

**Agenda Item 17  
Meeting of 5/17/17****RESOLUTION 2017-13970**

**A RESOLUTION RELATING TO MEETING ATTENDANCE, BY REMOTE MEANS; ESTABLISHING A POLICY FOR ATTENDANCE FOR NOTIFICATION, AND FOR ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION BY REMOTE ELECTRONIC MEANS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS,** in the current day and age, it is possible and feasible for council members and board, commission and committee members to attend their meetings from remote locations by use of electronic audio and visual means; and

**WHEREAS,** the City Council provides a preference for attendance in person where feasible, but recognizes the importance of full member participation whenever possible, and recognizes that sometimes a member for good cause cannot appear in person; and

**WHEREAS,** the City Council has amended and made its attendance policy more strict for its board, commission and commission members; and

**WHEREAS,** the Florida Attorney General has rendered opinions that recognize the legality of remote appearance by a member who for good cause cannot appear in person to participate remotely by electronic means, as though physically present, with all participation rights and voting privileges provided that there is a quorum physically present, that the member can hear and be heard by those present, and that there is a local policy allowing such appearance;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPLES, FLORIDA:**

**Section 1.** A council member, or a member of a board, commission or committee who for good cause cannot appear in person at a meeting may appear remotely by electronic means, providing that:

- a. There is a quorum physically present at the meeting location;
- b. There is good cause for why the member cannot attend in person;
- c. The member has provided notification to the council, board, commission or committee, or to the city clerk, of inability to attend in person and desire to attend electronically, at least

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two business days prior to the meeting, unless there is an exigent circumstance that prevented earlier notification; and

- d. When participating by remote electronic means, the member is visible and audible, or at least audible, to and from the members present at the meeting and the audience. In such case, the member has the same participation rights and voting privileges as though physically present.


**Section 2.** "Good cause" means that the member cannot attend in person due to illness, personal or family matter, absence from the area, unavoidable scheduling conflict, or other good reason. Except in urgent circumstances, the member must provide notification to the clerk at least two business days before the meeting.

**Section 3.** When appearing remotely the member is by law deemed to be present for all purposes and has all participation rights and voting privileges as if physically present.

**Section 4.** This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

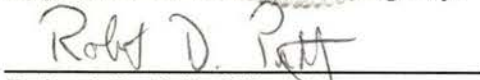
**PASSED IN OPEN AND REGULAR SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NAPLES, FLORIDA, THIS 17TH DAY OF MAY, 2017.**

Attest:

  
Patricia L. Rambosk, City Clerk

  
Bill Barnett, Mayor

Approved as to form and legality:

  
Robert D. Pritt, City Attorney

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Date filed with City Clerk: 5-17-17