

2023-07

## Resolution Establishing a Code of Conduct for City Council Members

Whereas The City Council of Cherokee Village Arkansas desires to adopt a code of conduct as a reference and guide for its members.

To abide by the Arkansas Municipal League Principles and Guidelines and the Code of Conduct with Affirmation. To be acknowledged by each council member's signature annually.

Now therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of Cherokee Village Arkansas to adopt the attached document entitled "Code of Conduct"

Passed and approved this 16 day of March 2023

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Steven R. Rose, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Penny Trumphy, City Clerk





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.

### Code of Conduct with Affirmation

#### City of Cherokee Village Arkansas Code of Conduct

##### Opening Statement

This code of conduct is designed to describe the manner in which the mayor and council members should treat one another and others with whom they come in contact in representing the City of Cherokee Village.

I affirm that I have read and understand the City of Cherokee Village City Council Code of Conduct. The principles and guidelines for mayor and council members set forth in this document promote civility and set a standard of excellence that engenders trust and promotes the public good. This municipality will not condone activities that are in violation of the principles of appropriate conduct.

Steven R. Rose, Mayor

Pamela Rowland, Council Member

Jeff Tatum, Council Member

Eddie Ishmael, Council Member

Rob Smith, Council Member

Heather Harrison, Council Member

Rachel Tatum, Council Member

Steve Thompson, Council Member

Peter Martin, Council Member





## **Principles and Guidelines**

The city council shall hold themselves accountable to the following principles and guidelines:

### **City Council Members' Conduct with One Another**

This council is composed of individuals with a wide variety of backgrounds, personalities, values, opinions and goals. Despite this diversity, each council member has chosen to serve in public office in order to preserve and protect the present and the future of the City of Cherokee Village Arkansas. This common goal should be acknowledged even as council members may "agree to disagree" on contentious issues.

#### **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, however, allow 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, 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 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