City of Kramer Resolution 25-10

Public Commentary at Kramer City Council Meetings

**Whereas,** the Kramer City Council shall dedicate a session at the end of every meeting of the city council to provide the opportunity for individuals to provide public commentary in accordance with NDCC 44-04.

**Whereas,** the Kramer City Council recognizes and endorses public commentary to provide an exchange of views with the public, while it simultaneously restricts communication from the public during its business, which interferes with the council’s activity.

**Whereas,**the Kramer City Council recognizes an individual providing comment at a meeting shall, by law, provide to the city council a card denoting the individual's name, address, regardless of being known or unknown to the council, with the agenda item the individual will be addressing. Furthermore, the Kramer City Council recognizes that the individual’s address is an exempt record, and it shall not be released if requested.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** the Kramer City Council shall limit public commentary only as follows:

* Based on the nature and scope of the meeting, the mayor shall limit the time allotted to each speaker to not exceed five (5) minutes and/or total time allotted for public comment not to exceed thirty (30) minutes and comments shall be limited to the agenda of the current meeting and at least one preceding meeting.
* Comment of confidential or exempt nature may be prohibited if an alternative procedure exists to bring that type of comment before the Kramer City Council.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** the Kramer City Council shall require public comment to be pertinent to the City of Kramer and not interfere with the orderly conduct of the meeting. **Furthermore**, the Kramer City Council shall not be legally bound to address comments or questions directed at the council outside the current meeting and at one preceding meeting.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** the Kramer City Council shall not permit language that is defamatory, abusive, harassing, or unlawful (threatening) during any meeting, regardless of being open to public discussion or not. The council shall under these conditions direct the individual to cease the behavior or direct the individual to depart the meeting. The council shall, as an alternative, request action from the Bottineau County Sheriff.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** the Kramer City Council decrees this resolution to negate and replace all resolutions, traditional practice, and all written or spoken agreement in regarding the exchange of comments between the Kramer City Council and the public. This resolution shall take effect upon signature.

Attorney ~~Review~~/Approval: 26 June 2025, Judge, Attorney at Law, Asmundur Swain Benson III, second review by City Attorney Rachael Hendrickson-Mickelson 5 August 2025.

Council review: 15 July 2025, unanimous approval

Adopted this date: 15 July 2025

~~Mayor~~/Council President Original signed

City Interim Auditor Attested Original signed