

# BOROUGH OF BATH, Northampton County, Pennsylvania

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2023-005**

(Duly Adopted June 5, 2023)

# A RESOLUTION OF BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BATH, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, AMENDING ARTICLES OF DECORUM AND RULES OF ORDER FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS

WHEREAS, the primary purpose of Borough Council meetings is to afford elected officials the opportunity to conduct Borough business; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the following Decorum and Rules of Order is to assure an orderly framework within which the business at hand can be conducted by setting basic ground rules for public participation and the distribution of information, and by prohibiting inappropriate behavior; and

WHEREAS, the following Decorum and Rules of Order also establish a code of ethical behavior for elected officials of the Borough of Bath; and

WHEREAS, the authority for establishment of these rules is derived from the Borough Code, Act of June 17, 2014 (1965 P.L. 1965, No. 581) and all amendments thereto; the Sunshine Act, Act of June 30, 2011 (P.L. 388, No. 84, 65 P.S. 271 et seq., 65 Pa. C.S. §§ 701 et seq., No. 56) and all amendments thereto; and the Right-to-Know Law, Act of February 14, 2008 (P.L. 390, No. 212, 65 P.S. 66.1 et seq., 65 P.S. §§ 67.101, et seq.) and all amendments thereto; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023, by the Council of the Borough of Bath, in lawful session duly assembled the following Articles of Decorum and Rules of Order for Public Meetings:

# **Article 1 – Definitions**

- 1.1 <u>Regular Council Meeting:</u> Council is required to meet on a regular basis at least once per month and must advertise its schedule of meetings at the beginning of each year. A schedule, including day, time, and location, will be established at the first meeting every year.

  The meetings are open to the public, and minutes must be kept.
- 1.2 <u>Council Work Session (or Bi-Monthly Council Sessions):</u> Council meets, if needed, on a monthly or bi-monthly basis to address issues brought before Borough Council in a work session environment. A schedule, including day, time, and location, will be established at the first meeting every year, in accordance with the Newspaper Advertising Act (45 Pa. C.S.A. Section 101). The meetings are advertised, open to the public, and minutes must be kept. Anyone attending the meeting (whether the public or a council member) who wants to tape the session should inform Council that he or she is taping the meeting.
- 1.3 Special Council Meeting: Any meeting not included in the advertised annual schedule of meetings. Public notice of the meeting, including advertisement, must be given at least 24 hours in advance, in accordance with Section 1006(2) of the Borough Code. These meetings are open to the public, and minutes must be kept. Anyone attending the meeting (whether the public or a council member) who wants to tape the session should inform Council that he or she is taping the meeting.
- 1.4 <u>Council Executive Session:</u> Either an entire meeting or a portion of a regular meeting, work session/bi-monthly session, or special meeting that is called to deliberate Borough business and attended by a quorum of members, but one from which Council may legally exclude the public, provided the business to be discussed falls within the specific categories as described under §708 of the Sunshine Act:

- a) Personnel Matters
- b) Collective Bargaining, Labor Relations, and Arbitration
- c) Real Estate Transactions
- d) Litigation
- e) Public Safety
- f) Legally Protected Information

Note: Since Executive Sessions are closed to the public, minutes need not be kept.

Official actions taken based on discussions held in Executive Session must occur at an open public meeting. Executive Sessions shall not be recorded or taped by any councilmember in attendance.

1.5 Quorum: In accordance with Section 1006(4) of the Borough Code a quorum is "a majority of council eligible to vote at a meeting." Certain provisions of the Borough Code, such as Section 1005(7) requires a 2/3 vote to enact an ordinance to abolish the elected auditor positions. For council to override the mayor's veto, the council must vote as a majority plus one (1) in accordance with Section 3301.3(c) of the Borough Code. For council to establish or repeal the manager ordinance, this requires a vote of a majority of council elected to office, in accordance with Section 1141(a) of the Borough Code.

# Article 2 – Officers of Council; Term Limits; Filling Vacancies

2.1 <u>Electing Council Officers:</u> Section 1001 of the Borough Code requires the council to elect both a president and a vice president of council at the mandatory reorganization meeting on the first Monday in January of the even-numbered year. These officers, and any additional (such as President Pro-Tem), serve at the pleasure of council. This means a council member at any public meeting can make a motion to remove the president, vice president, president pro-tem

or all three provided there is a second and a majority vote then the action is taken, however, the mayor does not preside at this meeting at these non-biennial re-organizations.

### 2.2 Officer Elections:

- a) The mayor presents his/her affidavit of residency to a judge or notary public and then takes the oath of office at the biennial even-numbered reorganization meeting.
- b) After the mayor has been sworn in during the biennial even-numbered year re-organization, he or she presides over the council meeting to conduct officer elections. The mayor may also defer the officer election process to the Borough Solicitor.
- c) Newly elected and reelected members of Council shall present their completed affidavit of residency to a judge or notary public prior to the meeting or to the mayor at the reorganization meeting. At that point they can take the same oath of office.
- d) Written copy of the oath and the affidavit must be filed with the borough secretary and maintained with the borough records for a period of six (6) years.
- e) The mayor (or his/her legally authorized representative) will accept nominations for the position of Council President. Nominations do not require a second and are voted in the order that the nominations are made.

  Voting continues until one nominee attains a majority. The process is repeated for vice president. Once the officers are elected, the mayor turns the gavel over to the newly elected president.

f) Once the new Council is seated and officers are elected, it is able to conduct any other Council business that comes before it at the organization meeting.

# 2.3 The President:

- a) Opens the meeting of council at the appointed time, by taking the chair and calling the meeting to order;
- b) Manages the decorum in the meeting;
- Has the agenda at hand, follows it, and announces what item of business is next to be considered;
- d) Under Section 10A08 of the Borough Code, the President shall serve as acting mayor in the incapacity of the mayor and when doing so, votes as the mayor to break tie or split votes and not as a council member.

### 2.4 Vice President:

a) In the absence of the President, acts on behalf of the president with such powers conferred upon the president.

#### 2.5 President Pro-Tem:

- a) In the absence of the President and Vice President, acts on behalf of the president with such powers conferred upon the president.
- 2.6 <u>Elected Council Officer Term Limits</u>: Officers of Council are limited to two (2) consecutive even-numbered year reorganizations terms. Officers can serve for a maximum of four (4) years consecutively. Officers that have reached their consecutive term limit may run again in the following even-numbered year council re-organization.

- 2.7 <u>Filling Council Vacancies</u>: The following rules have been established to fill a council seat vacancy:
  - a) In accordance with Section 901(a.1.)(1) of the Borough Code, a vacancy is not created by a resignation until the date that the resignation is accepted by a majority vote of a quorum of council at a public meeting or the effective date of the tendered resignation, whichever is later.
  - b) Section 901(a.1.)(1) Council must accept a resignation no later than forty-five (45) days after it has been tendered in writing to Council, unless it is withdrawn in writing prior to acceptance.
  - c) Section 901(a.1)(2) states a resignation (whether written or oral) and recorded in the meeting minutes which is not accepted as provided under Section 901(a.1)(1) shall be deemed accepted after forty-five (45) days.
  - d) Section 901(a) requires Council to fill a vacancy in thirty (30) days, which is counted from the effective date of the resignation per Section 901(a)(a.1.).
  - e) If a vacancy is not filled within thirty (30) days, Section 901(c) requires the matter be resolved by the Borough of Bath Vacancy Board, which has an additional fifteen (15) days after the expiration of Council's thirty (30) days to fill the vacancy.
  - f) Council shall fill a vacancy created by the outgoing councilmember irrespective of his/her registered political party affiliation.
  - g) In the event the Borough does not have a Vacancy Board, then Borough Council serves as the Vacancy Board (exclusive of the mayor). The

council serves as the Vacancy Board, PLUS one registered elector of the borough that council appoints as the chairperson (Section 901 of the Borough Code). The mayor is not part of the vacancy board and does not have a vote. The chairperson runs the meeting and does vote. The council has 15 days to fill the vacancy in elected borough office.

# <u>Article 3 – Public Information</u>

- 3.1 Agenda: Paper copies or other appropriate media of the meeting agenda shall be made available for the public at the start of the meeting. Drafts of current agendas shall be posted on the Borough's website approximately twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.
- 3.2 <u>Meeting Minutes:</u> Meeting minutes shall be made available to the public upon approval by Borough Council. The minutes are not official until approved by Borough Council. Once approved, minutes shall be posted on the Borough's website. If applicable, approved minutes from other Board and Commission meetings, such as the Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board, shall also be made available to the public on the Borough's website.

# **Article 4 – Public Participation**

- 4.1 Every Borough Council meeting that is required by law to be open to the public shall include an opportunity for residents and taxpayers to be heard. The following rules shall apply:
  - a. <u>Council President as Spokesperson</u>: The Council President shall be the spokesperson for council, and he/she may ask questions to council members or may refer the question from the public to a committee to research. The Council President shall attempt to answer question(s) during the public comment period, however, if the president needs more

- information, then he/she should note the question and tell the citizen that he/she will refer it to a committee or the borough manager and respond to the speaker at a future date.
- Sign In: Persons entering the meeting room should sign the attendance sheet indicating their full name and address. Individuals addressing
   Council must state their full name and address for the purpose of accurately recording the meeting minutes.
- c. Groups: For groups desiring to comment, a spokesperson shall be designated for the presentation and discussion. The spokesperson shall be responsible for maintaining order and decorum of the group.
- d. Comments Limited to Appropriate Issues: Public comment is intended to give citizens an opportunity to address items on the agenda as well as to comment on other topics related to Borough services. It is not intended to be a question-and-answer period. Council response to public input at a meeting is at Council's discretion. It is Council President's prerogative to initiate a follow-up public comment at the end of a meeting to open discussion among the public with any other issues that may not have been addressed on the meeting agenda.
- e. <u>Time Limit</u>: It is the intent to provide each participant a fair and equal opportunity to be heard. Borough Council applies its discretion to limit the time for an individual's public comment to a maximum of five (5) minutes and may end the participant's comment if the comment becomes repetitive or strays from the current issue and the participant has had a fair and equal

- opportunity to be heard. The Council President may extend time to an individual's public comment if warranted.
- f. Deferment of Comment: If, in the judgement of Borough Council, the period of public comment is unusually long, the atmosphere has become unruly, or the comments become repetitive, Borough Council may move to close public comment or defer all or portions of the public comment to a subsequent regular meeting or to a work session or an advertised special meeting to be held in advance of the next regular meeting.
- g. Request to Appear on the Agenda: Residents or taxpayers who wish to address Borough Council may do so under the Public Comment section of the agenda. Community groups prepared to make a presentation on a particular topic may make a request to the Borough Manager to be included on the meeting agenda. The request must be made to the Borough Manager at least one (1) week in advance of the meeting.
- h. Recording of Meetings: Members of the public may record or videotape all portions of Borough Council meetings that are open to the public, provided that their actions do not disturb or interrupt the proceedings. The recording or videotaping must be conducted from the participant's seat, or the area designated by the Borough for recording (located in the southwest corner of the meeting room) and must be publicly announced prior to commencing the recording.
- i. <u>Civility and Decorum:</u> Borough officials and members of the public are expected to conduct themselves with civility and to accord each other a

measure of dignity and respect. Shouting, personal insults, and attacks or any conduct that disrupts the follow of business is out of order. Avoid using foul language and derogatory remarks. Remember that your comments are part of the public record. At the discretion of Borough Council, disruptive individuals shall be subject to remove from Council chambers unless they agree to maintain civility and decorum.

- j. Speaker by Proxy: Speaking on behalf of another resident or taxpayer who is not present during the public meeting is prohibited, except for a speaker who has submitted written proof to Council that said speaker has the legal authority to speak for the resident or taxpayer to the satisfaction of Council, in its sole discretion.
- k. <u>Special Accommodations</u>: If a resident needs a reasonable accommodation to attend the meeting, then he/she should contact the borough secretary no later than three (3) days' in advance so the borough can make the accommodation for he/she to attend the meeting.

# Article 5 – Rules of Conduct

- 5.1 <u>General Procedure:</u> It is the policy of Borough Council not to become involved in the entanglements over "parliamentary procedure." It is the intent of Council to act consistently with the Pennsylvania Borough Code and any applicable Borough Ordinances or other legal requirement. This being said, in general, Roberts' Rules of Order shall apply to the conduct of public meetings subject to the authority of the President of Borough Council.
- 5.2 <u>Authority of the Chair:</u> The President shall act as a facilitator, assisting Council to focus on its agenda, discussions, and deliberations.

- 5.3 <u>Limit Deliberations:</u> Councilmembers will limit their comments to the subject matter, item, or motions being currently considered by Council.
- 5.4 <u>Obtaining the Floor:</u> Members of Council wishing to speak must first obtain the floor by being recognized by the President of Council.
- 5.5 Speaking: When a member has the floor, no one should interrupt unless the President must announce a call to order. Another councilmember may make a point of order if the member who is speaking provides erroneous information or to clarify information. Each councilmember is allowed seven (7) minutes to speak. If two members speak at the same time, the President selects who will speak first. No member shall interrupt the meeting unless it's a motion to adjourn, postpone a vote, make a motion to commit, or to offer any amendment.
- 5.6 Reconsideration: The motion to reconsider enables a majority in an assembly, within a limited time and without notice, to bring back for further consideration of a motion which has already been voted on. The purpose of reconsidering a vote is to permit correction of a hasty, ill-advised, or erroneous action, or to consider added information or a changed situation that has developed since the taking of the vote. A motion and a second to reconsider shall be made by two members on the prevailing side on the same day the original motion was made.
- 5.7 Rescind: The motion to rescind means the assembly can change an action previously taken or amended. The effect of rescind is to strike out an entire motion, resolution, rule, bylaw, section, or paragraph that has been adopted at some previous time. The motion can be made if there are no other motions on the floor, are out of order when another has the floor, must be seconded, are debatable, and require a majority vote. Roberts' Rules of Order states that when a resignation has been acted upon, or a person has been appointed and he/she has been

informed of the appointment (unless this person is not eligible to hold office), said action cannot be reconsidered or rescinded:

- a) When it has been moved to reconsider the vote on the main motion, and the question can be reached by calling up the motion to reconsider.
- b) When motion has passed, due to the vote on the main motion, that is impossible to undo, where the unexecuted part of an order, however, can be rescinded or amended.
- c) When a resignation has been acted upon, or a person has been appointed and he has been informed of the appointment (unless this person is not eligible to hold office).
- 5.8 <u>Petitions:</u> The name of any councilmember, citizen, or taxpayer who presented a petition, or a letter shall be entered into the minutes.
- 5.9 <u>Motion to Withdraw:</u> A motion to withdraw must be made by the same member who moved it, with the approval of the member who seconded the motion, and with majority approval.
- 5.10 <u>Suspension of the Rules:</u> A two-thirds vote of council is required to suspend, amend, or to repeal the rules contained within this resolution.

# Article 6 – Order of Business

6.1 <u>Call to Order</u>: The Council President shall convene the meeting at the advertised date and time. The President shall call the meeting to order, and the secretary or designee shall take roll call. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall chair the meeting, and if the President isn't present, but there's still a quorum of Council, then the remaining council members elect a president pro tem (if not already elected) who shall chair the meeting. In the

absence of the borough secretary or designee, a member of Council may be asked to either operate the recorder or take meeting minutes. If the roll call shows that there's no quorum in attendance and council has waited fifteen (15) minutes for others to arrive and there's still no quorum, then the President adjourns the meeting to a future date.

- 6.2 Agenda: The Borough Manager is responsible for preparing a written agenda for each Council meeting. The agenda provides a guide for the President to keep the meeting on track, assures all relevant points concerning the business at hand will be discussed, and lets all participants know exactly when they will be expected to make their contribution.
- 6.3 <u>President of Council</u>: The President or other presiding officer should maintain a neutral and impartial attitude throughout the proceedings. The Borough Council President cannot make a motion on an issue. Furthermore, the President should not enter into debate until such time that all other members of Council have expressed themselves on a given issue. Only then may the President state an opinion on the merits of the question under discussion.
- 6.4 <u>Motions, Resolutions & Ordinances</u>: A motion is the normal means by which a matter is brought before Council for consideration. Most routine matters are approved by a single motion. Resolutions need to be approved by a simple majority vote after a motion. Ordinances are approved by roll call vote after a proper motion. The following additional rules apply:
  - a) Motions and Resolutions regarding administrative matters need not be submitted to the mayor. Ordinances, such as legislative actions, shall be submitted to the mayor for signature.
  - A motion requires a second, or sponsorship, by a second member of
     Council before it can receive consideration at a meeting. If a motion is not

seconded, it is lost, and no further action is taken on the matter. The President then proceeds with the next item on the agenda.

- 6.5 The first rule of parliamentary order is that only one matter of business can be considered at a time. That is, when one "main motion" has been properly introduced and seconded, no other main motion can be presented until the first has been disposed of. In the usual course of business, the motion is disposed of when it is either passed or defeated. However, several other things can happen to the motion as discussed in other sections of this Resolution and additionally as follows:
  - a) The motion can be amended.
  - b) The motion can be referred to a committee for further consideration.
  - c) Action can be postponed until a definite date.
  - d) The motion can be tabled.

Note: The only motions on which debate, or discussion are permitted are the main motions to postpone, amend, or refer. On all others, members vote yes or no.

6.6 <u>Unanimous Consent</u>: Action is occasionally taken without the formality of a motion, a second, and putting the question to a vote. In cases of minor importance, or in routine business where there seems to be no opposition, the President might ask, for instance, "Is there any objection to pursuing bids for future consideration?" The President might also extend the time allotted to a speaker by simply asking if there is no objection. Such action taken is said to be by "general consensus" or "unanimous consent." It does not necessarily mean that everyone is in favor of the action, but it indicates that the matter is so routine that formal procedures are not required.

- 6.7 <u>Debate</u>: Debate is the discussion of the pros and cons of a motion that is on the floor. In reality, debate of a particular subject matter often occurs prior to a formal motion being offered. Debate is closed when it appears to the President that all who wish to debate the matter have done so. The President then puts the question to the vote of the members. Any member of Council may request that the Borough Manager or Assistant Borough Manager detail the pros and cons of an issue at any time during the discussion.
- 6.8 <u>Voting</u>: Voting is done in one of two ways—by expressing either favor or opposition or by roll call vote. In any instance where the result of expressing favor or opposition seems other than unanimous, or in the event of one or more abstentions, the President shall call for a roll call vote. Any member of Council may demand a roll call vote on any question before Council. Additionally:
  - a) Pursuant to Resolution 2016-008, Council members may participate in meetings and vote via telecommunication device using speaker phones or computer terminals only after a physical quorum has been established at the meeting place and provided both Council and the public are able to hear the comments and votes of the councilmember not in physical attendance. Participation via telecommunication device is only possible for one of the following reasons: illness or disability of the Councilmember, care for the ill or newborn in the member's immediate family, an emergency, and family or business travel.
  - b) Voting by ballot is never permissible in Council meetings because of the Constitutional requirement for voice vote pursuant to the Pa. Sunshine Act. Voting by proxy is also prohibited.

- 6.9 <u>Conflict of Interest</u>: In the case that a member believes that he/she has a conflict of interest in the matter being decided, he/she is required by law to abstain from voting and to so inform Council orally and in writing of the nature of the conflict. If Council would be unable to take any action on a matter because the number of members required to abstain from voting makes the majority or other legally required vote of approval unattainable, then such members shall be permitted to vote if said disclosures are made.
- 6.10 <u>Abstention</u>: All members of Council are required to vote in favor or in opposition unless they are required to abstain on grounds of personal interest. Members are not permitted to abstain from voting because of the following:
  - a) The desire to avoid embarrassment or alienation of one's constituents;
  - b) The desire to let action go through without committing oneself; or
  - c) The inability to make up one's mind because of a feeling that the Councilmember lacks full knowledge of the proposal and its effect on the Borough (the need for knowledge should be addressed in debate).
- 6.11 <u>Mayor's Tie-Breaking Authority</u>: The authority of the Mayor to cast the deciding vote applies whenever, as a result of a tie vote, Council is unable to:
  - a) Enact or pass an Ordinance, Resolution, or motion;
  - b) Declare or fill a vacancy on Council or in any other Borough office; or
  - c) Take any action on any matter lawfully brought before it.

### Article 7 – Policy Decision-Making Process

7.1 <u>Committees of Council:</u> Most boroughs establish committees of council to handle various duties. They meet to study a topic and make recommendations to the whole of council at a duly advertised public meeting. The President may, from time-to-time, choose to appoint ad-

hoc committees to address particular tasks. Each committee shall have a chairperson, typically held by a councilperson. The President has the authority to appoint council members to these committees without Council's approval. The President is an ex officio member of all committees and his/her presence at a committee meeting does count toward a quorum.

# Article 8 - Representative of Borough Governance

- 8.1 <u>Councilmember Participation in Community Activities</u>: From time-to-time,
  Councilmembers may choose to participate in community activities, committees, events, and
  taskforces. When a Councilmember participates in these types of activities, the Councilmember
  is acting as an interested party rather than acting on behalf of Borough Council. Acting or
  participating on behalf of Borough Council, including oral and written correspondence such as
  speeches, letters to residents, and other groups or organizations, posts on social media websites,
  and statements to the press, is limited to those instances when Council has formally designated
  the Councilmember as its representative for the matter.
- 8.2 <u>Mayor to Act as Ceremonial Representative</u>: The Mayor is delegated the responsibility to act as Council's ceremonial representative at public events and functions. In the Mayor's absence, the President assumes the responsibility. The mayor may appoint another Councilmember to assume the responsibility in his/her absence.

## Article 9 – General Guidelines for Ethical Conduct

- 9.1 Annual ethics forms shall be submitted to the Borough Office in a timely manner.
- 9.2 Elected officials shall not disclose confidential information to which they have access by virtue of their public office or position. Unless otherwise noted, all emails and working draft documents shared between staff and Borough Council are considered privileged and confidential and, as such, are not intended for public dissemination or discussion.

- 9.3 Personal gifts, favors, loans, services, payments, and other inducements, made either directly to the elected official or to a family member of the official where there is reason to believe such gifts, favors, or inducements are offered to influence official actions in favor of the donor should be refused. Any in-kind and/or cash gift, favor, tip, service, etc., with a value over twenty (\$20.00) dollars shall be disclosed to the Borough Manager and/or Borough Council who may require that such item be refused or returned. Nominal token gifts including holiday food baskets, calendars, lunches, and similar items may be accepted.
- 9.4 Elected officials shall not convey to any person any information or advice not generally available to the public in any transaction, negotiation, or litigation to which the Borough is a party.

# **Article 10 – Administrative Support**

- 10.1 <u>Letters Addressed to Mayor and/or Council</u>: All letters addressed to the mayor and/or Council requiring a response from staff are copied to all Councilmembers and the Mayor along with a copy of the response.
- 10.2 <u>Letters Addressed to Individual Councilmembers</u>: All letters addressed to Councilmembers requiring a response from staff are copied to all Councilmembers and the Mayor along with a copy of the response. Letters addressed to individual Councilmembers that do not require a response from staff, but which provide information to Council matters are copied to the full Council and Mayor.
- 10.3 <u>Council Correspondence</u>: All Councilmember correspondence written with Borough resources (letterhead, logos, staff support, postage, etc.) will reflect the position of the full Council, not individual Councilmember positions. All councilmember correspondence using Borough resources will be copied to the full Council and the Mayor.

# Article 11 - Mayor and Council Reimbursement

11.1 <u>Travel Expenses</u>: Councilmembers and the Mayor will be reimbursed for expenses incurred while traveling to, from, and during attendance at Borough-related events and conferences pre-approved by Council. Reimbursement shall include mileage, meals, tuition, and lodging. Expenses for lodging may be paid in advance by the Borough. All other reasonable expenses are reimbursed after submission of an itemized account of expenses.

# Article 12 - Mayor

- 12.1 <u>General</u>: Even though the mayor possesses few statutory powers, he/she is viewed as the ceremonial head of Borough government by the public and can exercise leadership
- 12.2 Oversight of the Police Department: The Mayor directs the day-to-day activities of the Police Department. Issues regarding Department ranks, including the duties of each rank; appointing, suspending, reducing in rank, or discharging officers; establishing the size of the Department; and controlling budget and finance are reserved to Borough Council.
- 12.3 <u>Meetings</u>: The Mayor presides over Council only twice during each term of office—at the re-organizational meeting of Council in even-numbered years. The mayor has the right to attend all Council meetings and is permitted to take part in discussions.

### Article 13 – Non-Observance of Rules

13.1 These rules, wholly or in part, may be amended or repealed by majority vote in any regularly scheduled meeting of Borough Council. Rules adopted to expedite and facilitate the transition of the business of Council in an orderly fashion shall be deemed to be procedural only, and the failure to strictly observe any such rules shall not affect the jurisdiction of or invalidate any action taken by Council.

## Article 14 – Acknowledgement

14.1 The Borough acknowledges the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB), the Pennsylvania Mayors Association, the Borough of Ebensburg, the Borough of Carroll Valley, the Borough of Elizabethtown, and the Borough Solicitor, Jamie Kratz for assistance provided in the preparation of these Articles of Decorum and Rules of Order.

Attest:

BOROUGH COUNCIL OF

THE BOROUGH OF BATH

By:

Bradford T. Flynn, Secretary

By:

Michele S. Ehrgott, Council President

Duly approved this 5th day of June 2023

Fiorella Reginelli-Mirabito, Mayor

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# **CERTIFICATE**

I, Bradford T. Flynn, the undersigned, Borough of Bath Secretary, Northampton County, Pennsylvania (the "Borough") certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution of the Borough of Bath which was duly enacted by affirmative vote of the majority of the members of the Bath Borough Council at a meeting duly held on June 5, 2023, and that said Resolution remains in effect, unaltered and unamended, as of the date of this certificate.

I further certify that the Council of the Borough of Bath met the advance notice requirements of Act No. 93 of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approved October 15, 1998, by advertising the date of said meeting and posting a notice of said meeting on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building, 121 S. Walnut Street, Bath, Pennsylvania, the place of the meeting.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I set my hand and affix the official seal of the Borough this 5th day of June 2023.

Bradford T. Flynn, Secretary