

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF SCOTTTDALE, COUNTY OF WESTMORELAND,
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA ESTABLISHING RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
AND DISCUSSION AT PUBLIC MEETINGS**

WHEREAS, the Council of Scottdale Borough (hereafter "Council") recognizes the importance of public participation in local governance; and

WHEREAS, Council seeks to ensure an efficient and productive public comment period during its meetings; and

WHEREAS, statutory requirements for posting agendas limit Council's ability to take "official action" on matters that are not on Council's meeting agendas; and

WHEREAS, Council desires to facilitate productive public comment, assure that matters raised by comments from the public is promptly addressed, reduce repetitious comments on the same subject matter which unnecessarily delay public meetings and allow additional time for persons to speak where the subject matter raised, in the opinion of Council, warrants same.

NOW, THEREFORE, WITH THE FOREGOING RECITALS BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE THERETO, THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SCOTTTDALE HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. THAT, individuals intending to participate in the public comment period be required to report the topic of their comments to the Borough Secretary, in writing, on a provided form, by 12:00 Noon on the Thursday immediately preceding the public meeting at which they desire to speak to allow for their topic to appear on the Agenda for such meeting, provide for better organization, more focused discussion, and facilitate the ability of Council to promptly take action as necessary on the subject matter they intend to raise;
2. THAT, individuals seeking to provide comment on matters that appear on Council's Agenda for a meeting, may provide comment on such matters without complying with the advance notice requirement set forth above;
3. THAT, public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per individual. Provided, however, that Council may, at the request of the individual at the expiration of the 3-minute period and at its discretion, extend the time for such individual's comment by motion made, seconded and passed by Council at that time;
4. THAT, no person seeking to speak at a public meeting may give or assign their 3-minutes of time to another individual;
5. THAT, nothing in this resolution shall prohibit more than one (1) person from making comment on the same topic. However, the President of Council may limit discussion by multiple individuals on the same topic in the event the commentary becomes repetitive.
6. THIS resolution repeals and replaces all other resolutions regarding these procedures.


THIS RESOLUTION IS APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF SCOTTDALE AT A DULY ADVERTISED PUBLIC MEETING HELD THE 2nd DAY OF JANUARY, 2024 AND SHALL BE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

ATTEST:

THE COUNCIL OF SCOTTDALE BOROUGH



Angelo Pallone, Secretary


By: _____
President of Council