

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-01

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SEARCY CODE OF ORDINANCES;
ESTABLISHING RULES FOR THE GOVERNANCE OF MEETINGS OF
THE SEARCY CITY COUNCIL; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, the Searcy City Council has reviewed the procedures for the conduct of its meetings; and

WHEREAS, the need to provide for the orderly conduct of these meetings is necessary to foster public discourse and, absent such reasoned public discourse government is ineffective and, for the preservation of the public peace, safety and welfare, an emergency is hereby declared; and

WHEREAS, the Searcy City Council has previously adopted rules related to the governance of its meetings; and

WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas has adopted statutes that modified certain elements of these rules requiring a change in certain procedural rules of the City of Searcy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Searcy, Arkansas, to wit:

Section 1. Sections 2-49 and 2-50 of the Searcy Code of Ordinances is amended to read as follows:

“ 2-49-1 Manner of Vote.

Every member present when a question is put to a vote shall vote either “Yes” or “No”, or a member may abstain from voting. An abstention shall have the effect of a vote of “No”. The Aldermen will vote at City Council meetings in the order of their seating arrangement. The Presiding Officer, if the Mayor, may vote upon any measure in the event of a tie vote if that vote would cause the measure to pass. In the event of a tie vote, in which the Mayor does not cast a vote to adopt any such measure, that measure shall be deemed to have failed for not having been adopted by a majority of the City Council.

2-49-2 Roll Call.

Upon every vote the affirmative and negative votes shall be recorded on every motion, resolution and

ordinance.

2-50 Presiding Officer.

The Mayor shall serve as the Presiding Officer at all meetings of the City Council. In lieu of unavoidable absence, the Mayor shall designate a Presiding Officer. Any one (1) of the following may perform the functions of the Mayor as the Presiding Officer: (a) the Searcy City Clerk; (b) another elected official of the City if designated by the Mayor; or (c) an unelected employee of the City of Searcy or resident of the City of Searcy if designated by the Mayor and approved by a majority vote of the Searcy City Council. If a City Council member is designated as Presiding Officer, the designee may move, second, and debate from the chair and shall not be deprived of the rights and privileges of being a member of the City Council by reason of her or his acting as the Presiding Officer.”

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 3. The provisions of this ordinance are separable and, upon any finding that any provision of this ordinance is unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall be enforceable according to their terms

Emergency Clause. The need to provide for reasoned public discourse, having been deemed to be an emergency by the City of Searcy, and the foregoing necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare, an emergency is hereby declared and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

Adopted this 14th day of January, 2014.

The City of Searcy, Arkansas:

/s/ David Morris
David Morris, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Jerry Morris
City Clerk-Treasurer

Precedence of Motions

PRINCIPAL RULES GOVERNING MOTIONS

No.	Order of precedence	Can interrupt Speaker?	Requires a Second?	Debatable?	Amendable?	Vote Required?
I.	<u>Privileged Motions</u>					
	1. Adjourn	no	yes	no	no	majority
	2. Recess	no	yes	no	yes	majority
	3. Question of privilege	yes	no	no	no	no vote
II.	<u>Subsidiary Motions</u>					
	4. Postpone Temporarily	no	yes	no	no	majority
	5. Vote Immediately	no	yes	no	no	two-thirds
	6. Limit Debate	no	yes	no	yes	two-thirds
	7. Postpone Definitely	no	yes	yes	yes	majority
	8. Refer to Committee	no	yes	yes	yes	majority
	9. Amend or Substitute	no	yes	yes	yes	majority
	10. Postpone indefinitely	no	yes	yes	no	majority
III.	<u>Main Motions</u>					
	11. General Main Motion	no	yes	yes	no	majority
IV.	<u>Incidental Motions</u>					
	12. Appeal	yes	yes	yes	no	tie or majority
	13. Point of Order	yes	no	no	no	no vote
	14. Parliamentary Inquiry	yes	no	no	no	no vote
	15. Withdraw a Motion	no	no	no	no	no vote
	16. Suspend Rules	no	yes	no	no	two-thirds
	17. Object to Consideration	yes	no	no	no	two-thirds neg.
	18. Division of a Question	no	no	no	no	no vote
	19. Division of Assembly	yes	no	no	no	no vote