

RESOLUTION NO. 122722-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, KANSAS CONCERNING REMOTE ATTENDANCE AT CITY COMMISSION MEETINGS.

WHEREAS, the City Commission desires to implement a policy pertaining to attendance at City Commission meetings via videoconference, subject to certain conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, KANSAS, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Remote Attendance Authorized. A City Commissioner may attend a meeting remotely, via videoconference, as long as the City Commissioner's participation complies with the Kansas open meetings act, K.S.A. 75-4317, et seq., and the requirements of this policy. In the case of remote attendance by the Mayor, the Vice Mayor shall preside over the meeting, unless the Vice Mayor is also attending remotely. In-person attendance and participation in City Commission meetings are preferred, and remote participation should be primarily limited to occasional circumstances rather than a City Commissioner's routine remote attendance for mere convenience.

Section 2. Notice of Attendance; Joining Meeting. A City Commissioner must notify the City Manager and the City Clerk in writing, via email or text message, no later than 12:00 p.m. (noon) on the day of the meeting in which the City Commissioner desires to attend via videoconference, to allow time for necessary preparation. If advance notice is impractical due to unforeseeable circumstances, the City Commissioner should have no expectation of remote attendance, and has the option to follow the meeting via the City's YouTube feed. A City Commissioner attending via videoconference must join the videoconference at least five minutes prior to the scheduled meeting time.

Section 3. Identification of Attendee. A City Commissioner attending via videoconference must identify himself or herself each time he or she wishes to speak before addressing matters before the City Commission, and the City Commissioner's speech shall be generally audible in the room in which the City Commission meeting is held. The video image of a City Commissioner shall be generally visible at all times to persons physically present at the meeting, unless the video feature is impracticable.

Section 4. Unavailability. If a City Commissioner who has provided advance notice of remote attendance under Section 1 is unavailable during the meeting, due to technical difficulties or any other reason, the presiding officer shall suspend the discussion until the remote participant is available. If the suspension lasts longer than three minutes, the presiding officer may excuse the remote participant and continue the meeting, subject to quorum requirements.

Section 5. Application of Policy. The Governing Body reserves the right to temporarily alter, suspend, or waive any provisions of this policy if determined by a majority of the Governing Body that such temporary alteration or waiver is necessary and in compliance with other applicable laws.

Section 7. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption.

Passed and approved by the Governing Body of the City of Abilene, Kansas, on this 27th day of December 2022.



ATTEST:

Shayla Mohr
Shayla Mohr, City Clerk

Dee Marshall

Dee Marshall, Mayor