

CITY OF DESTIN POLICY FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

1. Any person desiring to address the Council by oral communication regarding agendaed Council propositions shall complete and deliver a ***“Request to Speak Card”*** to the City Clerk then secure the permission of the presiding officer and will be recognized under agenda items ***“Public Opportunity to Speak on Council Propositions”, “Public Hearings” or “Comments from the Audience”*** as determined appropriate by the Mayor.
2. Only those persons who have completed a Speakers’ Form and provided it to the City Clerk by 12:00 noon of the Wednesday immediately preceding the regular meeting will have their name placed on the agenda and be recognized under the heading ***“Scheduled Presentations from the Public.”***
3. At meetings, in which 4 or more individuals of a group or faction wish to be heard, a representative of a group or faction may address the Council rather than all members of the group or faction.
4. Each person addressing the Council shall approach the podium; give his or her name and address, and the organization or group they represent if any.
5. The amount of time allowed for any single speaker on any given subject is **5 minutes**; and to a representative of a group or faction is **20 minutes**, unless time is granted by the Mayor.
6. All remarks shall pertain to City business and shall be addressed to the Mayor for the City Council as a body, and not to a City Council or City staff member.
7. Any person making personal, impertinent or slanderous remark, or who shall become boisterous or use offensives language, while addressing the Mayor and Council, may be requested to leave the meeting. No reference by name to any individual present or absent, including City Council or City staff members shall be used in a negative manner by any person addressing the Mayor and Council. All participants and speakers shall refrain for belittling or insulting remarks or making personal attacks.