

ORDINANCE #55-24

**BOROUGH OF SAYREVILLE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX,
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ORDINANCE ADDRESSING
PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE DURING COUNCIL MEETINGS
AND PARTIALLY MODIFYING ORDINANCE #29-24**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Sayreville (“Borough”) is governed under the Borough form of government pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:60-3 et seq; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council meets twice each month, and at such other times as may be necessary at Borough Hall or another Borough location; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council intends that its regular meetings be governed by uniform rules of parliamentary procedure, and which are currently governed by Rules of Order that do not address all aspects of parliamentary procedure; and

WHEREAS, the latest revised edition of Robert’s Rules of Order serves as the basis for comprehensive parliamentary procedure during the meetings of governing bodies in a number of municipalities throughout New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council seeks to apply the latest revised edition of Robert’s Rules of Order to its deliberations; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the same, the Borough adopted Ordinance 29-24, which in part, modified Ordinance § 2-3.2 to provide that all speakers from the public shall be recognized to speak for three (3) minutes in total, and that no member of the public’s total speaking time could exceed five (5) minutes, from the previous maximum time of five (5) minutes at one time and without a limitation on the total speaking time; and

WHEREAS, the Borough seeks to revert to the previously-allotted time of five (5) minutes at one time and no limit on the total speaking time for speakers from the public to address the Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Sayreville in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter II of the Code of Ordinances, titled “Administration” is hereby amended as follows:

§ 2-3 Meetings.

2-3.2 Order of Business

At all regular meetings, the deliberations of the Borough Council shall be governed by law and the rules of procedure shall be in accordance with the latest revised edition of Robert’s Rules of Order, except that, by majority vote, the Borough Council may elect to set aside procedural rules, provided such setting aside is not in conflict with statutory requirements, and provided also that the setting aside will expedite the Borough Council’s work or further public understanding of the issues at hand. The business of the Council shall be taken up for consideration in substantially the following order except as may be otherwise ordered by the Mayor and Council:

a.-l. [No changes].

During the public hearings set forth above, it shall be the policy of the Mayor and Borough Council that all speakers from the public shall be recognized to speak up to ~~three (3)~~ five (5) minutes ~~in total at one time~~ in order to provide an opportunity for everyone to speak. Members of the public may be recognized more than once at said public hearings at the sole discretion of the presiding officer provided that all members of the public wishing to speak shall be recognized prior to the members of the public being called upon for a second or subsequent period of time, ~~and that no member of the public's total time exceeds five (5) minutes.~~

SECTION 2. Severability.

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable. In the event that any portion of this Ordinance is found to be invalid for any reason by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such judgment shall be limited in its effect only to the portion of the Ordinance actually adjudged invalid and shall not be deemed to affect the operation of any other portion thereof, which shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. Repealer.

All ordinances and resolutions, and parts of ordinances and resolutions which are inconsistent with provisions of this ordinance shall be, and are hereby, repealed to the extent of any such inconsistency.

SECTION 4. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect upon final adoption and publication in accordance with law.

INTRODUCED/APPROVED ON FIRST READING

DATED: November 25, 2024

Jessica Morelos, R.M.C.
Clerk of the Borough of Sayreville

(Admin. & Finance Committee)
Borough of Sayreville

ADOPTED ON SECOND READING

DATED: December 9, 2024

Jessica Morelos, R.M.C.
Clerk of the Borough of Sayreville

(Admin. & Finance Committee)
Borough of Sayreville

APPROVAL BY THE MAYOR ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2024.

Kennedy O'Brien, Mayor
Borough of Sayreville

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Matthew Moench, Borough Attorney