

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-10-967B

CITY OF TONTITOWN, WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS

A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE CITY
OF TONTITOWN, ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to set forth the manner in which the Mayor and City Council members should treat one another and others with whom they come in contact with in representing the City of Tontitown; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the principles and guidelines for Mayors and City Council members set forth in a code of conduct will promote civility and set a standard of excellence that engenders trust and promotes the public good; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Municipal League has developed a sample code of conduct for municipal affairs and the City Council desires to adopt this Code of Conduct as a reference and guide for its members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Tontitown, as follows:

The Code of Conduct for the City of Tontitown, Arkansas, attached hereto as Exhibit "A", is hereby adopted.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 5 day of October, 2021.

APPROVED:



Paul Colvin, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:



Rhonda Ardernagni, Clerk-Treasurer
(SEAL)

EXHIBIT "A"

1. Conduct in Public Meetings

Practice civility and decorum in all discussions and debate. Difficult questions, tough challenges to a particular point of view, and criticism of ideas and information are legitimate elements of a free democracy in action. This does not allow, however, council members to make belligerent personal, impertinent, slanderous, threatening, abusive, or disparaging comments. No shouting or physical actions that could be construed as threatening will be tolerated. Therefore, the council will:

- Avoid personal comments that could offend other council members.
- Honor the role of the mayor in maintaining order.
- Be respectful of other members of the city council, boards, commissions, committees, city staff, and the public by refraining from abusive conduct, personal charges, or verbal attacks.
- Treat fellow council members with the respect you expect to receive in return.
- Always address citizens, employees, committee members, and fellow council members with respect.
- Request the opportunity to speak and address the council through the mayor or other person conducting the meeting.
- Recognize fellow council members and guest speakers by their formal names and appropriate titles; after initial acknowledgement, the terms "Mr." or "Ms." may be used.
- Be respectful of others' time and be brief and prepared in making remarks.
- Be prompt in attending public meetings so that they may begin at the publicly posted time.

2. Conduct with the Public

Be polite and professional to speakers and treat them with care and gentleness. Because personal concerns are often the reason citizens come before the council to speak, council members should remember that their behavior will either relax the speaker or push their emotions to a higher level of intensity. Therefore, the council will:

- Limit comments to issues and avoid personal attacks.
- Remain seated when someone is speaking at the podium.
- Give the appearance of active listening.
- Ask for clarification, but avoid debate and argument with the public.
- Not engage in personal attacks of any kind under any circumstance.
- Make no promises on behalf of the council or staff.
- Make no personal comments about other council members.