

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO PUBLIC MEETINGS; TO REDEFINE FORMAL ACTION; TO PROVIDE FOR THE REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES OR SECTIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CHAIRPERSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ANSLEY, NEBRASKA:

Section 1. That Chapter 1, Article 5, Section 504, of the Municipal Code of Ansley, Nebraska be amended to read as follows:

MEETINGS; CLOSED SESSIONS. (1) Any public body may hold a closed session by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting members if a closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. Closed sessions may be held for, but shall not be limited to, such reasons as:

- (a) Strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate purchases, pending litigation or litigation which is imminent as evidenced by communication of a claim or threat of litigation to or by the public body;
- (b) Discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices;
- (c) Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct; or
- (d) Evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting.

Nothing in this section shall permit a closed meeting for discussion of the appointment or election of a new member to any public body.

(2) The vote to hold a closed session shall be taken in open session. The vote of each member on the question of holding a closed session, the reason for the closed session, and the time when the closed session commenced and concluded shall be recorded in the minutes. The public body holding such a closed session shall restrict its consideration to matters during the closed portions to only those purposes set forth in the minutes as the reason for the closed session. The meeting shall be reconvened in open session before any formal action may be taken. For purposes of this section, formal action shall mean a collective decision or a collective commitment or promise to make a decision on any question, motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance or formation of a position or policy but shall not include negotiating guidance given by members of the public body to legal counsel or other negotiators in closed sessions authorized under subdivision (a) of this section.

(3) Any member of the public body shall have the right to challenge the continuation of a closed session if the member determines that the session has exceeded the reason stated in the original motion to hold a closed session or if the member contends that the closed session is neither clearly necessary for (a) the protection of the public interest or (b) the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Such challenge shall be overruled only by a majority vote of the members of the public body. Such challenge and its disposition shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any meeting be closed to the public. No person or public body shall fail to invite a portion of its members to a meeting and no public body shall designate itself a subcommittee of the whole body for the purpose of circumventing the provisions of this Article. No closed session, informal meeting, chance meeting, social gathering, or electronic communication shall be used for the purpose of circumventing the provisions of this Article.

(5) The provisions of this Article shall not apply to chance meetings, or to attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops of members of a public body at which there is no meeting of the body then intentionally convened and there is no vote or other action taken regarding any matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power. (Ref. 84-1410 RS Neb.)

Section 2. That any other ordinance or section passed and approved prior to the passage, approval, and publication or posting of this ordinance and in conflict with its provisions, is hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage, approval, and publication or posting as required by law.

Passed and approved this 10th day of November, 1997.


Clerk

(Seal)


Chairperson