

Mike Applegarth

From: Stephanie Dickey <steph_orr@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 13, 2020 9:31 PM
To: Mike Applegarth
Subject: Re: Public comment in city council meetings

Hi Mike,

I submitted the following comment to each member of the city council. Could you also make sure it is included with other comments about this agenda item when it comes up again? Thanks for all your help.

Stephanie

First of all, I want to extend my condolences on the passing of Chief O'Neill. I've met with him a few times and always found him to be personable and willing to listen and find common ground. He will be missed.

I was intrigued by last Tuesday's discussion about changing the time for citizen comments during city council meeting. I'm grateful you had the discussion, but I feel it somewhat missed the point.

I think everyone agrees that better public participation in city council meetings is the goal we're shooting for. If that's the goal, the issue of a specific time for public comment in person at city council meeting isn't really the focus. The focus should be on providing multiple ways for the public to submit comments to the council, and then publicizing those commenting pathways so residents are aware of their options.

This has been a frustration of mine. I work full time, I'm a mom of three busy kids, and I volunteer. When I participate in city council, it's usually watching from home. I have often wondered the best way to submit comments to the council. From what I can see, there is no mention of how to submit comments to the council as part of the public record on the city website or any of the city's social media channels.

Instead of solely focusing on finding a regular council meeting public comment time (though a set comment time is valuable), I think a better idea would be to expand the vision and establish multiple ways of submitting/accepting public comments. Then, please make sure citizens aware of their options by including public comment pathways on the agenda, the website, and social media channels.

I have sent this same comment to the other council members as well, and I hope you'll consider my suggestion while discussing this agenda item again.

Thanks for your service to the city and its residents.

Stephanie Dickey

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From: Mike Applegarth <mapplegarth@sandy.utah.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 8, 2020 11:23 AM