

VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE

RESOLUTION NO. R-20-03

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A SUPPLEMENTAL RULE CONCERNING
PUBLIC COMMENTS DURING VIRTUAL MEETINGS

WHEREAS, the Illinois Open Meetings Act (the “OMA”) requires public bodies, including municipalities, to allow members of the public to address public officials at public meetings; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Governor of the State of Illinois (the “Governor”) declared a State of Emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order No. 2020-07, suspending provisions of the OMA concerning in-person attendance by members of the public body at public meetings (“*Executive Order*”); and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 2.06(g) of the OMA, and in order to assure the public has the opportunity to address the Village Board of Trustees and other Village public bodies (collectively the “*Village’s Public Bodies*”) through the duration of the Executive Order at “virtual” public meetings, the President and Board of Trustees desire to adopt a supplemental rule for public comment at virtual meetings (the “*Supplemental Rule*”); and

WHEREAS, the President and Board of Trustees has determined that it will serve and be in the best interest of the Village and its residents to adopt the Supplemental Rule;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of La Grange, Cook County and State of Illinois, as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals are incorporated into this Resolution as findings of the Board of Trustees.

Section 2. Adoption of Supplemental Rule. The Board of Trustees hereby adopts the following Supplemental Rule for public comments at virtual public meetings of the Village’s Public Boards for the duration of the Governor’s stay-at-home order:

For meetings of the Board of Trustees or any subsidiary board, committee, or commission of the Village conducted through telephone or virtual means, members of the public may address the public body by sending the Village a written statement to the following e-mail address:

publiccomment@villageoflagrange.com

or by leaving a voicemail message by telephone at: (708) 579-2300 extension 503

For the public hearing regarding the FY2020-21 Operating and Capital Improvements Budget, members of the public may address the public body by sending the Village a written statement to the following e-mail address:

publichearing4.13.2020@villageoflagrange.com

or by leaving a voicemail message by telephone at: (708) 579-2300 extension 503

E-mail and voicemail messages must be received by the Village not less than 90 minutes before the commencement of the meeting. The Village President may increase the time period for receiving messages for a particular meeting, based on the circumstances of that meeting. The established time period for a meeting will be included on the agenda of that meeting.

An e-mail message to be read at a virtual meeting must:

- (1) Be typed or written legibly;
- (2) Be no more than 400 words in length;
- (3) Be free of abusive and obscene language; and
- (4) Include the name of the messenger.

A voicemail message to be read or heard at a virtual meeting must:

- (1) Be no longer than 3 minutes in total length;
- (2) Be clear and audible;
- (3) Be free of abusive and obscene language; and
- (4) Include the name of the messenger.

Any e-mail message or voicemail message that does not adhere to the standards stated above will not be presented at the meeting, provided, however, that the Village President may determine to allow a message that is longer than permitted at a meeting, based on the circumstances of that meeting.

The Village President or his or her designee, will read or present each qualified message during the public body's meeting.

The Supplemental Rule is additive and does not replace or modify any other rule adopted by the Village. To the extent the Supplemental Rule conflicts with any other rule of the Village, the Supplemental Rule will control until the Supplemental Rule has expired or has been rescinded.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Resolution will be in full force and effect on and after its passage and approval.


PASSED this 13 day of April 2020

Ayes: Trustees Augustine, Gale, Holder, Kotynek and McCarty

Nays: -0-

Absent: -0-

APPROVED this 13 day of April 2020


Mark Kuchler, Village President

Attest:


John Burns, Village Clerk