



For more information, contact:

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Public Participation in Meetings to Add Virtual Options

OSHKOSH, Wis., August 6, 2020 – Those wishing to make comments at Oshkosh Common Council meetings will have the option to participate via telephone or videoconference platforms beginning with the Oshkosh Common Council meeting on Wednesday, August 12, 2020. Virtual participation at Oshkosh Board and Commission meetings is still being developed and will be established at a later date. Citizens may also submit written comments that can be sent via U.S. Mail, via email to the City Manager’s office at citymgr@ci.oshkosh.wi.us, or may be placed in the City Hall drop box located in the front of the building at 215 Church Avenue. Citizens may also speak in person at meetings.

Virtual participation is only intended for those wishing to make comments. In an effort to minimize participant wait times and to maximize the efficiency of the meeting, all public comment will happen at the beginning of meetings. These steps are required in order for citizens to participate virtually:

1. **Register to speak.** They may use the city’s website for registration at <https://www.ci.oshkosh.wi.us/CCMRequestToSpeak/>, or they may use the “Connect Oshkosh” smartphone app. Speakers will later be called in the order of registration.
2. **Locate a meeting agenda.** Agendas may be found on the city’s website at <https://www.ci.oshkosh.wi.us/CityCouncil/MeetingAgendasMinutes.aspx>.
3. **Connect to the meeting.** They are asked to connect 15 minutes prior to the start time of the meeting. A web URL will be provided on the top of the agenda for citizens to connect to the meeting. Citizens should only use the web link provided if they have registered to speak.
4. **Alternatively, call in.** The telephone number for participation via phone will also be provided on the top of each meeting agenda.
5. **You’re connected.** When members of the public log in or call in to participate virtually, they will join the meeting immediately. Participants must refrain from having conversations in the chat box, only technical assistance inquiries.
6. **Time to speak.** City staff will alert each participant when it is their time to speak. Participants should unmute themselves at that time. They are asked to again mute themselves when not speaking, in order to minimize background noise. Citizens are to address the Council only and to refrain from personal comments and attacks. All statements are limited to five minutes. If a citizen requires more time, the individual is asked to inform the Mayor at the beginning of the presentation.

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As a reminder, citizens that do not wish to make comment are asked to use various communications outlets to watch or listen to meetings. Citizens may watch via GovTV on the web at www.OshkoshMedia.org or tune into Spectrum cable channel 10, U-verse channel 99, and through the Oshkosh Media app on Roku, Apple TV and Amazon Fire Stick devices. They may listen on the radio at Oshkosh FM 101.9, WOCT.

For more information about virtual participation at government meetings, please contact the City Manager's office at (920) 236-5002.

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