

**RESOLUTION NO. 09-2023**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA, ADOPTING RULES OF DECORUM AS PART OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF FINDINGS AND RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS INCONSISTENT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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**WHEREAS**, the Town of Indian Shores (“TOWN”) is a municipal corporation with home rule authority located within Pinellas County, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 286.0114, Florida Statutes, provides that board and commissions may adopt rules or policies which govern the opportunity to be heard during the conduct of government business; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council recognizes that citizen input is of great value to the Town during public meetings and hearings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council further acknowledges that the principles of civility and decorum during the conduct of official meetings lends itself to the greater efficiency and congeniality among members to accomplish its business; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council also recognizes that all citizens desiring to address the Council during public meetings and hearings and Council Members addressing each other should observe certain conduct to ensure orderly decorum at Town Council meetings and hearings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council finds that it is in the best interest of the Town for the Council to adopt an orderly process governing conduct during public meetings and hearings;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** That the Town Council hereby finds the above statements to be true and correct, and incorporated as a material part of this Resolution.

**Section 2.** It is hereby declared that it is in the best interest of the Town to provide for an order process during public meetings and hearings to ensure civil conduct and decorum at public meetings and hearings. Furthermore, the Council hereby adopts the Decorum Statement as follows:

Proper rules of order are:

1. Public comment will be opened to citizens as provided on the agenda, or as required by law. After being recognized, the citizen should come forward and for the public record state their name and address and state whether they are in favor or against the agenda item to be addressed. If the matter is a quasi-judicial item, the speaker shall further indicate whether or not they have been sworn for the record prior to proceeding with their testimony. The length of time each citizen may address the Council shall be limited to three (3) minutes. Speaker times may be extended by the Mayor or by a majority vote of the Council for good cause.
2. Only one speaker at a time will have the floor, as directed by the Mayor. There shall be no shouting or disorderly conduct from the audience or members of the Council.
3. For the members of the public speaking, Town Officials, or employees, the comments need to be respectful and constructive. Discriminatory or defamatory comments or comments that are in the nature of harassment will not be tolerated and anyone engaging in such communications will be found out of order.
4. Comments that are discriminatory or defamatory to personnel, Public Officials and Council members of the Town of Indian Shores shall not be tolerated. All speakers must refrain from such comments.
5. Discriminatory comments will be prohibited. Comments made due to race, color, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age will not be tolerated.
6. The Mayor may recess or adjourn a meeting if a citizen or the audience becomes disruptive to the orderly process of the meeting. Members of the public who continue to be disruptive or disorderly will be removed from the Council Chambers at the direction of the Mayor, or pursuant to the discretion of law enforcement.

**Section 3.** That if any provision of this Resolution is found to be invalid or unenforceable as a matter of law by a court of competent jurisdiction, the offending provision(s) shall be severed and the remainder shall continue in full force and effect.

**Section 4.** That all Resolutions or portions of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

**Section 5.** That this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage and adoption in the manner provided by law.

The above and foregoing Resolution, upon Motion by Councilor Ellen Bauer and seconded by Councilor Bill Smith, was duly approved and adopted at a regular Town of Indian Shores Town Council meeting held on the 9th day of May, 2023.

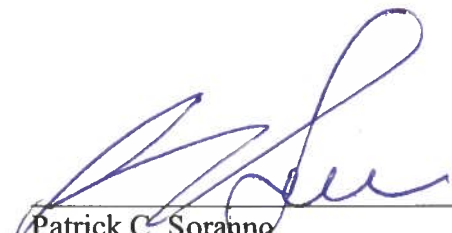
Voting in favor of the Resolution: **Mayor Patrick C. Soranno, Vice Mayor Diantha Schear, Councilor Ellen Bauer, Councilor Mike Petruccelli, Councilor Bill Smith**

Voting in opposition to the Resolution: **None**


Absent: **None**

Abstaining: **None**

**PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF INDIAN SHORES, FLORIDA, THIS 9th DAY OF May, 2023.**

  
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Patrick C. Soranno  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Freddie Lozano, CMC  
Town Clerk

