

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE:	Resolution No. 295 Amending the Council Rules of Procedure
DEPARTMENT:	City Attorney/CMO/City Clerk
PRESENTED BY:	Bob Olander, City Manager

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT

At Council's mini-retreat on January 25, 2010, the City Council reviewed Council rules and procedures for public meetings conducted by the Council. Council Rule 5.14 states that when Council is in session that the members shall be addressed by the titles "Mayor (surname)," "Deputy Mayor (surname)," and "Councilmember (surname)." Rule 5.15 provides for a specific seating assignment for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

The Council affirmed that study sessions, as stated in Council Rule 5.4, as well as dinner meetings and retreats, are intended to be informal meetings where no final actions are taken. It further affirmed that seating and forms of address and other protocol used for these meetings should encourage free flowing discussion that will best serve the purpose of these sessions.

The Council concluded that using formal titles and seating arrangements has proven to be awkward during dinner meetings and informal study sessions and has the tendency to disrupt the flow of the meeting. It is recommended that Council change this rule for Study Sessions, Workshop Dinner Meetings, retreats, etc., but leave it in place for the more formal Business Meetings.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Council adopt Resolution No. 295, amending Rule 5.14 and 5.15 of the Council Rules of Procedure.

Approved By: City Manager  City Attorney _____

ATTACHMENT A: Resolution No. 295

RESOLUTION NO. 295

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, RELAXING RULES OF PROTOCOL AT STUDY SESSIONS, DINNER MEETINGS AND RETREATS; AND AMENDING RULES 5.14 AND 5.15.

WHEREAS, the City Council at its special meeting of January 25, 2010 reviewed Council rules and procedures for public meetings conducted by the Council;

WHEREAS, the Council affirms that study sessions, as stated in Council Rule 5.4, as well as dinner meetings and retreats, are intended to be informal meetings where no final actions are taken, and that seating and forms of address and other protocol used for these meetings should encourage free flowing discussion that will best serve the purpose of these sessions; and

WHEREAS, Council Rule 5.14 and 5.15 are included under Section 5 and apply to all meetings; mandate forms of address and seating that are unnecessary and detract from the informal atmosphere sought for dinner meetings, study sessions and retreats; and should be limited to Business Meetings; now therefore

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES:

That the Shoreline City Council Rules of Procedure, Rule 5.13 and 5.14 are hereby amended as follows:

- 5.14 At Business Meetings the ~~The~~ Mayor shall be addressed as "Mayor (surname)." The Deputy Mayor shall be addressed as "Deputy Mayor (surname)." Members of the council shall be addressed as "Councilmember (surname)."
- 5.15 At Business Meetings the ~~The~~ Mayor shall sit at the center of the Council, and the Deputy Mayor shall sit at the right hand of the Mayor. Other Councilmembers are to be seated in a manner acceptable to Council. If there is a dispute, seating shall be in position order.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON FEBRUARY 8, 2010.

Keith A. McGlashan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Scott Passey, City Clerk