

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **LORI N. BOYER**  **PRESIDENT**  Council Member, District 5  Office (904) 630-1382  Fax (904) 630-2906  E-Mail: [lboyer@coj.net](mailto:lboyer@coj.net) |  | 117 West Duval Street  City Hall, Suite 425  Jacksonville, FL 32202  TDD: (904) 630-1580 |
|
|
| **OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL** |

January 9, 2017

5:00 p.m.

**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO: Honorable Members of Jacksonville City Council**

**Cheryl Brown, Council Secretary**

**Carol Owens, Chief of Legislative Services**

**Margaret M. Sidman, Deputy Legislative Affairs & Managing Deputy, OGC**

**FROM: Lori Boyer, City Council President**

**RE: Procedures with respect to Ordinance 2017-15 and HRO**

**DATE: January 9, 2017**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2017-15 | ORD-MC Concerning Equal Opportunity & Expanding City's Equal Rights Laws to Prohibit Discrimination based upon Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity, Amend Secs 60.105 (Functions, Powers & Duties) & 400.101 (Statemt of Policy); Amend Chapts 402 (Equal Employmt Opportunity), 406 (Public Accommodations) & 408 (Fair Housing); Providing Exemption for Religious Institutions & Small Employers; Providing for Single-Sex Facilities & Dress Codes; Providing for Interpretation. (Byndloss) (Introduced by CM Bowman, Hazouri & Love)  Public Hearing Pursuant to Chapt 166, F.S. & CR 3.601 - 1/24/17 |
|  | 1. 1/10/2017 CO Introduced: NCIS,R,F |

Ordinance 2017-15 pertaining to the HRO was filed last week and will appear on the Council agenda tomorrow for introduction. This memo will outline procedures that I am directing be followed to facilitate the orderly transaction of regular Council business, while allowing the opportunity for additional public comment on this topic. First, I am hopeful that this bill moves through committees without deferral and that committee reports (votes) up or down are taken in accordance with the original schedule allowing final action at Council in mid- February. Any delay will cause the procedures outlined herein to be extended.

1. **City Council and City Council Committee Schedules:**

City Council introduction and first reading will be **Tuesday, January 10, 2017;**

City Council second reading and Public Hearing on the bill will be **Tuesday, January 24, 2017;**

The NCIS Committee will consider the bill on **Monday, February 6, 2017;**

The Rules Committee will consider the bill on **Tuesday, February 7, 2017;**

The Finance Committee will consider the bill on **Wednesday, February 8, 2017;**

City Council third reading and consideration on bill will be on **Tuesday, February 14, 2017.**

**Bill Assignment**: The bill has been assigned to NCIS (because it addresses housing issues), Rules (because it addresses consumer issues and unclassified matters) and Finance (because it purports to have economic development impact).

1. **Public Comment, Public Hearing and Decorum:**

**Public Comment:**

I anticipate significant public comment on this bill during both the public comment section and designated public hearing at the Council meetings. All Council Members heard extensively from members of the public pro and con last year and we will afford an appropriate opportunity for public input this year as well.

**There will be an opportunity for public comment on January 10, 2017** during the time set aside for public comment. In order to promote the orderly conduct of Council business, as permitted by Council Rules**, the public comment period for anyone wishing to address this bill, or the subject matters it concerns, shall be moved to the second period of public comment at the conclusion of regularly scheduled Council business.** I urge my fellow Council Members to refrain from directing questions to speakers at the podium, and encourage Council Members to follow up with questions outside the meeting context. Council Members will not be granted early excusal from such meetings except for good cause and in the order received in order to insure a quorum for the meeting.

**Special Public Comment cards** for this bill/topic have been prepared. Do not fill out a regular blue speaker’s card if you wish to speak on this matter. The special cards are dated and pre-marked as FOR/AGAINST/UNDECIDED. Speakers will be called alternating between those categories until there are only cards remaining in one category.

**The time available for any speaker will be determined based on the number of cards received and time available in the meeting.** No more than 3 minutes will be allowed in any event. Council Rules dictate that the meeting concludes no later than midnight and we will divide the speaking time as needed to achieve that end, taking into consideration the time it takes to transition between speakers.

There will be an opportunity for Public Comment at the January 24th meeting as well if you choose not to speak at the public hearing. The same timing and process will be followed except that anyone who spoke at Public Comment on January 10 will be placed in order after those who have not yet spoken on this topic

Public Comment opportunities in committee will be at the discretion of the committee chair.

**Public Hearing:**

In accordance with Council Rule 4.301, the public hearing scheduled for 2017-15 will be the last public hearing **of the evening on January 24, 2017.** Speakers will again have special speaker cards, pre-marked as FOR/AGAINST/UNDECIDED and we will again alternate between categories. Speakers will be allowed 3 minutes to speak at the public hearing, however the Council meeting will adjourn at midnight as required and in the event the public hearing is not complete, it will be continued the following morning, or such next available time at which a quorum can be obtained.

**Decorum:**

As President, it is my responsibility to make sure that we have a fair, civil and orderly debate, and to insure that members of the public respect the rules of decorum in Council Chambers. Civil discourse is a key pillar of our society and this discussion should reflect that understanding. Council Rules are clear on decorum and these rules will be followed. No demonstrations of agreement or disagreement- applause, signs, cheering or standing will be allowed in Council Chambers unless requested by the President. Only one speaker at a time will be allowed to approach the podium. All remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a body and no personal or impertinent comments may be directed at specific members.

LNB:ns

cc: Council Members/Staff

Cheryl Brown, Director/Council Secretary

Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division

Carol Owens, Chief, Legislative Services Division

Rachel Welsh, Information Systems Administrators

Kirk Sherman, Council Auditor

Administration

General Council

Media Box