

The Rules Committee met on Thursday, March 8, 2018 in Room 309 of City Hall, 211 Williams Street. The Mayor called the meeting to order 4:40 PM.

PRESENT

ABSENT

Mayor Fournier  
Commissioner DuBuc  
Commissioner Poulton

Also present was City Clerk Halas.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Joel Hershoren, 4509 Hampton, wasn't sure what the committee was going to be discussing regarding public comment but was interested in what the committee had to discuss.

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**DISCUSSION ON PUBLIC COMMENT**

The committee discussed the topic of public comment. City Clerk Halas provided a survey of all the communities in oakland county and how they handle public comment regarding placement on the agenda, speaking on agenda and non-agenda items as well as the time they allow for public comment. Royal Oak is one of the very few communities that allows five minutes, most communities standard for public comment is three minutes. It was also noted that the other boards and committees throughout the city (dda, zba, parks and recreation, etc.) also allow three minutes for public comment.

The committee discussed in length the issue and how there have been meetings where people have had to leave due to the late hour and left not being able to speak on issues. They wanted everyone to be able to be heard and thought if they could reduce the time, this would allow everyone the opportunity to speak on issues. This would also save 40% of the time in which they have more time to discuss the issues on the agenda, streamlining the process for more efficient meetings.

Mayor Fournier offered Mr. Hershoren the opportunity for comment again. Mr. Hershoren stated the survey backs up the data and understood their reasoning for reviewing the change. He thanked them for the opportunity to speak again.

Moved by Commissioner DuBuc  
Seconded by Commissioner Paruch

Be it resolved, the Rules Committee requests the city commission reduce the time for public comment from five minutes to three minutes to allow everyone the opportunity to have their voices heard and to help streamline the meetings;

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Be it further resolved, the issue can be reviewed in four months and changed back anyone feels it is felt it is necessary to do so.

Adopted Unanimously

Upon motion of Commissioner DuBuc and seconded by Commissioner Paruch, the Rules Committee adjourned at 5:26 PM.

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Melanie Halas, City Clerk