

A SPECIAL ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2
OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF
THE CITY OF ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS

Section One. Chapter 2, Article II, Sections 2-32 and 2-33 of the Code of Ordinances of The City of Rock Island, Illinois, are hereby amended by inserting the following:

- (a) Policy Statement.** It is the policy of The City of Rock Island, Illinois, that a member of the City Council, which is subject to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1, et seq., may attend and participate in any open or closed meeting of the City Council from a remote location via telephone, video or internet connection, provided that such attendance and participation is in compliance with this policy and any other applicable laws.
- (b) Prerequisites.** Any member of the City Council shall be provided the opportunity to attend an open or closed meeting via electronic means from a remote location if a quorum is physically present at the meeting site, the quorum votes to approve the attendance by electronic means, and the requesting member meets the following conditions:

 - (1)** The member must notify the City Clerk at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled meeting, unless such notice is impractical, so that necessary communications equipment can be arranged. Inability to make the necessary technical arrangements will result in denial of a request for electronic attendance.
 - (2)** The member must assert one (1) of the three (3) following reasons why he or she is unable to physically attend the meeting:

 - (a)** due to personal illness or disability;
 - (b)** due to employment purposes or other City business;
 - (c)** due to a family emergency or other emergency.
- (c) Quorum and Vote Required.** Providing the above prerequisites have been met and following roll call to establish that a quorum is physically present at the meeting site, a motion shall be made and considered as to whether to allow the member to remotely attend the meeting via electronic means. A vote may be taken to permit participation for a stated series of meetings if the same reason applies to each case and proper notice has been provided to the City Clerk. Otherwise, a vote must be taken to allow each remote participation via electronic means. The motion must be approved by a vote of a majority of the City Council.
- (d) Adequate Equipment Required.** Any member participating electronically and other members of the City Council must be able to communicate effectively, and members of the audience must be able to hear all communications at the meeting site. Before

allowing remote attendance via electronic means at any meeting, the City Council must be satisfied that adequate remote access is available to satisfy these requirements.

- (e) Meeting Minutes. Any member attending remotely via electronic means shall be counted as present for the meeting. The meeting minutes shall reflect and state specifically whether each member is physically present, absent, or present by electronic means and shall state the approved reason necessitating attendance via electronic means.**

- (f) Rights of Remote Member. Any member permitted to participate remotely via electronic means shall be permitted to express his or her comments during the meeting and participate in the same capacity as those members physically present, subject to all general meeting guidelines and procedures previously adopted and adhered to. The remote member shall be heard, considered, and counted as to any vote taken. Accordingly, the name of any remote members shall be called during any vote taken and his or her vote counted and recorded by the City Clerk and placed in the meeting minutes. A member participating remotely via electronic means may leave a meeting and return as in the case of any member, provided the member attending via electronic means shall announce his or her leaving and returning to the quorum present.**

- (g) Costs. Any member participating remotely via telephone shall be reimbursed for the cost of the telephone call upon a valid receipt shown. Any other costs associated with attendance and participation via electronic means, including video conferencing and other audio and video equipment, must be approved by the City Council prior to incurring such costs.”**

Section Two. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed insofar as they do so conflict.

Section Three. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect 10 days after its passage and approval, as required by law.

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROCK ISLAND

PASSED: _____

APPROVED: _____

ATTEST: _____
CITY CLERK