

CITY OF PLATTSBURGH COMMON COUNCIL - RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

1. The Public shall be allowed to speak only during the public comment period of the meeting. The public will have the right to comment, question, and answer in the discussion with the Council, subject to the Presiding Officer's or designee's discretion to rule discussants out of order.
2. Speakers shall sign-in and are requested to provide their address and organization, if any.
3. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer or designee.
4. Speakers must limit their remarks to five minutes.
5. Speakers may not yield any remaining time they may have to another speaker.
6. Council members, with the permission of the presiding officer, may ask questions of a speaker during or after his remarks.
7. When a meeting is attended by a group of people who share the same or opposing views on a public comment topic, the presiding officer or designee may require that the group(s) designate not more than two spokespersons and limit the total time for public comment to 10 minutes for each point of view or side on an issue.
8. All remarks shall be addressed to the council as a body and not to any member thereof.
9. Speakers shall observe the commonly accepted rules of courtesy, decorum, dignity and good taste.
10. Interested parties or their representatives may address the council at any time by written or electronic communications.
11. The Common Council may by majority voice vote grant more time to a speaker or a topic.
12. If a Common Council member objects to a ruling by the presiding officer, he shall raise his objection by a motion "appealing the ruling of the chair." If the motion passes, the ruling is overruled.
13. At the Public Comment portion of a Public Hearing:
 - a. Speakers shall sign-in at the beginning of the public hearing and are requested to provide their address and organization, if any.
 - b. Speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer.
 - c. Speakers must limit their remarks to two to five minutes depending on the number of speakers signed up in advance.