

ORDINANCE NO. 1-2006
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2.16.090 OF THE DENVER MUNICIPAL
CODE**

BE IT ORDAINED by the city council of the City of Denver, Iowa, that:

Section 1. **Section 2.16.090 Rules Governing Meetings.** of the Denver Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

“The following rules shall govern the meetings of the Council and its transaction of business:

RULE 1. **The Mayor shall be the presiding officer of the Council. He shall preserve order and decorum and shall decide questions of order subject to an appeal to the Council. A member called to order shall immediately suspend his remarks, unless permitted to explain. If there is no appeal, the decision of the chair shall be conclusive; but if the member appeals to the Council from the decision of the chair, the Council shall decide the question without debate.**

RULE 2. **At the hour appointed for the meeting, a quorum being present, the order of business shall be as follows:**

- (1) Reading the minutes of the last meeting or meetings, amendment and approval of same.**
- (2) Public forum**
- (3) Unfinished business of preceding meeting.**
- (4) Presentation of petitions and other communications.**
- (5) Reports of City officers.**
- (6) Reports of standing committees.**
- (7) Reports of special committees.**
- (8) Ordinances, resolutions and payment of bills.**
- (9) New and miscellaneous business.**

RULE 3. **A question relating to the priority of business shall be decided by the Mayor without debate.**

RULE 4. **Public Forum. The City Council appreciates hearing from citizens about items on its agenda, and desires to set aside time at the start of each Council business meeting for Public Forum. To ensure equal opportunity for the public to comment, a speaker’s comments shall be limited to five minutes per person, per meeting. Where necessary, due to the number of persons who want to address the Council, the presiding officer shall retain authority to limit all persons’ remarks to an equal period of less than five minutes. To further ensure equal opportunity for the public to comment, each person may address the Council only one time during the Public Forum portion of the meeting. Written comments submitted prior to Council action shall be considered in the same manner as oral comments. When the Council**

suspends its rules to include a new resolution or ordinance on the agenda, public comment will be taken at the time the Council considers the resolution or ordinance. Where an ordinance has been substantially changed at its final reading, subject to the consent of the Council, a person may speak to the changes. Public comment sign-up forms will be available at the back of the Council Chambers for use by those persons wishing to address the Council. All remarks will be addressed to the Council as a whole.

RULE 5. Motions. No motions shall be put or debated unless seconded. When a motion is seconded, it shall be stated by the Mayor before debate, and every motion shall be reduced to writing if required by the Mayor or any Councilman. After a motion or resolution is stated by the chair, it shall be deemed in possession of the Council, but it may be withdrawn at any time before decision or amendment. In all cases where a resolution or a motion is entered on the minutes of the City Council, the name of the member moving same shall be entered also.

RULE 6. Adoption, Majority Vote. No resolution or ordinance, except specifically provided for by law, shall be adopted without a concurrence of a majority of the whole number of members elected to the Council by call of the ayes and nays which shall be recorded.

RULE 7. Order of Debate. When a question is under debate, the only motions in order shall be:

- (1) To adjourn;
- (2) The previous question;
- (3) To lay on the table;
- (4) Postpone indefinitely;
- (5) To adjourn to a certain day;
- (6) To refer;
- (7) To amend;

and the motions shall be given precedence in the order herein arranged, the first three to be decided without debate.

RULE 8. Adjournment. A motion to adjourn the City Council is in order except when a member is in possession of the floor, while the ayes and nays are being called, while the members are voting, when adjournment was the last preceding motion, or when it is decided that the previous questions shall be taken. A motion to adjourn simply cannot be amended, but a motion to adjourn to a given time may be, and is open to debate.

RULE 9. Previous Question. When the previous question is moved and put all proposed

amendments and all further motions and debates shall be excluded and the question put without delay.

RULE 10. Motion to Lay on Table. A motion to lay a question on the table simply is not debatable, but a motion to lay on the table and publish, or any other condition is subject to amendment and debate.

RULE 11. Postponement. When a motion is postponed indefinitely, it shall not be taken up again during the same meeting.

RULE 12. Reference. A motion to refer to a standing committee shall take precedence of similar motion for a special committee.

RULE 13. Amendments. A motion to amend an amendment shall be in order, but to amend an amendment to an amendment shall not be entertained. Any amendment modifying the intention of the motion shall be in order, but an amendment relating to a different subject shall not be in order. On a motion to strike out and insert, the paragraph to be amended shall first be read as it stands, the words proposed to be struck out and those to be inserted, and finally the paragraph as it would stand, if so amended.

RULE 14. Reconsideration. A motion may be reconsidered at any time during the same meeting or at a first meeting held thereafter. A motion for reconsideration being once made and decided in the negative shall not be renewed before the next meeting. A motion to reconsider must be made and seconded by the members who voted on the prevailing side, or by those who were absent and did not vote upon the motion to be reconsidered.

RULE 15. The foregoing rules may be suspended for a certain meeting or for a certain purpose only, by the unanimous vote of the Council.

RULE 16. Upon questions arising not covered by the foregoing, Robert's Rules of Order shall govern."

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Denver, Iowa on this 6th day of March, 2006.

1st Reading was Passed, Approved and Adopted the 6th day of February, 2006.

2nd Reading was Passed, Approved and Adopted the 21st day of February, 2006.

3rd Reading was Passed, Approved and Adopted the 6th day of March, 2006.

ATTEST:

Mike Isaacson, Mayor

Larry Farley, City Clerk/Admin.