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ORDINANCE NO. 2024-_____

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CULVER CITY,
CALIFORNIA AMENDING CULVER CITY MUNICIPAL
CODE SECTIONS 3.01.130, 3.01.135 AND 3.01.145
RELATING TO RULES OF ORDER, PUBLIC MEETING
PARTICIPATION AND DECORUM**

WHEREAS, the Culver City Municipal Code (CCMC) sets forth various provisions in Chapter 3.01 relating to rules of order, public meeting participation and decorum, which have not been updated in many decades; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of establishing rules of order and decorum is to promote mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct among elected and appointed City officials, City staff, and members of the public; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance amends the CCMC to be consistent with current City Council and Commission, Board and Committee (CBC) meeting procedures, and to be consistent with current state law.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Culver City, California **DOES HEREBY ORDAIN** as follows:

SECTION 1. Culver City Municipal Code Section 3.01.130 is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 3.01.130 RULES OF ORDER.

The proceedings of the Council shall be governed by the latest edition of Rosenberg’s Rules of Order, on all matters pertaining to parliamentary law, but no ordinance, resolution, proceeding or other action of the Council shall be invalidated, or the legality thereof otherwise affected, by the failure or omission to observe or follow said rules. This Section

1 3.01.130 shall also apply to the City's Commissions, Boards and
2 Committees.

3 **SECTION 2.** Culver City Municipal Code Section 3.01.135 is hereby
4 amended to read as follows:

5 **§ 3.01.135 ADDRESSING THE CITY COUNCIL.**

6 A. Any person may address the City Council at a public meeting
7 on an item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the City Council. The City
8 Council may establish public comment procedures, including time limits,
9 which shall be included in the posted agenda.

10 B. This Section 3.01.135 shall also apply to the City's
11 Commissions, Boards and Committees.

12 **SECTION 3.** Culver City Municipal Code Section 3.01.145 is hereby
13 amended to read as follows:

14 **§ 3.01.145 DECORUM; ENFORCEMENT BY EX-OFFICIO SERGEANT-
15 AT-ARMS**

16 A. *Decorum.* The purpose of the rules of decorum is to promote mutual
17 respect, civility, and orderly conduct among elected and appointed City officials, City
18 staff, and members of the public. Other rules and standards of decorum and civility may
19 be established by resolution of the City Council.

20 1. *By Council Members.* While the City Council is in session, the
21 Council Members must preserve order and decorum including, but not
22 limited to, treating everyone courteously, listening to others respectfully,
23 providing fair and equal treatment for all persons and matters coming before
24 the City Council, and allowing other Council Members and members of the
25 public to speak without intimidation or interruption, except as otherwise
26 herein provided.

27 2. *By members of the public.* Members of the public are expected
28 to observe the rules of order and decorum established by the City Council,
including, but not limited to treating others courteously, listening to others
respectfully, and allow Council Members and others to speak without
intimidation or interruption.

a. No person shall disrupt a City Council meeting.

b. As used in this Section, "disrupting" means engaging in
behavior during a City Council meeting that actually
disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the

1 orderly conduct of the meeting and includes, but is not
2 limited to, one of the following:

- 3 i. A failure to comply with reasonable and lawful
4 regulations adopted by the City Council pursuant
5 to Government Code Section 54954.3 or any
6 other law.
- 7 ii. Engaging in behavior that constitutes use of force
8 or a true threat of force.

9 c. "True threat of force" means a threat that has sufficient
10 indicia of intent and seriousness, that a reasonable
11 observer would perceive it to be an actual threat to use
12 force by the person making the threat.

13 B. *Removal.* The Presiding Officer of the City Council or their designee
14 may remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting.

15 1. Prior to removing, or causing the removal of, an individual, the
16 Presiding Officer or their designee shall warn the individual that their
17 behavior is disrupting the meeting and that their failure to cease their
18 behavior may result in their removal. The Presiding Officer or their designee
19 may then remove, or cause the removal of, the individual if they do not
20 promptly cease their disruptive behavior. This paragraph does not apply to
21 any behavior described in Section 3.01.145.A.2.b.ii.

22 C. *Enforcement.* The Chief of Police or designee shall be ex-officio
23 Sergeant-at-Arms of the City Council. They shall carry out all orders and instructions
24 given them by the Presiding Officer for the purpose of maintaining order and decorum
25 in the Council Chambers.

26 D. *Commissions, Boards and Committees.* This Section 3.01.145 shall
27 also apply to the City's Commissions, Boards and Committees.

28 **SECTION 4:** Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to affect any suit
or proceeding impending in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any
cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or Ordinance hereby
repealed or amended as cited in this Ordinance; nor shall any just or legal right or
remedy of any character be lost, impaired, or affected by this Ordinance.

1 **SECTION 5:** Pursuant to Section 619 of the City Charter, this Ordinance
2 shall take effect thirty (30) days after its adoption. Pursuant to Section 616 and 621 of
3 the City Charter, prior to the expiration of fifteen (15) days after the adoption, the City
4 Clerk shall cause this Ordinance, or a summary thereof, to be published in the Culver
5 City News and shall post this Ordinance or a summary thereof in at least three (3) places
6 within the City.
7

8 **SECTION 6:** The City Council hereby declares that, if any provision,
9 section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, phrase or word of this Ordinance is rendered
10 or declared invalid or unconstitutional by any final action in a court of competent
11 jurisdiction or by reason of any preemptive legislation, then the City Council would have
12 independently adopted the remaining provisions, sections, subsections, paragraphs,
13 sentences, phrases, or words of this Ordinance, and as such they shall remain in full
14 force and effect.
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18 APPROVED and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2024.
19

20
21 _____
22 YASMINE-IMANI MCMORRIN, Mayor
City of Culver City, California

23
24 ATTEST:

25 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

26 _____
27 JEREMY BOCCHINO
City Clerk

28 _____
HEATHER BAKER
City Attorney