

# CITY of BRISTOL

## POLICY ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The City of Bristol, Florida hereby adopts a Policy on Public Participation for the Local Government meetings and workshops effective December 8, 2008. The purpose of this policy is to deal with citizen input and participation at all Local Governmental Meetings and Workshops and is as follows:

### **a. Who May Speak?**

Meetings of the City of Bristol are open to the public. They are, however, not public forums. Any interested person who wishes to address the council on any subject within the scope of council authority may do so, provided it is accomplished in an orderly manner and in accordance with the procedures outlined herein.

### **b. Subject Matter:**

Any interested person may address the council on a subject matter which is within the council's jurisdiction and is germane to the business of the City.

### **c. City Clerk:**

The Council will not allow individuals to address the council about matters which are or should have been easily addressed by the City Clerk. An example of this is someone who questions a utility bill or a work order, etc. The council should have been given the courtesy of having had the issue addressed through proper channels.

### **d. Decorum:**

If a member of the audience becomes unruly, the Mayor has the right to require the person to leave the room, and may order this done by the Liberty County Sheriff's Department if necessary. If the crowd becomes unruly, the Chairman may recess and/or adjourn the meeting.

**e. Matters that may not be addressed:**

Certain matters are improper to be addressed. Those are matters that are completely self-serving, such as a person's own political future, or matters that do not involve the local municipality; such as, subject matters on a national level, which has no bearing on the business of the city.

**f. Time**

Each person shall be allowed 3 minutes to speak.

**g. Any person desiring to speak:**

Any member of the audience desiring to speak shall complete a Request Form which identifies the individual and the nature of the comment/topic that the audience member wishes to address and shall submit the form to the City Clerk prior to the meeting starting or the audience member desiring to speak may come before the council and give his/her name, address, and subject matter of the discussion, during the open participation time as announced by the Chairman or Presiding Officer of the meeting.

So adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2008, in a regular council meeting of the City of Bristol, Florida.