

**BY COUNCIL MEMBER EVANS**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2014-21**

**TO AMEND AND REENACT TITLE 1, CHAPTER 2, SEC. 1:213 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF CENTRAL RELATIVE TO THE CONDUCTING OR MEETINGS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS AND TO PROVIDE FOR ALL RELATED MATTERS.**

WHEREAS, the Council for the City of Central recognizes the importance and value of public comment on items upon which a vote is to be taken by the Council for the City of Central;

WHEREAS, the Council for the City of Central recognizes that members of the public may wish to express their position relative to an item upon which a vote is to be taken by the Council for the City of Central;

WHEREAS, the Council for the City of Central recognizes that such members of the public may prefer not to provide public comment but may instead prefer to express their position in a written format;

WHEREAS, the Council for the City of Central desires to obtain such information irrespective of the manner in which it is provided;

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Central, State of Louisiana as follows:

**Section 1:** Title 1, Chapter 2, Section 213, subsection (a) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Central as enacted by Ordinance No. 2005-2 and amended by Ordinance No. 2012-27 is hereby amended and re-enacted, so as to read as follows:

Title 1. City Organization

Chapter 2. Governing Body and Rules of Procedure

Sec. 213. Conducting of meetings; public hearings.

A. In view of the many items appearing on the agenda, each council member will be allowed a maximum of five (5) minutes to express his views on any one subject without interruption from the other members upon initial consideration and five (5) minutes for rebuttal. No Council member will speak until recognized by the chair. In compliance with La. R.S. 42:14(D), members of the public will be allowed to speak for up to three (3) minutes on any item included on the agenda on which the Council proposes to take action. A member of the public who wishes to speak on an agenda item on which the Council proposes to take action, shall print his or her name and address on the register at the podium prior to addressing the Council. No member of the public shall address the Council until recognized by the chair.

Each member of the public who addresses the Council shall state his or her name and address for the record prior to making any comment. In lieu of speaking on an agenda item on which the Council proposes to take action, a member of the public may complete and submit a card evidencing whether he or she is a proponent (in favor) of the agenda item or an opponent of (against) the agenda item. The card to be completed and submitted will be made available prior to the meeting. A member of the public who wishes to submit such a card shall print his or her name and address on the card, indicate whether he is a proponent (in favor) of the agenda item or an opponent of (against) the agenda item, and submit the card to the city clerk prior to the commencement of the meeting. After the time for public comment has been closed, the city clerk shall read aloud and into the minutes of the meeting, all such cards, including the name and address of the person submitting the card and whether the person is a proponent or opponent of the proposed action.

**Section 2: Conflicts**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

**Section 3: Severability**

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or provision of this Ordinance is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such declaration of invalidity shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole, or parts thereof, other than the part declared invalid. The remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected by the declaration of invalidity and shall remain in force and effect.

**Section 4: Effective Date**

This Ordinance shall be effective upon publication.

Introduced before the Council on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2014.

Notice of the public hearing was published in The Advocate on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August, 2014.

This Ordinance having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon is as follows:

For:	Ellis, Evans, Fralick, Messina, and Vance
Against:	None
Absent:	None

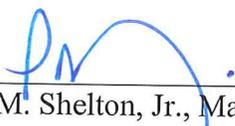
Adopted this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2014.

Signed this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2014.

Delivered to the Mayor on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2014.

  
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Mark Miley, City Clerk

Approved:

  
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I.M. Shelton, Jr., Mayor

Received from Mayor on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2014.

  
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Mark Miley, City Clerk

Adopted ordinance published in The Advocate on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014.