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CITY OF NORTH CANTON, OHIO

IN RE:	)	
	)	
NORTH CANTON	)	
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE	)	
VIRTUAL MEETING	)	
	)	
	)	<b>TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS</b>
	)	

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Transcript of Proceedings held virtually before the North Canton City Council, taken by the undersigned, Shannon Roberts, a Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, at the offices of North Canton City Hall, 145 North Main Street, North Canton, Ohio, on Monday, the 5th day of October, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

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APPEARANCES:

- Daniel Jeff Peters, Chairman
- Douglas Foltz, Member
- Stephanie Werren, Member
- Daryl Revolt, Member
- Mark Cerreta, Member
- Dominic Fonte, Member
- Matthew Stroia, Member
- Stephan B. Wilder, Mayor
- Patrick DeOrio, Director of Administration
- Catherine Farina, Deputy Director of Administration
- Jina Alaback, Director of Finance
- Robert Graham, PE
- Benjamin Young, Council Clerk
- Margaret Straub, Intern

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1 MR. PETERS: All right. We are live?

2 MR. YOUNG: We are.

3 MR PETERS: All right. Thank you, Ben.

4 At this time, I'd like to call to order the

5 North Canton Committee of the Whole meeting,

6 October 5th, 2020. The time is 7:00 p.m.

7 Ben, would you please call the roll?

8 MR. YOUNG: Member Foltz.

9 MR. FOLTZ: Here.

10 MR. YOUNG: Member Peters.

11 MR. PETERS: Here.

12 MR. YOUNG: Member Werren.

13 (No response.)

14 MR. CERRETA: She's putting electric in  
15 right now.

16 MR. YOUNG: Member Werren.

17 MR. WERREN: Oh, here. Sorry.

18 MR. YOUNG: Member Fonte.

19 MR. FONTE: Here.

20 MR. YOUNG: Member Revoldt.

21 MR. REVOLDT: Here.

22 MR. YOUNG: Member Cerreta.

23 MR. CERRETA: Here.

24 MR. YOUNG: And Member Stroia.

25 MR. STROIA: Here.

1 MR. YOUNG: Seven present.

2 MR. PETERS: All right. Thank you very  
3 much. First up on the agenda, Ordinance,  
4 Rules, and Claims. Chairman Stroia, the  
5 floor is yours.

6 MR. STROIA: All right. Thank you. So  
7 this is the rules of Council. We have  
8 streamlined them, deco -- decodifying them.  
9 Ben, I'll let you introduce anything that you  
10 see necessary, and then I'll take comments,  
11 concerns, questions by section, if that is  
12 okay.

13 MR. YOUNG: As Chairman Stroia said, we  
14 are really, in essence, just decodifying the  
15 existing rules of Council. And the reason to  
16 do this is it gives the legislature full --  
17 or sole control over its own legislative  
18 process.

19 So when the rules of Council are  
20 codified, that means that if City Council  
21 wanted to change its own internal processes,  
22 the Mayor would theoretically have a veto,  
23 which would give him undo control over the  
24 legislative branch of government.

25 So by decodifying the rules, we bring

1           them completely under the authority of  
2           Council, and we make them easier to change if  
3           Council finds that something isn't working as  
4           they intended.

5           MR. FONTE: Thank you. That's a good  
6           explanation.

7           MR. STROIA: And then the disclaimer that  
8           I will add to that is if any part of these  
9           rules should become contrary to local or  
10          state law, it's considered immediately void.

11          MR. PETERS: Is that in the -- is that in  
12          here? I didn't see that.

13          MR. STROIA: It says -- it's the top  
14          paragraph right before it introduces  
15          everything. But that's just the way it  
16          works.

17          MR. PETERS: Okay.

18          MR. STROIA: I mean, our -- our law --  
19          our rules can't supercede local or state law,  
20          so --

21          MR. PETERS: Correct. All right.

22          MR. FONTE: So the default is state law  
23          or state legislation, right?

24          MR. PETERS: Correct.

25          MR. STROIA: Yes.

1 MR. YOUNG: Unless it's specifically  
2 spelled out in our charter.

3 MR. FONTE: Okay. Got it.

4 MR. STROIA: So Rules 1 through 6, under  
5 the Officers of Council, does anybody have  
6 any questions or comments on Rules 1 through  
7 6?

8 (No response.)

9 MR. STROIA: Anybody?

10 MR. FONTE: Did anything change in this  
11 group, like how many -- it says four votes.  
12 I don't remember where I saw that. Or 51  
13 percent. It says a quorum necessary to  
14 conduct business. Oh, that's 8. Sorry. I  
15 jumped ahead. Excuse me.

16 MR. STROIA: Well, also in 1E, it says --

17 MR. CERRETA: 1E.

18 MR. STROIA: -- four votes, if you're  
19 thinking about that. And F.

20 MR. FONTE: That's what I was thinking  
21 about.

22 MR. STROIA: Yeah.

23 MR. FONTE: So four votes or what is  
24 necessary to conduct the business?

25 MR. STROIA: Right. Correct.

1 MR. FOLTZ: No. Matt, I'm fine.

2 MR. STROIA: Okay. All right. Let's  
3 move on to the second, the Meetings of  
4 Council, Rule 7 and 8, if anybody has any  
5 comments or questions there.

6 MR. FONTE: Huh-uh.

7 MR. STROIA: Everybody good on that?

8 MR. REVOLDT: Yes, this is -- this is  
9 Daryl.

10 MR. STROIA: Go ahead.

11 MR. REVOLDT: We had -- we had -- in the  
12 past, we have had some confusion about the  
13 process of the charter requires that the  
14 Mayor call the organizational meeting. And  
15 this ropes the Clerk into it to make sure  
16 that the notice gets -- who gets published --  
17 who's responsible for the publication of the  
18 notice. And that would be the Clerk is  
19 instructed to do it at the direction of the  
20 Mayor. So, in other words, it -- it  
21 specifies -- requires some teamwork between  
22 the Mayor and the Clerk.

23 MR. STROIA: Thanks, Daryl. Thank you.  
24 Anybody else, 7 and 8?

25 Let's look at the Committees of the

1 Council, Rules 9 through 17.

2 MR. FONTE: So on the committees, Matt --

3 MR. STROIA: Uh-huh.

4 MR. FONTE: -- that's just -- like I'm,  
5 you know, Street and Alley Chairman, so --

6 MR. STROIA: . Yep.

7 MR. FONTE: -- do we just keep those --  
8 we don't have terms on that. We just keep  
9 them as long as we want to do them; is that  
10 the point basically?

11 MR. STROIA: Correct. Yeah.

12 MR. FONTE: Okay.

13 MR. REVOLDT: Well, until the President  
14 reassigns you.

15 MR. STROIA: Yeah.

16 MR. YOUNG: Well, the term is for one  
17 year --

18 MR. REVOLDT: One year.

19 MR. YOUNG: -- pending the election of  
20 Council President.

21 MR. FONTE: Okay. So, like, I have been  
22 doing Streets and Alley, which I like doing,  
23 because everybody can yell and be frustrated  
24 with you. I like that.

25 MR. STROIA: Yeah.



1 MR. FONTE: Okay.

2 MR. CERRETA: It changes every year, Dom.

3 MR. REVOLDT: Dominic, to answer your  
4 question is you get to keep it for a year.

5 MR. FONTE: Thank you.

6 MR. STROIA: That's correct.

7 MR. CERRETA: He didn't reassign you  
8 because you are doing so great.

9 MR. FONTE: Thank you.

10 MR. STROIA: Rule -- you can read Rule 12  
11 about that, too, Dominic, how it says --

12 MR. FONTE: President shall assign?

13 MR. STROIA: -- that the Council  
14 President is -- yeah.

15 MR. FONTE: Okay. Got it.

16 MR. DEORIO: This is Patrick. Where does  
17 it say how many members were on a committee?

18 MR. STROIA: It does not.

19 MR. DEORIO: Shouldn't it say that in one  
20 of the rules?

21 MR. CERRETA: It said President and  
22 Vice-President, I think.

23 MR. DEORIO: It says officers --

24 MS. WERREN: I thought we always had  
25 three?

1 MR. CERRETA: Well, we have all now. It  
2 used to be just three.

3 MR. STROIA: Yeah, now it's all.

4 MR. CERRETA: Now everybody --

5 MR. REVOLDT: Well, Patrick, to come to  
6 your -- to come -- to answer your question,  
7 there is an indirect reference. If you look  
8 at Rule 23, it requires that you have four  
9 affirmative votes in Council of the Whole to  
10 advance legislation to the Council agenda.  
11 So it's indirect, but it certainly implies  
12 that your committee is the seven.

13 MR. STROIA: Should we -- do you guys  
14 want to put it in there? I mean --

15 MR. DEORIO: It would be five --

16 MR. STROIA: Yeah, I think --

17 MR. DEORIO: -- to move it forward, to  
18 move it forward.

19 MR. YOUNG: Well, in Rule 23, the  
20 majority, as defined by the final rule, 32,  
21 would only mean 51 percent of the Council  
22 members at that meeting. So if you only  
23 assign three members to that committee --

24 MR. STROIA: Yeah.

25 MR. YOUNG: -- a majority would be two.

1 As Council's rules are currently written in  
2 the codified ordinances, there is no official  
3 number. It is at the discretion of the  
4 President of Council to assign as many  
5 members as they see fit.

6 MR. FONTE: Got it.

7 MR. YOUNG: But we --

8 MR. STROIA: What do you guys think?

9 MR. YOUNG: -- can certainly add a rule.

10 MR. STROIA: Do you guys want to --

11 MR. PETERS: We originally did that,  
12 because, for example, if you were -- for  
13 example, say somebody wanted to get together  
14 with Dominic and -- and Mark to talk about  
15 something, well, if they were two members of  
16 one committee, and they didn't post that,  
17 they were in violation of open meetings laws.

18 MR. DEORIO: Right.

19 MR. PETERS: But it made Council a little  
20 more flexible in that everyone was part of  
21 the action, and that we didn't fall prey to  
22 inadvertently violating open meetings.

23 MR. DEORIO: I'm not saying I disagree.  
24 I -- I just think why aren't -- why aren't  
25 you just spelling it out, though, I mean,

1           whatever your current practice is?

2           MR. PETERS: Well, I don't know if you  
3 necessarily need it in the rules. I think,  
4 again, it goes -- President -- it's the  
5 current President discretion. Wouldn't  
6 that -- wouldn't that be --

7           MR. CERRETA: So are you saying to put a  
8 thing in here that says all members of  
9 Council are part of every committee?

10          MR. REVOLDT: You basically say that in  
11 Rule 23.

12          MR. STROIA: Well, do you want to make it  
13 more clear, or do we -- do we -- you guys  
14 tell me.

15          MR. PETERS: You know what you could do,  
16 Matthew, is take Rule 17, instead of  
17 stipulating -- because that -- that could  
18 create some confusion, 17 right there.

19          MR. REVOLDT: Yep.

20          MR. PETERS: See what I'm saying?

21          MR. STROIA: Yeah, you're right. Yeah.  
22 Good point. Good catch.

23          MR. PETERS: So take that out and put,  
24 you know, all members -- all seven members  
25 are assigned to each committee. I mean --

1 MR. DEORIO: It's just you have --

2 MR. PETERS: A Vice-President --

3 MR. CERRETA: Why don't you have all  
4 committees -- all committees include every  
5 Council member.

6 MR. STROIA: That's good.

7 MR. PETERS: Right.

8 MR. FONTE: And then there is a chair and  
9 a co-chair, right? So the co-chair, the --  
10 and then that would give us a little bit of  
11 squeeze room on either side of it. Because  
12 we surely don't want to do anything  
13 incorrect, right? So this would be fine.  
14 It's working the way it is now, correct?

15 MR. PETERS: Yeah. I like the way it  
16 works now.

17 MR. REVOLDT: Rule 17, Matt, you can  
18 simply say, committee -- committee shall be  
19 comprised of a committee chairman, committee  
20 vice-chairman, plus the other five members of  
21 Council.

22 MR. STROIA: Got you. Okay. I like  
23 that.

24 MR. PETERS: There you go.

25 MR. FONTE: Record that, please.

1 MR. STROIA: I got it.

2 MR. REVOLDT: You know, this is -- this  
3 is an interesting discussion, because this  
4 is why we are -- why we are creating rules.  
5 So we can change these again very easily at  
6 the next organizational meeting.

7 MR. PETERS: Sure.

8 MR. REVOLDT: If it doesn't work for  
9 whatever reason.

10 MR. PETERS: Well, they look good. I  
11 mean, as a -- overall, I think they look -- I  
12 don't see anything really -- other than 17  
13 being a little bit confusing. That was it.

14 MR. STROIA: Yeah, we'll fix that. That  
15 was a good catch.

16 MR. PETERS: Okay.

17 MR. STROIA: Any other questions,  
18 comments on the Committees of the Council, 9  
19 through 17?

20 MR. YOUNG: I just wanted to highlight in  
21 Rule 9C, we changed the name of Ordinance,  
22 Rules and Claims to just Ordinance and Rules,  
23 since moral claims has been repealed for  
24 eight years now.

25 MS. WERREN: Good catch.

1 MR. PETERS: Uh-huh.

2 MR. CERRETA: I have been waiting for  
3 that for eight years.

4 MS. WERREN: Feel free to always  
5 interject.

6 MR. CERRETA: I always like that Water,  
7 Sewage and Rubbish. Rubbish sounds English.

8 MS. WERREN: It does.

9 MR. STROIA: Rubbish.

10 MR. CERRETA: English, rubbish. Trash.

11 MR. FONTE: Hogwash.

12 MR. STROIA: All right. Let's move on to  
13 the Council docket, Rules 18 through 29. I  
14 have a couple when you guys are done.

15 MR. FONTE: On Rule 25, we have to plug a  
16 number in there?

17 MR. YOUNG: Well, so that's the format  
18 that I assigned.

19 MR. STROIA: Yeah.

20 MR. YOUNG: So they get a three-digit  
21 number. So, like, the first one of the year  
22 is going to be 001, and then it's going to  
23 say 2021.

24 MR. FONTE: Thank you.

25 MR. STROIA: We did change -- was it Rule

1 21, Ben, with the agenda report by Tuesday?

2 MR. YOUNG: Yeah. So back when we first  
3 brought this up, the previous two times, we  
4 were going to move that due date forward.  
5 However, with the contracting out of legal  
6 review, we have found that we actually need  
7 that extra time now. And so we are going to  
8 leave the due date at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday,  
9 instead of moving it to Wednesday.

10 MS. WERREN: Has that worked pretty well?

11 MR. YOUNG: So far, yes. So we have  
12 actually been able to tie Krugliak directly  
13 into our Granicus approval structure.

14 MS. WERREN: Oh, great.

15 MR. YOUNG: So when, say, Patrick submits  
16 an item, after it's finished drafted, it  
17 automatically sends it to Krugliak for  
18 review, and it can't move forward onto an  
19 agenda until it has been approved.

20 MR. PETERS: Okay.

21 MS. WERREN: Oh, that's great. But, I  
22 mean, you have allowed some flexibility, too,  
23 which I think is appreciated and necessary in  
24 this day and age.

25 MR. STROIA: Yep.



1 MR. YOUNG: Yeah. So we always have the  
2 ability to override it with the President's  
3 permission if something comes up.

4 MS. WERREN: Okay.

5 MR. STROIA: Should I -- let me point out  
6 a potential problem on Rule 26. At  
7 recognition of visitors, I think we need to  
8 have a discussion on who we consider a  
9 visitor versus who's giving a presentation.  
10 Potentially, we could block out somebody  
11 like -- I mean, Daryl gave the example if the  
12 EPA is coming in to give us a presentation,  
13 we don't want to give them a five-minute time  
14 limit. So maybe they should not go under  
15 recognition of visitors. Maybe there should  
16 be a separate category.

17 MR. CERRETA: Special presentations?

18 MS. WERREN: Well --

19 MR. STROIA: That -- yeah. Yeah.

20 MS. WERREN: Well, yeah. What did we do  
21 before? I know, because we have never -- we  
22 have never -- anyone who has had a  
23 presentation, we have never stopped them.

24 MR. CERRETA: Right. We have set them up  
25 beforehand.

1 MS. WERREN: Yeah.

2 MR. PETERS: Yeah, we have always put  
3 them at the top of the agenda, directly after  
4 the roll call.

5 MS. WERREN: Yeah. I don't even feel  
6 like they go in recognition of visitors.

7 MR. FONTE: I agree with that.

8 MR. STROIA: What would -- what would the  
9 category be then? I mean, I just --

10 MS. WERREN: Presentations.

11 MR. STROIA: -- want to spell it out.  
12 Presentations?

13 MS. WERREN: Presentations.

14 MR. STROIA: Okay.

15 MS. WERREN: Yeah.

16 MR. STROIA: So we could add special  
17 presentation to -- so it would be right after  
18 roll call? No. It would be after  
19 consideration --

20 MR. PETERS: Or -- yeah, considerations.

21 MR. STROIA: -- of items?

22 MR. PETERS: Yeah.

23 MR. STROIA: So in between E and F there?

24 MR. PETERS: Correct.

25 MR. STROIA: Okay. And we are going to

1 call that -- you guys like special -- special  
2 presentation?

3 MR. FOLTZ: Yeah, that's good.

4 MS. WERREN: Sure.

5 MR. FOLTZ: Because we might have to vote  
6 on it if it wasn't -- you know --

7 MR. STROIA: Yeah.

8 MR. FOLTZ: So that's good.

9 MR. YOUNG: So special presentations,  
10 presentations to Council?

11 MS. WERREN: Yeah.

12 MR. REVOLDT: At the invitation of  
13 Council or the Administration.

14 MR. FOLTZ: Right.

15 MS. WERREN: Yeah, either or.

16 MR. STROIA: Okay. Yep. Okay.

17 MR. PETERS: Yeah, because there will be  
18 times the Mayor would have proclamations,  
19 presentations, that type of thing.

20 MR. WILDER: Thank you.

21 MR. YOUNG: So how about presentations at  
22 the invitation of City officials?

23 MR. REVOLDT: Fine.

24 MR. CERRETA: That works.

25 MR. STROIA: We can do that.

1 MR. PETERS: Okay.

2 MR. STROIA: Anything else? You guys  
3 like the -- the flow of the meetings? I  
4 mean --

5 MR. FONTE: Yep.

6 MR. STROIA: It seems to be working.

7 MR. FONTE: Uh-huh.

8 MR. STROIA: Let's go to -- any --  
9 anything else --

10 MR. FOLTZ: Well, let's -- let's review  
11 24, Matt.

12 MR. STROIA: Sure.

13 MR. FOLTZ: So we understand it. By a  
14 two-thirds majority vote of seated members of  
15 Council. Council may suspend Rule 25 and  
16 place legislation on the Council agenda  
17 without a favorable vote in Committee.

18 MR. YOUNG: So that's supposed to be Rule  
19 23, not 25. That was a typo.

20 MR. STROIA: Oh, got you.

21 MR. YOUNG: And it is fixed in the  
22 legislation version, but not the version  
23 attached to the agenda request.

24 MR. PETERS: Okay.

25 MR. STROIA: Okay. That's the

1 voice vote. Okay. Good catch.

2 MR. FOLTZ: So we are saying 20 -- well,  
3 let's go -- so what -- what are we doing for  
4 Rule 24? It's still in tact?

5 MR. STROIA: Yeah, that's still --  
6 nothing has changed there, right, Ben?  
7 That's just --

8 MR. YOUNG: Yeah, so Rule 24 allows  
9 Council to bypass Committee if something is  
10 so urgent and pressing that it must be dealt  
11 with immediately. Currently, as Council  
12 rules are written right now, it only requires  
13 a simple majority. And this would raise it  
14 to a two-thirds majority.

15 MR. STROIA: Oh, got you. Okay.

16 MR. FOLTZ: You are saying we can put  
17 something on Council without a Committee  
18 meeting?

19 MR. YOUNG: Correct.

20 MR. PETERS: We did that.

21 MR. DEORIO: But you would have five  
22 members, instead of four.

23 MR. FOLTZ: Are we all okay with that?

24 MR. STROIA: That's -- Ben, that was the  
25 rule previously. We are just making it a

1 higher --

2 MR. FOLTZ: Standard.

3 MR. STROIA: -- amount. Right. Yeah.

4 So instead of four, now it's five.

5 MR. PETERS: I like that.

6 MS. WERREN: Is that -- is that more  
7 common?

8 MR. STROIA: It is more -- yeah, more  
9 people use that.

10 MS. WERREN: Is that what other  
11 organizations -- okay.

12 MR. STROIA: Yes.

13 MR. PETERS: Well, if you are going to  
14 move forward with something without a  
15 Committee meeting, I would prefer having more  
16 folks on board than --

17 MR. FOLTZ: Yeah, I agree.

18 MR. PETERS: -- just a couple.

19 MR. STROIA: Right. Yep, that --

20 MR. FOLTZ: We are saying --

21 MR. STROIA: -- that was our thing.

22 MR. FOLTZ: -- to place on legislation  
23 without a Committee. Have we ever done that?

24 MR. PETERS: Yeah, we just did that.

25 What was that, Ben?

1 MR. YOUNG: Well, so --

2 MR. REVOLDT: We've done it without  
3 Committee report.

4 MR. FOLTZ: We --

5 MR. YOUNG: We've done it without  
6 Committee reports.

7 MR. FOLTZ: Without Committee report.

8 THE REPORTER: Guys, one at a time. One  
9 at a time.

10 MR. PETERS: That's right.

11 MR. FOLTZ: But we have always had a  
12 Committee meeting to talk about it. Because  
13 you don't want to get in a situation where  
14 you are not have -- have the availability of  
15 public speaks on it. You have got to watch  
16 that.

17 MR. PETERS: Yeah, that's a great point,  
18 Doug.

19 MR. FOLTZ: I want to think about this,  
20 because, yeah, I think --

21 MR. STROIA: Okay.

22 MR. FOLTZ: -- we have always had a  
23 Special Committee, and we had to do it before  
24 the Council meeting.

25 MR. PETERS: Right.

1 MS. WERREN: Yeah, it --

2 MR. FOLTZ: And then, Jeff, we opened up  
3 the public speaks portion of it. Just if we  
4 had to pass something, just so -- we still  
5 allowed the public to weigh in.

6 MR. PETERS: Yeah.

7 MS. WERREN: Right.

8 MR. FOLTZ: I don't want to -- I don't  
9 want to lose the public participation on  
10 that. I just -- I'm trying -- maybe I'm  
11 overthinking it, but I just want to make sure  
12 we are --

13 MR. REVOLDT: No. You're -- you're --  
14 Doug, you are absolutely correct. This is  
15 Daryl.

16 MS. WERREN: And, Doug, you have always  
17 made sure we have done that, quite honestly.

18 MR. PETERS: Yeah.

19 MR. FOLTZ: Yeah, because we don't want  
20 to ever say, well, we didn't let the public  
21 weigh in and we just --

22 MS. WERREN: Right.

23 MR. STROIA: That's a good point.

24 MR. FOLTZ: -- made decisions, with  
25 seven --



1 MS. WERREN: Nope.

2 MR. FOLTZ: -- people in the community --

3 THE REPORTER: Wait. Guys, guys, guys,  
4 guys, one at a time, please.

5 MS. WERREN: Hey, I was late. I spoke  
6 up, too.

7 MR. PETERS: Yeah, Doug, I think -- I  
8 think you are correct. I -- I like having --  
9 you know, if it's -- if it's something that  
10 that's -- it's that urgent, you can do a  
11 quick Committee prior to, and then have the  
12 public weigh in on -- in the regular Council  
13 meeting.

14 MR. FOLTZ: Right. And then we would  
15 always try to have at least a second reading.  
16 I mean, as a standard. You know, it depends  
17 on the issue or the legislation that we need.  
18 If it's really a -- a true necessity,  
19 emergency, obviously, we have that leeway,  
20 but --

21 MR. PETERS: Uh huh.

22 MR. FOLTZ: -- I'd like to clean that up  
23 somehow.

24 MR. PETERS: Yeah, I would --

25 MR. STROIA: All right. So that would

1 clean up 23 and 24.

2 MR. REVOLDT: Yeah, let's just try to --  
3 let's just try to rewrite those.

4 MR. STROIA: Okay. That's a good catch.

5 MR. YOUNG: Do we still want the power to  
6 exist or do we --

7 MR. REVOLDT: No.

8 MR. YOUNG: -- want everything to go  
9 through a Committee?

10 MR. PETERS: No. I --

11 MR. REVOLDT: We want it to go through a  
12 Committee.

13 MR. YOUNG: We could just strike Rule 24.

14 MR. REVOLDT: Strike it.

15 MR. FOLTZ: Let's strike it. Daryl, like  
16 you mentioned, we can always --

17 MR. PETERS: Yeah, that would work.

18 MR. FOLTZ: -- bring it back -- we could  
19 bring it back December -- you know, first --  
20 our organizational meeting to change it or  
21 something, but --

22 MS. WERREN: Yeah, but I don't think  
23 we --

24 MR. REVOLDT: But let's strike it for  
25 now.

1 MS. WERREN: -- we -- we've never needed  
2 it.

3 MR. FOLTZ: Well, I agree. You know, so  
4 let's not have it. But in case we want to  
5 change it.

6 MR. STROIA: Let's strike 24.

7 MR. REVOLDT: Yeah, strike 24.

8 MR. PETERS: Yeah.

9 MR. REVOLDT: You know, Doug -- Doug is  
10 onto something here again. You know, what we  
11 really want to make sure we are is -- is that  
12 we are not so anxious to adopt something that  
13 we preclude an opportunity for the public to  
14 weigh in. Otherwise, it would appear that we  
15 are simply railroading a piece of  
16 legislation, and it becomes --

17 MR. STROIA: Yeah.

18 MR. REVOLDT: -- then, you know, maybe  
19 some standard form of conduct. We don't want  
20 that.

21 MR. FOLTZ: Right.

22 MR. STROIA: Thank you. That's good.

23 MR. FOLTZ: Okay. Good. Good decision,  
24 guys. Thank you.

25 MR. DEORIO: Hey, Matt. Matt, not that I

1 care; I'm just pointing out nuances, that in  
2 Rule 24, it talks about you can get  
3 legislation on the Council agenda without a  
4 favorable vote in Committee. That's  
5 different than Matt having a Committee  
6 meeting.

7 That would -- the way I read that, that  
8 would be you didn't get -- Rule 23 says  
9 you've got to get an affirmative majority  
10 voice vote. Rule 24 says, well, if you don't  
11 get an affirmative majority voice vote, then  
12 you need two-thirds to get it on a Council  
13 agenda.

14 That's different than coming out of --  
15 and not having a Committee meeting, per se,  
16 and just going straight forward --

17 MR. STROIA: Right.

18 MR. DEORIO: -- with the matter. I  
19 wanted to point that out.

20 MR. PETERS: I see what you are saying,  
21 but I think the rules of --

22 MR. STROIA: Yeah.

23 MR. PETERS: -- Council should stipulate  
24 that it goes through Committee, period, and  
25 then to the legislative agenda.

1                   MR. DEORIO: Just wanted everything on  
2 the table for you.

3                   MR. PETERS: I got you.

4                   MR. STROIA: Well, thank you. Well,  
5 yeah, and I guess if -- if we have seven  
6 member committees, that's kind of a moot  
7 point.

8                   MR. PETERS: Yeah.

9                   MR. STROIA: Okay. I think we can strike  
10 that. I think -- yeah, I'd like -- I like  
11 what you guys are saying.

12                   Okay. Anything else up to Rule 29?

13                   (No response.)

14                   MR. STROIA: Let's look at the other  
15 rules, Rules 30 to 32. Everything is pretty  
16 straightforward there, I think.

17                   MR. PETERS: Uh-huh.

18                   MR. STROIA: Any comments, questions on  
19 those rules? Any other -- any other thoughts  
20 on the rules as we have gone through that  
21 part and discussed them?

22                   MR. DEORIO: Are you saying in Rule 31,  
23 Matt, that you don't need -- you only need --  
24 to refer it to Committee, you need three  
25 votes --

1 MR. FOLTZ: Yeah.

2 MR. DEORIO: -- to refer to Committee?  
3 Is that what you are saying?

4 MR. STROIA: Yes.

5 MR. YOUNG: So it's designed so that a  
6 political minority can propose changes, but  
7 not necessarily enact the changes.

8 MR. DEORIO: So if one person or two  
9 people, they would not be able to? You would  
10 need three?

11 MR. YOUNG: They would need --

12 MR. DEORIO: It doesn't say at least  
13 three. It just says three.

14 MR. FONTE: How was it -- this is  
15 Dominic. How was it before this?

16 MR. YOUNG: Well --

17 MR. FONTE: How many people?

18 MR. YOUNG: Right now, it requires  
19 passing legislation to amend the rules of  
20 Council.

21 MR. FOLTZ: Well --

22 MR. STROIA: It would just be to propose,  
23 not to -- not to approve.

24 MR. FOLTZ: This is Foltz. To weigh in  
25 again, this kind of confuses me in the sense

1           that I think it's a crossover from when we  
2           just had three Committee members.  When you  
3           say, the last line in the paragraph, first  
4           paragraph, after consideration, the Ordinance  
5           and Rules Committee shall report its  
6           recommendations to the Council as a whole.

7           Well, everybody is on Committee.  I'm  
8           really trying to figure out what we are  
9           saying here.  Somebody that's on the floor  
10          wants to make a motion, with three favorable  
11          votes, it's referred to a -- to a specific  
12          Committee for consideration.  But everybody  
13          is on the Committee, so --

14          MR. REVOLDT:  Yeah.  Hey, Doug, remember  
15          this, is that we are not adopting the rules  
16          as an ordinance or a resolution, correct?  
17          These are simply our rules.

18          MR. STROIA:  Yeah, this is only for the  
19          rules.

20          MR. REVOLDT:  So it's not going to be  
21          used -- it's not --

22          MR. FOLTZ:  This is only --

23          MR. REVOLDT:  -- going to be --

24          MR. FOLTZ:  -- for Council rules, not  
25          ordinances.

1 THE REPORTER: Guys --

2 MR. FOLTZ: Okay.

3 MR. STROIA: Yes. So, yeah, it's only to  
4 the Ordinance and Rules Committee.

5 MR. REVOLDT: Which is everybody.

6 MR. YOUNG: So it would require --

7 MR. STROIA: Right, it is. Yeah, that's  
8 true.

9 MR. FOLTZ: It's kind of redun -- it's  
10 kind of --

11 MR. STROIA: It is a little, yeah. I --  
12 yeah.

13 MR. YOUNG: The intention is that it  
14 requires two weeks of discussion to make a  
15 change.

16 MR. STROIA: Right.

17 MR. YOUNG: But you can't --

18 MR. STROIA: Yeah. Maybe we can --

19 MR. YOUNG: -- in one week propose, make  
20 a change, and then act on it.

21 MR. STROIA: And then approve. Right.  
22 Yeah.

23 MR. YOUNG: So it's supposed to be a  
24 protection for a minority, in that the  
25 majority can't just be like, oh, the minority



1 is holding us up because of this one rule; we  
2 are just going to get rid of it right now.

3 MR. STROIA: We can probably clean this  
4 up a little bit.

5 MR. FOLTZ: Yeah, then let's say that.

6 MR. STROIA: Yeah, that is -- yeah.  
7 We'll clean that up, but that is -- what Ben  
8 said is the intent of it.

9 MR. FOLTZ: Okay.

10 MR. STROIA: To take two meetings.

11 MR. REVOLDT: Then we ought to just say  
12 that.

13 MR. FOLTZ: That's what --

14 MR. PETERS: Yeah.

15 MR. FOLTZ: -- I mean.

16 MR. STROIA: We'll clean that up.

17 MR. FOLTZ: Okay.

18 MR. STROIA: Okay. Any other comments,  
19 questions on any of the rules as a whole?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. STROIA: Okay. Do I need to motion  
22 to put this on the agenda?

23 MR. CERRETA: It's under your Committee.

24 MR. FOLTZ: It's your -- no, as long -- I  
25 think -- yeah, I think we are all favorable

1 to putting it on.

2 MR. REVOLDT: As long as you have got  
3 four.

4 MR. STROIA: Okay. Yep. I move to put  
5 this on the -- the agenda.

6 MR. CERRETA: Sounds good.

7 MR. FOLTZ: Okay.

8 MR. REVOLDT: Good.

9 MR. PETERS: All right. Okay. Matt, you  
10 have one --

11 MR. STROIA: Okay. Yep. Let me -- on B,  
12 very similar, we are -- we are decodifying.  
13 The best sheet to follow around in this is --  
14 is the one that -- it was the Word document  
15 that has the stricken in red. You guys all  
16 have that available?

17 Ben, if you want to kick this off, go  
18 ahead.

19 MR. YOUNG: One moment, and I can pull up  
20 the sheet.

21 MR. STROIA: And then we'll do the same  
22 thing. We'll just go section by section.

23 MR. YOUNG: There, it should be on screen  
24 for everyone now.

25 MR. CERRETA: Uh-huh.

1 MR. STROIA: Thank you.

2 MR. YOUNG: So as Matt said, this is the  
3 accompanying amendments to Chapter 111, where  
4 Council's rules are currently codified. As  
5 we have done with a couple other pieces of  
6 legislation this year, these two are -- or  
7 should be in tandem with each other. So if  
8 Council decides not to pass one, we really  
9 shouldn't pass the other, as then we'll  
10 create conflicting and problematic rules.

11 MR. STROIA: All right. Let's look at  
12 111.01, for the meeting times, places.

13 MR. PETERS: So we are going from the  
14 second and fourth Monday to the first, third,  
15 and fifth for regular Council meetings?

16 MR. STROIA: We are switching the order,  
17 yeah. I'm proposing to switch the order.  
18 That way --

19 MR. CERRETA: Is there a reason? Yeah,  
20 what's the reason?

21 MR. STROIA: Yeah, well, I'm hoping --  
22 the reason, I'm hoping to get rid of all  
23 the -- the "special" in front of every  
24 meeting that we have. I think if we go in  
25 this order, it's going to cut that down quite

1 a bit.

2 MS. WERREN: Why?

3 MR. CERRETA: Yeah.

4 MR. STROIA: Well --

5 MR. CERRETA: Do we have that many?

6 MR. STROIA: The special meetings? Yeah,  
7 we do.

8 MS. WERREN: Yeah. But what is it going  
9 to help?

10 MR. STROIA: Well, just order. I mean,  
11 if -- if we start with a Committee of the  
12 Whole versus a regular, you have more days to  
13 do regular business than Committee of the  
14 Whole.

15 MS. WERREN: I guess I don't know -- I'm  
16 not seeing it that -- I don't know. Maybe  
17 I'm missing something. I guess I'm thinking,  
18 you are just switching the order, so it's  
19 still going to be the same thing. People are  
20 still coming up with the same ordinances or  
21 things that need cleared.

22 MR. PETERS: I guess I have always -- I  
23 have always seen, you know, when we use, you  
24 know, the, quote/unquote, "special" monicker,  
25 I have never really seen that as a bad thing.

1           Some folks do. But I have never seen it as  
2           bad. I see it as a legislative body that is  
3           flexible to the needs of the administration,  
4           and -- and whatever else comes their way.

5           So, I mean, I guess I can kind of  
6           understand, it might maybe get rid of two or  
7           three special meetings in a year. But you  
8           are still going to have those issues on  
9           the -- on the third Monday. I guarantee you,  
10          next year, Pat is going to say, hey, I need  
11          something, and we need to talk about  
12          something in Committee, and there is going to  
13          be a Special Committee on that third Monday.

14          I don't know. I guess I've just never  
15          seen the -- the problem with having special  
16          meetings. I have always assumed -- I have  
17          always looked at it as us being flexible and  
18          responsive. So that's just my two cents.  
19          The rest of you guys can --

20          MR. STROIA: Okay. What does everybody  
21          else think?

22          MR. FOLTZ: Well -- this is Foltz -- I  
23          think -- I think we always had a Committee  
24          meeting first to do -- just to introduce  
25          discussion on any issue or future ordinance.

1           And it -- to me, it was like a clean slate.  
2           After -- after the organizational meeting,  
3           you went in -- you went -- the next meeting  
4           was going to be a Committee. Or January 1st,  
5           after that date, you'd be at Committee just  
6           to prepare yourself for a Council meeting.

7           But now we are saying that's the first  
8           meeting of the month. That's -- that's what  
9           I'm wrapping myself around.

10          MR. STROIA: Okay.

11          MR. FOLTZ: And I -- and I agree with  
12          President Peters in the sense that, you know,  
13          we are still going to have special meetings  
14          to maybe move ordinances through that need  
15          three readings at a quick -- quicker pace  
16          that we all feel is necessary, for the public  
17          to be aware of that and to pass it.

18          To me, it's Committee, then Council.  
19          Here, we are putting Council first, and  
20          then -- you know, do we need a fifth Council  
21          meeting on a -- on a -- you know, on a fifth  
22          Monday? I think that depends on how busy we  
23          are or what -- what's on our agenda that  
24          needs passed.

25          MR. STROIA: Sure.

1 MS. WERREN: Yeah.

2 MR. FOLTZ: We necessarily don't always  
3 have a fifth Council -- a third Council  
4 meeting a month. It depends on I guess the  
5 administration's requests to us, as far as  
6 what's necessary in their mind that we'd have  
7 to review and pass.

8 So I'm fine with the way the system is  
9 now. But I'm just -- I am trying to figure  
10 out how -- I'm not saying that you are not  
11 onto something. I'm just trying to figure  
12 out how it's going to work that it's more  
13 productive.

14 MS. WERREN: Yeah. Sorry. Go ahead.

15 MR. CERRETA: Well, those are good  
16 points, Doug. And -- and if you look at some  
17 of, like, the national -- national holidays  
18 that we go up against, you know, like the  
19 Martin Luther King and Presidents, those  
20 are -- those are the third Mondays. And then  
21 you have got Labor Day, which is a first  
22 Monday. So you are almost knocking out some  
23 of your meetings there, where before, we  
24 didn't come in competition with those.

25 MS. WERREN: Well, and then you look at

1 Christmas, Thanksgiving, those -- those are  
2 the fifth Mondays typically, so you are not  
3 going to meet those weeks anyway.

4 MR. PETERS: Well, we are typically on  
5 holiday at that point.

6 MR. REVOLDT: Hey, Jeff.

7 MR. PETERS: Yeah.

8 MS. WERREN: Oh, yeah. Thanksgiving we  
9 are not.

10 MR. REVOLDT: This is Daryl. Maybe --  
11 I'm going to really think out of the box  
12 here. Maybe what we ought to do is just  
13 stick close to the charter. The charter says  
14 we have got to meet once a month. Let's  
15 require in the codified ordinances that we  
16 meet -- have our -- have our -- have a --  
17 specify a business meeting the second Monday  
18 of every month. And authorize the Council  
19 President to call other meetings as he deems  
20 appropriate. And it can be a Council of the  
21 whole. It can -- and Jeff does it now,  
22 really. We go through -- we go through the  
23 agenda, and he says, hey, I'm going to  
24 call -- we're going to have this meeting.  
25 This is what the schedule looks like. You



1 know, maybe we just don't specify it.

2 MR. PETERS: I'm --

3 MR. REVOLDT: Let the President establish  
4 it.

5 MS. WERREN: Wow, good job, Daryl.

6 MR. PETERS: Can't the Mayor --

7 MR. REVOLDT: The Mayor can call them  
8 too. And the Mayor has that authority under  
9 the charter.

10 MS. WERREN: Gosh, I like that.

11 MR. DEORIO: I think Daryl is onto  
12 something there.

13 MS. WERREN: I do too.

14 MR. DEORIO: What the charter says is  
15 that, you know, if there are no -- if there  
16 is no other process in your rules for  
17 meeting, then it reverts to the charter. The  
18 charter specifies how meetings may be called;  
19 a vote of Council taken at any regular or  
20 special meeting thereof.

21 MR. FOLTZ: Yeah. Well --

22 MR. PETERS: You know, if I could  
23 interject here, too, and not to get too  
24 nit-picky here, but, you know, when talking  
25 about meeting times, you know, I don't think

1 using the word "shall" is a good way to go,  
2 because that -- that really -- that  
3 pigeonholes you into that --

4 MR. CERRETA: The word "shall"?

5 MR. PETERS: Do you understand what I'm  
6 saying?

7 MR. CERRETA: Uh-huh.

8 MR. DEORIO: The charter -- the charter  
9 says you shall hold regular meetings at least  
10 once during each month.

11 MR. PETERS: Yeah. And I don't disagree  
12 with that. I mean, I'm -- yeah, that's --

13 MR. REVOLDT: Everybody else maybe ought  
14 to be by rule.

15 MR. DEORIO: Yeah.

16 MR. PETERS: Yeah, there you go, Daryl.

17 MR. FOLTZ: Yeah. This is Foltz weighing  
18 in again. I just think -- Jeff, I think we  
19 have done a better job, and a credit to you,  
20 as far as looking at the future agenda that's  
21 written out, you know, at the end of the  
22 meeting. We know what our expectations are,  
23 and we review it.

24 I mean, I -- we don't get a lot of calls.  
25 You are not calling or Ben is not calling us

1 to have a special meeting. That used to  
2 happen more -- more than you think.

3 MR. PETERS: Yeah, it did.

4 MR. FOLTZ: You know, you remember -- you  
5 know, I'm going years back now, but, you  
6 know, in this sense, I think we have tidied  
7 this up to have -- to have it at the end of  
8 the Council meeting, where you are looking at  
9 the future agendas' dates for when we are  
10 meeting. And I think that's important.

11 And we can always change that right then  
12 with you, you know --

13 MR. PETERS: Well --

14 MR. FOLTZ: -- with a vote of Council.  
15 So I like Daryl's idea with the flexibility  
16 of one meeting.

17 MS. WERREN: I do too.

18 MR. FOLTZ: We are not just going to have  
19 one meeting a month. That's not going to  
20 happen. But at least it's -- it's there and  
21 we build from that for the rest of the month.

22 MR. REVOLDT: Well, what you say is the  
23 Council shall meet at least once a month.

24 MR. FOLTZ: Right.

25 MS. WERREN: Yeah.

1 MR. PETERS: Yeah.

2 MS. WERREN: But I -- I like that if we  
3 need to have two Council of the Whole  
4 meetings or we need to have a special three  
5 weeks in a row, and maybe there is a  
6 legislation.

7 MR. FOLTZ: Right.

8 MS. WERREN: That's great.

9 MR. PETERS: Well, and I will say this --

10 MS. WERREN: It's so timely and it's  
11 purposeful.

12 MR. PETERS: I will say this, over the  
13 course of the last year, it has moved a lot  
14 smoother. And not to -- you know, not to  
15 stroke anyone, but I think the  
16 administration, and Pat in particular, I  
17 think he has been very mindful of -- of our  
18 schedule. And he has got a clear agenda on  
19 what he -- what he's asking us to do. So  
20 that has been very helpful, as well.

21 MR. DEORIO: Can I just interject one  
22 more thing? I'm sorry to be talking so much  
23 during this process. I really didn't  
24 anticipate that. You remember the -- the  
25 discussion about, like, what happens when

1           it's a special meeting and how that affects  
2           that the agenda can't be amended, and you can  
3           only talk about what's on the agenda? Are we  
4           setting up by only saying -- I'm just  
5           being -- thinking out loud, by saying there  
6           is only one meeting, and everything else then  
7           would then be -- would everything else be  
8           characterized as a "special" meeting?

9           MR. PETERS: Oh, boy.

10          MR. REVOLDT: No. No.

11          MR. DEORIO: And then you would only be  
12          able to talk about and wouldn't be able to  
13          adjust the agenda?

14          MR. REVOLDT: No. I -- Pat, this is  
15          Daryl. I don't believe that's -- that's  
16          true. Council -- I disagree with -- I think  
17          a meeting that's -- I think the term  
18          "special" was -- was misapplied.

19          MR. PETERS: I agree.

20          MR. REVOLDT: And I think Council has the  
21          authority to meet any time it wants in  
22          session. It doesn't necessarily make it a  
23          special meeting. You'll notice that the  
24          charter doesn't mention special regular  
25          meetings.

1 MR. YOUNG: Well, it does.

2 MR. DEORIO: It mentions regular and it  
3 mentions special, but not in the same  
4 sentence.

5 MR. REVOLDT: Right.

6 MR. FONTE: Would this be a legal  
7 question to ask our laws -- law people?

8 MR. REVOLDT: No.

9 MS. WERREN: No, they would know nothing.

10 MR. PETERS: Can we -- can we identify  
11 that by Council of Rules?

12 MR. REVOLDT: Yes.

13 MR. STROIA: Do we want to define that?

14 MR. YOUNG: Well, I think the best way to  
15 do this would be to set up the rule to say  
16 that at the last meeting of the previous  
17 month, Council shall determine its regular  
18 meetings for the succeeding month.

19 MR. REVOLDT: That's exactly it, Ben.

20 MR. STROIA: I like that.

21 MR. REVOLDT: This is Daryl. Pat, to  
22 your -- to your question, a special meeting  
23 is one that has not been scheduled. So if --  
24 if -- if we look at the month ahead and we  
25 say this is going to be our legislative

1 calendar, and then we say, well, we have got  
2 to have a -- we have got to have an extra  
3 regular Council meeting, that regular --  
4 later on, that regular meeting then becomes a  
5 special meeting. But -- that's the way I  
6 read it.

7 MR. STROIA: So then by that example,  
8 Daryl, like, we don't -- we could have back  
9 to back regular Council meetings? We  
10 don't --

11 MR. REVOLDT: Sure.

12 MR. STROIA: The second one doesn't have  
13 to be special? All right.

14 MR. REVOLDT: As long as we've agreed to  
15 that calendar in advance.

16 MR. PETERS: Right.

17 MR. STROIA: I like that.

18 MS. WERREN: Yeah, but often, we don't  
19 know that. We --

20 MR. STROIA: I like that.

21 MS. WERREN: Are you saying back to back  
22 on the same night?

23 MR. PETERS: No.

24 MR. STROIA: No. No.

25 MS. WERREN: Okay. Okay.

1 MR. REVOLDT: No. But, you know, when  
2 Jeff goes -- when Jeff goes at the end of the  
3 meeting, he says, look, this is our schedule  
4 for the next four weeks --

5 MS. WERREN: Right.

6 MR. REVOLDT: -- and we vote, we have set  
7 the calendar.

8 MR. YOUNG: So if I may, what if we write  
9 the rules so as to say at the organizational  
10 meeting, Council shall set the calendar for  
11 December. Then at the last scheduled meeting  
12 in each month after that, Council shall  
13 set -- shall set the calendar for the  
14 following month.

15 MR. REVOLDT: That's fine.

16 MR. PETERS: I like that. I like that.

17 MR. STROIA: I'm good with that. I think  
18 that definitely cuts down on the special  
19 meetings then.

20 MR. PETERS: That keeps us flexible.

21 MR. STROIA: Yeah.

22 MS. WERREN: Yeah. I just want to have  
23 the flexibility.

24 MR. STROIA: You can add a special.  
25 Yeah.



1 MR. PETERS: Yep.

2 MR. REVOLDT: You know, back in the  
3 day -- and I'm going way, way back now on the  
4 time machine -- I think at the organizational  
5 meeting, we used to adopt a calendar for  
6 the -- for -- for that year.

7 MR. PETERS: For the whole year?

8 MR. REVOLDT: Yeah, I think so. This is  
9 before your time. This is when I was, you  
10 know, in NAPIS.

11 MR. PETERS: Wow.

12 MR. REVOLDT: I think we did, vaguely.  
13 But that's a good approach, what you just --  
14 what you just suggested, Ben.

15 MR. PETERS: Yeah, I like that, Ben.

16 MR. FOLTZ: All right. So, Ben, we know  
17 the intent. And, Matt, so we just need to  
18 change paragraph A.

19 MR. STROIA: Yeah. That's good.

20 MR. YOUNG: And we are doing that for  
21 both Council and Committee of the Whole,  
22 correct?

23 MR. REVOLDT: Yeah. If I can make a  
24 suggestion -- this goes to kind of what we  
25 are going to do here. We really ought to

1 bring this back one more time to our  
2 Committee of the Whole to really look at  
3 this, make sure it all hangs together.

4 MR. FOLTZ: Oh, definitely, yeah.

5 MR. PETERS: I agree, Daryl.

6 MS. WERREN: Well, and, Daryl, I like --  
7 Daryl, you were always so good about saying  
8 too, like, hey, if this doesn't work,  
9 we'll -- we'll switch it. We'll change it  
10 again. So it's something we can try, and  
11 then if it doesn't work, we'll -- we'll  
12 change it again.

13 MR. REVOLDT: Yeah. And this is the  
14 beauty of having this stuff be codified in  
15 your rules, because you can change the rules  
16 pretty easily.

17 MR. STROIA: Yeah.

18 MS. WERREN: Yeah.

19 MR. STROIA: Sorry. I'm just making  
20 notes here.

21 MR. FOLTZ: No. That's okay. As far as  
22 public speaks then, fellow Council members,  
23 are we saying there is no special meeting, so  
24 that that will always be available to the  
25 public?

1 MR. PETERS: Sure.

2 MR. REVOLDT: No. We can say, there --  
3 there could be a Special Council meeting.  
4 There could be.

5 MR. FOLTZ: Not when there is -- because  
6 there is -- when there are Special Council  
7 meetings, we have to amend the -- the rules  
8 to have public speaks.

9 MR. PETERS: No. We have -- we have been  
10 putting that in there as of late.

11 MR. FOLTZ: Yeah, we have been doing it  
12 because -- but that was always the intent  
13 to -- okay.

14 MR. PETERS: Okay.

15 MR. CERRETA: Right. But you can only  
16 talk about what was on the agenda at a  
17 special --

18 MR. FOLTZ: What was on the agenda for a  
19 special meeting.

20 MR. CERRETA: Yeah. Right.

21 MR. FOLTZ: You couldn't come in and talk  
22 about something else, some other situation --

23 MR. CERRETA: Right.

24 MR. FOLTZ: -- in the City. Okay. So we  
25 are --

1 MR. REVOLDT: Doug --

2 MR. FOLTZ: -- all happy with that?

3 MR. REVOLDT: Doug, to your point, then  
4 maybe that's something we need to add to the  
5 rules.

6 MR. FOLTZ: I think we've got to clarify  
7 that, so it's spelled out, so we don't have  
8 discussion on the floor or someone says,  
9 well, I don't understand what you are doing.  
10 Let's just -- yeah, let's put it in -- let's  
11 put it in sentence format. Yeah, I agree.

12 MS. WERREN: Well, so will you say that  
13 again, Doug?

14 MR. FOLTZ: What we are saying is if  
15 there is a Special Council meeting, you can  
16 only talk about the topic of the Special  
17 Council meeting.

18 MS. WERREN: You mean --

19 MR. FOLTZ: Or whatever the ordinance --

20 MS. WERREN: You mean for public speaks?

21 MR. FOLTZ: Correct.

22 MS. WERREN: Yes.

23 MR. FOLTZ: And we need to put that in  
24 writing --

25 MS. WERREN: Yes.

1                   MR. FOLTZ:  -- versus all of our other  
2 regular meetings.

3                   MS. WERREN:  Yeah.

4                   MR. STROIA:  So we'll clarify public  
5 speaks for Committee -- or special and  
6 regular meetings?

7                   MR. FOLTZ:  Yes.

8                   MR. CERRETA:  Right.

9                   MR. YOUNG:  A larger question that goes  
10 with that is that currently in this proposal,  
11 public speaks remains in the codified  
12 ordinances and not in the rules of Council.

13                   MR. REVOLDT:  Well, then change it to --

14                   MR. YOUNG:  Would Council like to move  
15 them to the rules, instead of the codified  
16 ordinances?

17                   MR. PETERS:  No.  I -- I don't see any  
18 reason why you would do that.  Public speaks  
19 is public speaks.  It's just the topic that  
20 you can speak of in a special meeting.

21                   MS. WERREN:  Yeah, but it's interesting,  
22 with like Canton City Council, you speak on  
23 the topics that are with the agenda.

24                   MR. CERRETA:  Always.  Every meeting.

25                   MR. FOLTZ:  All the time.

1 MS. WERREN: Right. So we -- I think we  
2 have lost some control of our meetings,  
3 because we haven't followed that rule, and  
4 that's when it gets --

5 MR. CERRETA: But that shuts people down.  
6 That shuts people out.

7 MR. FOLTZ: Yeah, but we never had that  
8 rule.

9 MS. WERREN: No, it doesn't shut people  
10 out, because they can call us at any time.  
11 We are an open body. I don't know. I  
12 think -- I think the -- well, then we need to  
13 have more control.

14 MR. CERRETA: Well, I --

15 MS. WERREN: Because that's when -- if  
16 it -- if it starts to get pointed and  
17 targeted, I do think it needs shut down. If  
18 they want to call us and talk to us on the  
19 phone and talk in that manner, that's fine.  
20 But that is not what public speaks is for.

21 MR. PETERS: Well, you know --

22 MR. CERRETA: I don't know. I think it's  
23 an open mike.

24 MR. PETERS: I -- I --

25 MS. WERREN: It's not in a lot of

1 instances.

2 MR. PETERS: I would tend to disagree  
3 with that. I mean, I have very -- I have  
4 often been the --

5 MR. FOLTZ: Yes.

6 MR. PETERS: -- subject of -- of attacks  
7 that has nothing to do with the topic at  
8 hand. But I still would not do anything to  
9 limit that. I mean --

10 MR. CERRETA: I agree.

11 MR. PETERS: -- I think people should be  
12 able to say whatever they want.

13 MR. CERRETA: Uh-huh.

14 MR. PETERS: You know, any time they  
15 want. You know, now, in a Special Council --  
16 Council meeting, where we are conducting the  
17 City's business, and they want to talk on the  
18 topic at hand on that meeting, absolutely,  
19 give them the opportunity to speak  
20 specifically to a Special Council meeting  
21 item. But any regular Council meeting, they  
22 can -- you know, whatever. You know I have  
23 people --

24 MR. FONTE: I agree.

25 MR. PETERS: -- complain about my --

1 about how I dress.

2 MR. FONTE: I agree. And I agree with  
3 your --

4 MS. WERREN: Well, see, and I think --  
5 well, if -- I think it gets distorted. You  
6 guys should go down to a Canton City Council  
7 meeting. It's so orderly.

8 MR. FONTE: But we're not --

9 MS. WERREN: It's purposeful.

10 MR. FONTE: We are not --

11 MS. WERREN: And it's --

12 MR. FONTE: Steph, we are not Canton  
13 City.

14 MS. WERREN: Hey, exactly, Dominic, but  
15 we can also learn --

16 MR. FONTE: We are pickleball people.

17 MS. WERREN: -- from other areas. And we  
18 are all Stark County, and we can take advice  
19 and suggestions from anyone.

20 MR. FONTE: It seems --

21 MS. WERREN: And is it --

22 MR. FONTE: -- like it's working.

23 MS. WERREN: Well, I don't know. I don't  
24 think when you have personal attacks, it  
25 works.



1 MR. FONTE: Well, you have just got to  
2 brush it off. It's just -- you've got to  
3 look at the --

4 MS. WERREN: Dominic, it's not about  
5 brushing it off. It's about -- it's about  
6 what is good for the good of the City.

7 MR. PETERS: More often than not --

8 MS. WERREN: Personal attacks don't work.

9 MR. PETERS: Well, Steph, more often than  
10 not, the -- the personal attacks reflect  
11 more --

12 MS. WERREN: They do.

13 MR. PETERS: -- on the attacker than --  
14 than who they are talking about, so --

15 MS. WERREN: Yeah, it's not about  
16 brushing it off. It's about wasting the time  
17 of our citizens that actually have -- have  
18 good things to say. If they stick with the  
19 agenda, no problem.

20 MR. PETERS: Well, that's fair. That's  
21 fair.

22 MS. WERREN: We all have phones. We all  
23 have phones. People can call us at any time  
24 and speak to us.

25 MR. FOLTZ: Well, I -- Steph, to your

1 point, I think the personal attacks is the  
2 issue. So --

3 MS. WERREN: Yeah.

4 MR. FOLTZ: -- let's eliminate it. I  
5 mean, there is some discretion if someone  
6 doesn't like what somebody voted or what  
7 they -- but there is a point of no return  
8 that we just have to write in the language  
9 that gives Jeff the avail -- you know, the --  
10 the tool that he needs to say, this is done.

11 MS. WERREN: Yeah.

12 MR. FOLTZ: You know --

13 MR. CERRETA: The disrespectful stuff,  
14 right.

15 MR. FOLTZ: Exactly. Exactly.

16 MS. WERREN: Right. Well, and that's  
17 what I'm talking about. Why would we waste  
18 the time of other citizens that are -- that  
19 are waiting to talk about things that are for  
20 the good of the City?

21 MR. YOUNG: If I may, if there's not --

22 MR. CERRETA: A lot of it is not  
23 disrespectful. Yeah. A lot of it, they  
24 are --

25 MS. WERREN: I agree. I --

1 MR. CERRETA: -- bringing to our  
2 attention some things --

3 MS. WERREN: I agree.

4 MR. CERRETA: -- that we don't know  
5 about.

6 MS. WERREN: But -- but that's not what  
7 I'm talking about, obviously.

8 MR. FONTE: So when they cut on you, you  
9 don't -- you just want them to stay on task?

10 MS. WERREN: Stay on task.

11 MR. CERRETA: Yeah.

12 MS. WERREN: Stay on task. Stay on City  
13 business.

14 MR. FONTE: Don't talk about your hair or  
15 anything like that. I get it.

16 MR. FOLTZ: Well -- well -- this is  
17 Foltz. To the point, we've had -- we  
18 probably had discussion about Bitzer Park  
19 trees, and it hasn't been on the agenda. And  
20 do we want to eliminate that?

21 MS. WERREN: No.

22 MR. FOLTZ: You know what I mean?

23 MS. WERREN: Right.

24 MR. FOLTZ: Because it's talking about  
25 the trees, for the most part. They are not

1 saying --

2 MS. WERREN: No. Don't forget, though,  
3 he could have called and easily --

4 MR. FOLTZ: Yeah.

5 MS. WERREN: -- we could have said, hey,  
6 put this on the agenda; we are going to talk  
7 about this.

8 MR. FOLTZ: Yeah. But we -- you know,  
9 that -- that's the only point. I get the  
10 personal stuff. Listen, I'm --

11 MS. WERREN: Yeah.

12 MR. FOLTZ: -- I'm zero tolerant on that.  
13 But, you know --

14 MS. WERREN: You know, and -- and I think  
15 any time we can learn from other people,  
16 Dominic, I'm going to do it. So if other  
17 organizations --

18 MR. FONTE: I'm already in front of you,  
19 Stephanie.

20 MS. WERREN: -- have good ideas, then I'm  
21 going to do it.

22 MR. FONTE: I'm open minded. I get it.

23 MS. WERREN: So back to saying how would  
24 we eliminate the personal -- how -- I guess  
25 not even eliminate it. But if it starts to

1           stray towards that, I don't need to hear it  
2           about Jeff or Dom or -- or what the Mayor --  
3           like that just isn't relevant to what we are  
4           trying to do.

5           MR. FONTE:   So Jeff can stop it.  Jeff  
6           can stop it.  Just say stop the rudeness.  
7           Stay on mission here.

8           MS. WERREN:  But are there -- is there  
9           something like --

10          MR. STROIA:  We are going to have to  
11          define that.  If we are going to put that in,  
12          it has got to be defined.

13          MR. YOUNG:  If -- if I may interject real  
14          quick, when we were initially drafting this  
15          back in May with the former Law Director,  
16          he in -- he informed Matt and I that there  
17          are certain court cases that generally  
18          preclude local government entities who offer  
19          a chance for public comment from controlling  
20          the content of that public comment.

21          MR. PETERS:  That is correct.  Now, you  
22          do have in Section 111.09, the rules of  
23          decorum, courtesy, and propriety.  I mean, it  
24          does spell out -- you know, it has to be  
25          orderly, efficient, dignified manner, no --

1 without disruptions.

2 But, you know, how many times have we had  
3 disruptions, and I have thrown people out of  
4 the meeting, just to have them called back in  
5 because I knew that there was a topic that  
6 they were interested in. So, you know, I  
7 mean, I don't -- I don't know if we really  
8 need to --

9 MR. FONTE: I think it's -- you know, I  
10 think it will just solve its own problem. We  
11 are -- we are improving things so much. You  
12 are always going to have a complainer --

13 MR. PETERS: I agree.

14 MR. FONTE: -- no matter what. I just  
15 say give them their five minutes and move on  
16 to the next one.

17 MR. PETERS: I agree, Dom.

18 MS. WERREN: Well, then I would ask if  
19 it's Jeff or whoever is the President, to  
20 control that narrative. I don't think  
21 everyone needs to hear it. So if it gets out  
22 of hand, and Jeff, I think, even if it's  
23 pointed towards you, I don't need to hear it.  
24 I don't care if you are in a disgruntle with  
25 someone. That's not what those meetings are

1 for. You can do it afterwards. So I would  
2 ask that whoever is President controls it and  
3 limits it.

4 MR. PETERS: That's exactly --

5 MR. STROIA: Even if it's -- even if it's  
6 Jeff.

7 MS. WERREN: Yeah. If it's Dom, let it  
8 go.

9 MR. CERRETA: Even if it's Dom.

10 MS. WERREN: No. Let it go. Actually --

11 MR. FONTE: Hey -- hey, I dont' care --

12 MS. WERREN: Actually, kick Dom out of  
13 the meeting.

14 MR. FONTE: Hey, I got stomped around  
15 plenty. Life is short. Play hard.

16 MR. PETERS: That's right.

17 MR. STROIA: All right. So is the  
18 consensus for this that we want to keep it  
19 for special meetings? It's -- it's on topic.

20 MS. WERREN: That's fine.

21 MR. CERRETA: Yes.

22 MR. STROIA: For regular meetings, it's  
23 open.

24 MS. WERREN: That's fine.

25 MR. REVOLDT: Yes.