

## Council Process - Post Expiration of Governor's Executive Order

Executive Order 20-69, as amended (allowing remote communications to establish quorum), expired on November 1, 2020. The Governor's Office has signaled in a memo earlier this month that he **DOES NOT** intend to further extend Executive Order 20-69 beyond this date.

What does this mean for upcoming Council meetings and Council committee meetings?

- Ordinance 2020-200-E, which waived certain Council Rules to allow for remote meetings, will expire along with the Governor's Order;
- Council will return to in-person Council and committee meetings as was the practice pre-COVID-19 state of emergency;
- **In-person quorum** of Council Members will be required to conduct Council and committee meetings; that means 14 Council members will need to be present to conduct Council meetings and 4 Council Members will need to be present to conduct committee meetings;
- After quorum is met, other Council Members may appear remotely by virtual technology;
- No proxy voting will be permitted; however, if a Council Member is attending remotely and has a secured Council iPad or compatible device which allows for access to the electronic roll call system, the Council Member may use the electronic roll call system to vote remotely. If they do not have such device, they cannot vote remotely and their vote cannot be recorded by staff for them.
- The City-wide mask mandate approved by City of Jacksonville Executive Proclamation 2020-005, as amended by 2020-009, is in effect and masks will be required to be worn in all City buildings until expiration on November 26, 2020, unless extended;
- The City is also still following CDC guidelines for social distancing so seating in the Council Chambers will be limited based on CDC guidelines for social distancing;
- Meetings are still being noticed with hybrid/virtual technology so that the public can watch the meetings if they cannot be present in-person during the meeting;
- Pursuant to Rule 3.602, Council Rules, persons seeking to participate in required public participation, public hearings and public comment will be required to fill out a speaker's card and return the speaker's card before speaking to Legislative Services at the "cmeeting" email address as published in the notices for the meetings; if a person cannot attend the meeting in-person or complete a speaker's card in advance of the meeting, they may still submit email comments on particular bills but they will **not** be read into the record at Council meetings as was done under Ordinance 2020-200-E;
- Rule 4.102 of the Council Rules provides that Council meetings begin at 5:00 p.m. so meetings will return to this time.

If the Council should desire to amend or modify the current Council Rules or to adopt additional policies pertaining to the use of virtual technology, this can be accomplished by legislation.