



CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS
Committee of the Whole Agenda Communication

Meeting Date: December 12, 2022

Prepared By: Jim Snider, City Administrator

Agenda Item: Discussion to Amend City Code Chapter 31.56 Procedure for Passage of Ordinances and the Rules of Procedure 6.2

Explanation: Since the City Council is having further discussion at the Committee of the Whole meeting on amending City Code Chapter 31.58 and Rules of Procedures Section 6.7, a related discussion of amending City Code Chapter 31.56 Procedure for Passage of Ordinances and Rules of Procedure Section 6.2 may be of value to consider at this time.

A possible amendment of these provisions will allow at least two-thirds of the City Council present at any Council meeting to waive the second reading requirement for ordinances instead of a unanimous vote of the members. A proposed amendment is provided below:

§ 31.56 PROCEDURE FOR PASSAGE OF ORDINANCES

No ordinance can be passed unless it is read at least two (2) meetings of the City Council, unless at least two-thirds (2/3) of the City Council that is present at any such meeting when a quorum is present votes to waive this requirement ~~the Council unanimously votes to waive this~~. It is not necessary to read the full text of an ordinance if copies are made available to the press and public prior to the reading of the ordinance; in such situations, the formal reading of the title only is sufficient.

If the majority of the City Council agrees to the foregoing language, Section 6.2 of the Rules and Procedures would be amended to mirror the amendment to Section 31.56 of the City Code.

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Action Requested: The direction offered at the December Committee of the Whole meeting will possibly lead to a first reading of an ordinance on December 19 to amend the City Code and the Rules of Procedure. A second reading would be scheduled for January 3, 2023.