



**BOROUGH OF NEW FLORENCE  
WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH GUIDELINES  
AND PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT DURING  
MEETINGS OF THE NEW FLORENCE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, the Pennsylvania Legislature has enacted the Sunshine Act, 75 Pa. C.S.A. §701 et seq., which includes, among other priorities, the right for the public to participate and present comments; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sunshine Act also contemplates that the governing body of any municipality may adopt such rules and regulations necessary for the conduct of meetings and the maintenance of order; and

**WHEREAS**, for the aforementioned purposes, the New Florence Borough Council does wish to establish rules and regulations applicable to public comments for the purpose of maintaining order.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** as follows:

1. All residents of the Borough of New Florence shall be afforded an opportunity at the beginning of each regular or special meeting of the New Florence Borough Council to present comments to Council on matters of concern, official action, or deliberation which are or may be before the Council.
2. Except as otherwise provided in Paragraph 3 herein, each individual will be afforded no more than five (5) minutes for the presentation of said comments.
3. If said public comments are of such relevance and magnitude that the New Florence Borough Council determines that more than five (5) minutes is necessary, then, upon majority vote of Council, a quorum being present, said time period for comment may be extended.
4. Public comment will generally be limited to those matters pending before the New Florence Borough Council at any given meeting as well as items of concern that need to be brought before Council for further consideration, and no individual shall be permitted to utilize the time for public comment to continue to raise matters, which have been resolved and disposed of by prior action of the Council.
5. In the event that the New Florence Borough Council determines that public interest on a particular issue is of such magnitude that to allow continued comment on such matter during a regular meeting of the

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Borough Council will impede and interfere with the ability of Borough Council to conduct and complete general business within a reasonable time, Borough Council may defer comment on said issue to its next regular meeting or to a special meeting occurring in advance of the next regular meeting, for the sole purpose of receiving such comment.

6. Although non-residents of New Florence Borough are not included by the Sunshine Act as those persons who may be entitled to present comments to the Council, the Borough Council will accept additional public comment from non-residents under the terms hereof but reserves the right to further limit repetitive or unnecessary presentations.
7. Nothing set forth herein shall contradict or contravene any of the provisions of the Sunshine Act as now enacted and as may hereinafter be reenacted or interpreted by the courts of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
8. Nothing herein shall preclude any individual from presenting comments on matters of concern, official action or deliberation, whether current or otherwise, in form of written communications directed to the secretary/treasurer of the New Florence Borough Council, with such communications to then be provided to all members of Borough Council and made a part of the record of the Council.

**RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of New Florence this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 2008.

BOROUGH OF NEW FLORENCE

*Gregory Horn*  
President, New Florence Borough Council

ATTEST:

*Mary Strucaly*  
SECRETARY