Tie Vote.** A motion that receives a tie vote is deemed to have failed.
- (I) Topic Closed.** Once a vote on a motion has been taken, the topic of motion is closed for the remainder of that meeting.
- (J) Withdrawal of Motion.** A motion may be withdrawn by the maker of the motion at any time before a vote is taken without the consent of the Council. If the motion had received a second, the Councilmember making the second must also agree to withdraw or the motion remains on the table for discussion, debate and disposition.
- (K) Motions to Reconsider.** A motion to reconsider must be made by a person who voted with the majority on the principal question and must be made at the same or succeeding regular meeting. No motion to reconsider an adopted quasi-judicial written decision shall be entertained after the close of the meeting at which the written findings were adopted.
- (L) Motion to Lay on the Table.** A motion to table shall preclude all amendments or debates of the issue under consideration. It requires a second, is not debatable, is not amendable, and requires a majority vote. The purpose of the motion to lay on the table is to temporarily set aside the motion in order to conduct other more urgent business. A motion not taken from the table by the close of that meeting or the next regular meeting dies on the table. If the motion to table prevails, the matter may be “taken from the table” by motion which requires a second, is not debatable and requires a majority vote. When a motion is taken from the table, everything is in the same condition as it was when laid on the table, including any amendments

to the original motion that received an affirmative vote prior to the motion to table.

- (M) Motion to Postpone to Date Certain.** A motion to postpone to a time certain requires a second, is debatable, is amendable, requires a majority vote and may be reconsidered at the same meeting. The original motion being postponed must be considered at a time certain at a future regular or special Council meeting.
- (N) Motion to Postpone Indefinitely.** A motion to postpone indefinitely requires a second, is debatable, is not amendable, and takes precedence over the main motion and requires a majority vote. This motion assists in disposing of the main motion. Its purpose is to reject a main motion without a vote on the main motion. Postponed indefinitely is an indirect or polite motion by which a main motion may be disposed of.
- (O) Motion to Call for the Question.** A motion to call for the question shall close debate on the main motion and is not debatable. This motion must receive a second and fails without a two-thirds (2/3) vote. Debate is reopened if the motion fails.
- (P) Motion to Amend.** A motion to amend is defined as amending a motion that is on the floor and has been seconded by inserting or adding, striking out, striking out and inserting, or substituting. Motions that cannot be amended include a motion to adjourn, to amend the agenda order, lay on the table, for a roll call vote, for a point of order, for reconsideration and take from the table. Amendments are voted on first, then the main motion as amended (if the amendment received an affirmative vote).
- (Q) Interpretation.** The City Attorney shall decide all questions of interpretations of these rules and other questions of a parliamentary nature that may arise at a Council meeting.
- (R) Order of Precedence.** All cases not provided for in these rules shall be governed by the most current version of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised. In the event of a conflict between Robert's Rules of Order and these Council rules, these Council rules shall prevail.

5.3 Council Relations with City Staff:

The following guidelines should be adhered to:

- (A)** There will be mutual respect from both City staff and Councilmembers of their respective roles and responsibilities.

- (B) City staff shall acknowledge the Council as policy makers, and the Councilmembers shall acknowledge the City staff as administering the Council's policies.
- (C) Councilmembers with particular interest in an item or topic should be given a courtesy call if that item is rescheduled.
- (D) Councilmembers shall not attempt to direct City staff in performing their regular daily functions.
- (E) No Councilmember shall direct the City staff to initiate any action or prepare any report, or initiate any project or study without the consent of the Mayor. New initiatives having policy implementation shall be directed to a Council Committee for consideration.
- (F) Individual requests for information can be made directly to any staff member. If the request would create a change in work assignments or City staffing levels, the request must be made through the Mayor or City Administrator.
- (G) To provide staff the necessary preparation time, Councilmembers will provide staff advance notice of any questions or concerns they may have regarding an agenda item prior to a public meeting, if possible.

5.4 Council Representation to any Media and other Organizations:

Councilmembers shall use the following guidelines when speaking with the media:

- (A) If a Councilmember appears on behalf of the City before another governmental agency, a community organization, or through the media, for the purpose of commenting on an issue, the Councilmember shall state the majority position of the Council, if known, on such issue. Personal opinions and comments which differ from the Council majority may be expressed if the Councilmember clarifies that these statements do not represent the Council's position.
- (B) Councilmembers need to have other Councilmembers' concurrence before representing: (1) another Councilmember's view or position, or (2) the majority of Council's view or position with the media, another governmental agency or community organization.
- (C) As a matter of courtesy, letters to the editor, interviews or other communication by a Councilmember of a controversial nature, which do not express the majority opinion of the Council, should be presented to the full Council and Mayor prior to publication so that the Councilmembers may be made aware of the pending publication.

6. Public Hearing Procedures

6.1 Definition of Public Hearing:

There are two types of public hearings: legislative and quasi-judicial. Legislative hearings focus on broad policy with general application. Quasi-judicial hearings focus on the rights of specific parties and decisions must be based on a formal record. The Mayor will state the public hearing procedures before each public hearing, staff and/or consultants will introduce the topic. Citizens may comment on public hearing items.

6.2 Speaker Sign-In:

Prior to the start of a public hearing the Mayor may require that all persons wishing to be heard sign in with the City Clerk, giving their name and whether they wish to speak as a proponent, opponent or from a neutral position. Any person who fails to sign in shall not be permitted to speak until all those who signed in have given their testimony. The Mayor will establish time limits and otherwise control presentations. (The speaking time limit is three minutes per speaker or five minutes when presenting the official position of an organization or group). The Chair may change the order of speakers so that testimony is heard in the most logical groupings (i.e. proponents, opponents, adjacent owners, etc.).

6.3 Conflict of Interest/Appearance of Fairness:

Prior to the start of a public hearing, the Chair will ask if any Councilmember has or may have an interest or may have engaged in an ex-parte communication which could, pursuant to Ch. 42.23 RCW or Ch. 42.36 RCW, prohibit or disqualify the Councilmember from participating in the public hearing process.

A Councilmember who refuses to step down after challenge and the advice of the City Attorney, a ruling by the Mayor or Chair and/or a request by the majority of the remaining members of the Council to step down, is subject to censure. The Councilmember who has stepped down shall not participate in the Council decision nor vote on the matter. The Councilmember shall leave the Council Chambers while the matter is under consideration, provided, however, that nothing herein shall be interpreted to prohibit a Councilmember from stepping down in order to participate in a hearing in which the Councilmember has a direct financial or other personal interest. The appearance of fairness doctrine applies only during quasi-judicial hearings. The conflict of interest provisions, however, apply anytime there will be a vote by the council on a contract. Normally, an announcement would not be required for a vote in which a conflict would occur and it is up to the elected official to bring up the conflict. The City Attorney may prompt the Councilmember to remove him or herself or not participate in the vote. However, if there is a conflict, this must be announced on the record before the vote. The Councilmember is not required to leave during the vote or discussion, but may not participate in the vote.

- (A) Types of Hearings that the appearance of fairness doctrine applies. The Appearance of Fairness Doctrine shall apply only to those actions of the Council which are quasi-judicial in nature. Quasi-judicial actions are defined as actions of the City Council which determine the legal rights, duties, or privileges of specific parties in a hearing or other contested proceeding. Quasi-judicial actions do not include the legislative actions adopting, amending, or revising comprehensive, community, or neighborhood plans or other land use planning documents or the adoption of areawide zoning ordinances or the adoption of a zoning amendment that is of areawide (versus site-specific) significance under RCW 42.36.010.
- (B) Obligations of Council Members. Council members should recognize that the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine does not require establishment of a conflict of interest, but whether there is an appearance of conflict of interest to the average person. This may involve the Council member or a Council member's business associate, or a member of the Council member's immediate family. It could involve ex parte (outside the hearing) communications, ownership of property in the vicinity, business dealings with the proponents or opponents before or after the hearing, business dealings of the Council member's employer with the proponents or opponents, announced predisposition, and the like. Prior to any quasi-judicial hearing, each council member should give consideration to whether a potential violation of the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine exists. If the answer is in the affirmative, no matter how remote, the Council member should disclose such facts to the City Attorney.
- (C) Anyone seeking to disqualify a Council member from participating in a decision on the basis of a violation of the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine must raise the challenge as soon as the basis for disqualification is made known, or reasonably should have been made known, prior to the issuance of the decision. Upon failure to do so, the Doctrine may not be relied upon to invalidate the decision. The party seeking to disqualify the Council member shall state with specificity the basis for disqualification; for example: demonstrated bias or prejudice for or against a party to the proceedings, a monetary interest in outcome of the proceedings, prejudgment of the issue prior to hearing the facts on the record, or ex parte contact. Should such challenge be made in the course of a quasi-judicial hearing, the Council member shall either recuse him/herself or the Presiding Officer shall call a recess to permit the City Attorney to render an opinion.

6.4 The Public Hearing Process: Open Record

The Chair introduces the agenda item, opens the public hearing and announces the following Rules of Order intended to promote an orderly system of holding a public hearing, to give every person an opportunity to be heard, and to ensure that no individual is embarrassed by exercising his/her right to free speech.

- (A) All comments by proponents, opponents or other members of the public shall be made from the podium; individuals making comments shall first give their name and address.
- (B) No comments shall be made from any other location, unless is it is impractical to make comment from the podium. Anyone making “out of order” comments shall be subject to removal from the meeting. If a citizen is disabled and requires accommodation, the citizen is required to advise the City Clerk.
- (C) There will be no demonstrations during or at the conclusion of a public hearing.
- (D) The order for a public hearing shall be as follows:
 - 1. The Chair calls upon City Staff to describe the matter under consideration.
 - 2. The Chair calls upon proponents, opponents and all other individuals who wish to speak regarding the matter under consideration.
 - 3. The Chair inquires as to whether any Council-member has questions to ask the proponents, opponents, speakers or staff. If any Council-member has questions, the appropriate individual will be recalled to the podium.
 - 4. The Chair continues the public hearing to a specific time or closes the public hearing.

6.5 The Public Hearing Process for Quasi Judicial Matter: Closed Record.

The procedure for Public Hearings involving a Quasi-Judicial closed record appeal shall be substantially as follows:

- (A) The closed record appeal for the (state name of application) is now open. There has been an open record hearing before the Hearing Examiner. Under state law, there is only one public hearing allowed in this proceeding. This closed record appeal means the Council will base its decision on the record developed at the public hearing before the Hearing Examiner; therefore, no new testimony is allowed except in very limited circumstances. If a party has submitted a motion to supplement the record, Council will deliberate and vote on that motion before hearing argument from the parties.
- (B) Comments from the parties must be in the nature of argument only, based on and limited to facts in the written and oral record developed before the Hearing Examiner. If anyone presents comments that are not based on facts in the record, anyone may make an objection. If an objection is made, the person speaking will stop until the issue of the objection is resolved.
- (C) All comments shall be made from the podium. Please speak slowly and clearly because this hearing is being recorded. If anyone requires special

accommodation in order to speak, please let me know and we will make arrangements.

- (D) Each party will have 15 minutes to present arguments. The appealing party will go first and will have the right to reply at the end of argument if they reserve time. The Council can ask questions at any time.
- (E) Before arguments begin, I'll remind the Council that this hearing is quasi-judicial in nature, and therefore the appearance of fairness and conflict of interest rules apply. Quasi-judicial actions are defined as actions of the Council that determine legal rights, duties, or privileges of specific parties in a hearing. The public hearing must be fair in three respects: form, substance and appearance. All council members should now give consideration as to whether they have (1) a demonstrated bias or prejudice for or against any party to the proceedings; (2) a direct or indirect monetary interest in the outcome of the proceedings; (3) a prejudgment of the issue prior to hearing the facts on the record, or (4) ex parte contact with any individual, excluding administrative staff, with regard to an issue prior to the hearing. Does any Council member have an Appearance of Fairness or Conflict of Interest issue or disclosure to make? Seeing none, . . . (to next item, or if there is a question or disclosure, refer to City Attorney.)
- (F) Is there anyone in the audience who objects to my participation or any other Council member's participation in these proceedings? (Refer any affirmative answer to City Attorney.)
- (G) The purpose of this hearing is for the Council to hear the appeal and to take action relating to the (name of proposal – from the agenda). Each party will have 15 minutes to present arguments. The appealing party will go first and will have the right to reply at the end of argument if they reserve time. The Council can ask questions at any time.
- (H) Are there any written materials that have been submitted to the Council? (Any documents are given to City Attorney, who will read or summarize the document and should include the hearing examiner decision and any briefs filed by the parties)
- (I) Proceed to arguments.
- (J) Proceed to Council discussion. There being no further comment, I will close this portion of the hearing. It is now in order for the Council to discuss this matter and for a Council member to make a motion to take action or postpone. RCW 42.30.140(2) allows, but does not require, the Council to deliberate (but not vote) on quasi-judicial matters in a closed session. Does any Councilmember wish to make a motion to adjourn to a closed session for deliberation? (If so, vote on motion if it passes, adjourn for a set period of time for deliberations) b. If no one wants to go to a closed session, or the vote to do so fails due to a lack of majority vote in support, the Council will deliberate in an open session.

- (K) The Council shall make a motion and render its decision, directing the City Attorney, or designee, to draft the written decision.

7. Duties and Privileges of Media and Citizens

7.1 Media Representation:

Seating space shall be provided for the media at each public meeting. The media shall also be provided with a packet containing the background information provided to the Council.

7.2 Meeting Participation:

Citizens are welcome at and encouraged to attend all Council meetings. Recognition of a speaker by the Chair is a prerequisite and necessary for an orderly and effective meeting, be the speaker a citizen, Councilmember or staff member. Further, it will be expected that all speakers will deliver their comments in a courteous and efficient manner and will speak only to the specific subject under consideration. Anyone making out-of-order comments or acting in an unruly manner shall be subject to removal from the meeting. Cell phones will be silenced and not used for phone calls during council meetings.

7.3 Subjects Not on the Current Agenda:

Under agenda item "Public Comments" citizens may address any item not already on the agenda. They shall first obtain recognition by the Chair, stand at the podium, state their name, address and subject of their comments. The Chair shall then allow the comments, subject to a three-minute limitation per speaker and five-minute limitation per speaker representing a group or organization, or other limitations as the Chair may deem necessary. Following such comments, if action is required or has been requested, the Chair may place the matter on the current agenda or a future agenda or refer the matter to staff or a Council committee for action or investigation and report at a future meeting.

7.4 Public Comments and Suggestions to Council:

When citizen comments or suggestions unrelated to the agenda are brought before the City Council, the Chair shall first determine whether the issue is legislative or administrative in nature and then:

- (A) If the issue is legislative, and comments on the letter or intent of a legislative act or is a suggestion for changes to such an act, and if any Councilmember suggests a change to an ordinance or resolution of the City, the Council may refer the matter to a committee, City Administration, City Attorney or the Council as a whole for study and recommendation.
- (B) If the issue is administrative and comments on administrative staff performance, administrative execution of legislative policy or administrative

policy within the authority of the City Administrator, the Chair should then refer the complaint directly to the City Administrator for his/her review if the complaint has not yet been reviewed. The City Council may direct that the City Administrator report to the Council his/her response and resolution.

7.5 Personal and Slanderous Remarks:

Any person making personal, offensive, impertinent or slanderous remarks or who shall become boisterous while addressing the Council may be requested to leave the meeting and may be barred from further audience participation before the Council during that Council meeting by the Mayor.

Any councilmember making personal, offensive, impertinent or slanderous remarks to a member of the audience, city staff member or another councilmember will be asked to refrain. If the remarks continue he/she may be asked to leave the meeting.

7.6 Written Communications:

A. Interested parties, or their authorized representatives, may address the Council by written communication in regard to any matter concerning the City's business or over which the Council had control at any time. The written communication may be submitted by direct mail, e-mail, text message or by addressing the communication to the City Clerk who will distribute copies to the Mayor and Councilmembers.

B. Citizens may send written comments to the clerk via email at clerk@cityoforting.org by 3:00pm the day of the meeting. Written comments received before 3pm that are 300 words or less will be read into the record during the public comment portion of the meeting. Written comments received before 3pm the day of the meeting that are 301 words or more will be distributed to the Council in hard copy form at the meeting.

C. All comments received shall be posted publicly on the City of Orting website; www.cityoforting.org. Staff may include written comments in the Council Agenda Packet if they are received before the distribution of the packet to Council.

7.7 Video Recording of Public Meetings:

All public meetings of the City of Orting, including but not limited to regular and special meetings of the City Council, committee meetings and commission and board meetings may be recorded by members of the public, including members of the media. The City reserves its right to place restrictions on the location of all recording equipment, so as to ensure the recording equipment does not pose a safety hazard, and that the recording does not hinder the public's attendance or disrupt the decorum of the meeting. Failure to comply with the City's request to move recording equipment may result in expulsion from the meeting.

In order to preserve the decorum of the regular, special, and committee meetings of the City Council, all recording equipment shall be placed in a location that does not

pose a safety hazard or otherwise interfere with the public's access to attend and view the meeting.

8. Filling Council Vacancies and Selecting Deputy Mayor

8.1 Notice of Vacancy:

If a Council vacancy occurs, the Deputy Mayor will take the lead with the assistance of two councilmembers and guide the Council through the procedures as outlined in RCW 42.12.070. In order to fill the vacancy with the most qualified person available, until an election is held, the Council will widely distribute and publish a notice of the vacancy, procedure, deadline for applying for the position and the date of the interview.

8.2 Application Procedure:

Each applicant will submit a written request to the City Clerk prior to the posted deadline.

8.3 Interview Process:

All candidates who submit an application by the deadline will be interviewed by the Council during a regular or special Council meeting. The order of the interviews will be determined by a drawing of names. Applicants will be asked to answer questions posed by each Councilmember during the interview process. Each candidate will be allowed two minutes for opening and closing comments. Candidates may not make comments or responses about other applicants.

8.4 Selection of Councilmember:

The Council may recess into executive session to discuss the qualifications of all candidates. Nominations via a motion, voting and selection of a person to fill the vacancy will be conducted during an open public meeting. If no motion is made, none of the candidates shall be selected.

The City Clerk will prepare the Oath of Office and the Mayor, The City Administrator or the City Clerk may swear in any newly-appointed Councilmember. The new Councilmember will immediately take his/her seat with the Council.

8.5 Selecting Deputy Mayor:

The Deputy Mayor will be selected by a majority of the Councilmembers annually at the first Council meeting in January.

9. Committees and Commissions

9.1 Citizen Committees, Boards and Commissions:

The Council will create committees and commissions to assist in the conduct and operation of city government with such duties as are consistent with the Orting Municipal Code.

9.2 Types of Committees:

There shall be four types of committees in the City of Orting.

- (A) Standing Committees. Such committees will be established to conduct business by the Deputy Mayor plus one council member and the mayor when delegated to the legislative body and approved by the council.
- (B) Ad Hoc Committees. Such Council Advisory Committees are to investigate a specific subject and report back to the City Council. Such a group may be chaired by a council-member. Typically, such a Committee would focus on a policy issue or legislative matter.
- (C) Citizen Advisory Commissions. Such groups are formed to promote citizen participation on a particular subject and provide guidance on community views on a subject to the Council, for example Parks and Planning Commissions.
- (D) Mayor's Committee. Such Committees are formed to investigate a specific operational issue and report back to the Mayor and City Council. It may be chaired by a councilmember or the Mayor.

9.3 Membership and Selection:

Membership and selection of members shall be as provided by the Mayor or designee and confirmed by the Council. Any committee or commission so created shall cease to exist upon the accomplishment of the special purpose for which it was created, or when abolished by a majority vote of the Council. Committees so appointed shall have advisory powers to the Council except as otherwise specified in the Orting Municipal Code (OMC).

9.4 Committee Meetings:

Committees shall establish a regular time, date location for their meetings. The City Clerk will maintain a list of committee meeting times, dates and locations. Committees may make recommendations for action to the Council as a whole. Councilmembers who do not serve on a committee with questions or concerns about an agenda item, are responsible to contact staff or a committee member prior to the meeting to express their concern or need for additional information.

9.5 Committee Records:

Draft summaries of each meeting will be prepared by a committee member or the staff assigned to the committee by the City Administrator and distributed to each Councilmember. Verbal reports may be given at Regular and Special Council meetings as requested by a committee member, the committee chair, the Mayor or any member of the Council.

9.6 Open Public Meetings Act:

The City Council Committees shall comply with the state's "Open Public Meetings Act."

9.7 Removal of Members of Boards and Commissions:

The Mayor may remove any member of any commission based upon the following criteria.

- (1) Parks Advisory Board: Three consecutive unexcused absences will result in automatic removal. (OMC 2-5-2)
- (2) Planning Commission: The mayor may remove after a public hearing and with approval by the council. (OMC 2-1-3)
- (3) Civil Service Commission: Any member of the commission may be removed from office for incompetency, incompatibility or dereliction of duty, or malfeasance in office, or other good cause. (RCW 41.12.030)

10. Public Records

10.1 Public Records:

Records created or received by the Mayor or any Councilmember should be transferred to the City Clerk for retention by the City in accordance with the Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW. Public records that are duplicates of those received by, or in the possession of the city, are not required to be retained. Questions about whether or not a document is a public record or if it is required to be retained; should be referred to the City Attorney.

10.2 Electronic Mail:

Electronic communications that do not relate to the functional responsibility of the recipient or sender as a public official, such as meeting notices, reminders, telephone messages and informal notes, do not constitute a public record. All other messages that relate to the functional responsibility of the recipient or sender as a public official constitute public records.

10.3 Open Public Meetings Act Regarding Electronic Mail:

E-mails between elected officials of a governing body can implicate the Open Public Meetings Act. If discussing city business with a fellow Councilmember via e-mail, it can constitute a meeting and all the requirements for a public meeting would have to be met or a violation of the Act could occur.

11. Council Travel Policy

11.1 Applications:

The provisions of Chapter 42.24 RCW and the Budgeting, Accounting, and Reporting Systems (BARS) manual prescribed by the Washington State Auditor's Office apply. The City of Orting reimburses its elected or appointed officials for reasonable travel, subsistence and related expenses incurred conducting City business provided the expenses are prudent and directly related to the individual's service on behalf of the City.

11.2 Administration:

The Finance Director administers the travel and expense reimbursement program, designs and distributes forms and instruction and carries responsibility for review of claims. Claims will not be allowed without a detailed account of monies spent certified by the individual making the claim as required by the Division of Municipal Corporations in the Office of the State Auditor.

11.3 Documentation:

Claims for personal reimbursement must be made on official forms, be accompanied by the vendor's original receipt or bankcard charge slip showing the date, vendor imprinted name, amount paid and the items/services received, and must be certified correct and signed by the individual seeking reimbursement.

In addition to the documentation above, claims for business related meals require the following documentation:

- (A) The names of the individuals participating.
- (B) Their official title or capacity as it relates to city business.
- (C) The nature of the topics discussed, nature of the occasion, what public purpose or policy was being served (and/or copy of agenda).

11.4 Council Retreats/Executive Team Retreats:

The reasonable cost of necessary food and beverages while conducting a City retreat is authorized for reimbursement.

11.5 Service Awards Ceremonies:

Expenditures for reasonable refreshments served and awards given are eligible for reimbursement.

11.6. Transportation Expenses:

Public officials are to exercise prudent judgment in incurring travel expenses on official City business. Excessive or unnecessary expenses will not be reimbursed or paid for by the City.

Authorization of travel is to be exercised through the use of the current budget. Reasonable transportation expenses for approved travel will be reimbursed. The most direct and cost-effective mode of transportation will be the basis for the reimbursement. Out-of-state travel must be approved by the City Council. In-state travel means travel within the state of Washington. In special or unusual circumstances, arrangements will be made to accommodate unique transportation requirements.

11.7 Meals:

Based on recommendations from the State Auditor's Office, the City uses the following guidelines in determining the use of public funds for expenditures for food and beverages:

- (A) Name of the consumer.
- (B) Nature of the occasion for the consumption.
- (C) Public purpose or policy objective was served.
- (D) The expenses are consistent with the policy authorizing reimbursement.

11.8 Local Business Meals:

Meals (including snacks) between City public officials/employees will not normally be reimbursed. It is expected that City business between City public officials/employees can, for the most part, be conducted on City premises during normal work hours.

11.9 Meetings through Mealtimes:

The City recognizes that there are occasions when it may be necessary for a group of public officials and/or employees to work through a meal in order to meet a deadline or to keep a group convened in order to accomplish the task. To be considered for reimbursement as a working meal, the meeting must span over a three-hour period, which includes the group's normal mealtime.

11.10 Business Meals between City Employees and Non-City Employees:

The practice of the City providing meals to non-city employees is discouraged. However, for directors and above, the City recognizes that there are situations where non-city employees provide an unpaid service to the City during a mealtime. The costs of meals while conducting City business with persons other than City employees either locally or out of town are authorized for reimbursement subject to the limitations described in this document.

11.11 Meals While On Authorized Travel Status:

Per Diem shall be used for meals while out of town on city business. Out of town means the one-way travel distance is greater than 40 miles from the city and overnight stay is required. Per Diem for meals shall be at the rate in effect at the time of travel for the specific area or locality. The maximum allowable rate shall be those in effect by the State of Washington, Office of Financial Management.

11.12 Non-Reimbursable Expenditures:

Unauthorized expenditures include, but are not limited to, liquor, expenses of spouse, guests or other persons not authorized to receive reimbursement under this policy or state regulations. Situations not specifically addressed above will be reviewed by the City Administrator for propriety.

11.13 Lodging:

Hotel/motel accommodations for public officials/ employees attending out-of-town functions on city business are acceptable. Lodging expenses shall be reimbursed at actual costs, as evidenced by a receipt, up to the specific daily maximum allowable lodging rate in effect at the time of travel for the specific area or locality. The maximum allowable lodging rates shall be those in effect by the State of Washington, Office of Financial Management.

The cost of accommodations should be requested by purchase order and billed directly to the City by the vendor whenever possible. If advance payment is required, a purchase order will be prepared and the lodging registration will serve as supporting documentation for the claims check issued to the vendor. A vendor's receipt for these expenditures is required in all cases. In some situations, the maximum allowable lodging amount may not be adequate and the City Administrator may approve payment of lodging not to exceed 150% of the applicable maximum per diem amount.

11.14 Non-Allowable Expenses:

Certain travel expenses are considered personal and not essential to the transaction of official city business and therefore not reimbursable. Such non-reimbursable expenses include, but are not limited to: Baggage checking, valet services, laundry services, entertainment expenses, radio or television rental, transportation to or from

places of entertainment, costs of personal trip insurance, medical and hospital services, personal toiletry articles, barber or hairdresser, personal postage or reading materials, expenses of a spouse or other family member, mileage allowance for commuting to regular, special, and committee meetings of the City Council, expenses on a personal car, meal expenses for formal meetings of City Council committees, fines for violation of motor vehicle laws.

12. Suspension and Amendment of These Rules

12.1 Suspension of These Rules:

Any provision of these rules not governed by state law or the Orting Municipal Code may be temporarily suspended by a vote of a majority of the Council.

12.2 Amendment of These Rules:

These rules may be amended or new rules adopted by a majority vote of all members of the Council, provided that the proposed amendments or new rules shall have been introduced into the record at a prior Council meeting.

12.3 Conflict:

In the event of a conflict between the City Council Rules of Procedure and other rules adopted by resolution of the Council, these City Council Rules of Procedure shall prevail to the extent of the conflict. In the event of a conflict between these City Council Rules and state law, state law shall prevail to the extent of the conflict.