## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor England<br>Vice Mayor Kostka<br>Commissioner George<br>Commissioner Samora<br>Commissioner Rumrell<br>DATE: February 11, 2020<br>SUBJECT: Use of City Public Meeting Rooms: Consideration of New Policy

## NTRODUCTION

There are two reasons for this agenda topic: first, to make you aware of the City's public meeting facilities and how heavily they are used; second, to suggest to you a policy that will make the rooms available to more groups.

The City's meeting facilities are the room in the southwest corner of city hall and Building C, the former post office, which is located on the west side of the city hall parking lot. The Commission meeting room is not included as one of the City's public meeting facilities because Commission policies restrict its use to meetings of governmental agencies.

There has been increasing demand by groups to use the City's two rooms. This demand is likely because public meeting space on the island is limited. The Anastasia Baptist Church no longer allows non-church groups to use its facilities; groups can use the meeting room in the public library that's in the Sea Grove subdivision but only when the library is open. The City's meeting facilities can be used not only during normal workdays but also in evenings and on weekends when the city hall is closed.

Before the new city hall was designed and built in 2000-01, the City had no community center or public meeting space other than the Commission room in the old city hall. That room was the only space available for meetings by civic and non-profit groups, such as the Civic Association. To provide more meeting space, the City Commission when the new çity hall was designed in 2000 approved the building having a public meeting room in addition to the City Commission room.

Building $C$, where the post office was once located, originally was intended to be a garage where lawn mowing and other equipment for maintenance of the city hall/police station complex would be stored. In 2004, the City Commission approved the conversion of it to a U.S. Postal Service facility. When the post office moved out of it in 2008, the Commission approved the facility being converted to a public meeting room. Small groups now use it.

## CURRENT POLICIES

The use of the City's two meeting rooms is governed by the following policies in the City Commission's Policies and Procedures Manual:

1. Any person or organization applying to use a City facility must sign a hold harmless agreement.

## February 2020

| Fetruary 2030 |  |  |  |  |  |  | March 2020 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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## APPLICATION FOR USE OF CITY FACILITIES

Exempt Organizations


City of St. Augustine Beach, 2200 A1A South, St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080
Group Name: $\qquad$
(Name or organizalion, agency, etc.)
Address: $\qquad$
Phone: $\qquad$ - _ _ Email: $\qquad$

Name of Responsible Party: $\qquad$
(This individual will be responsible for payment of all charges and for retum of the key.)
Address: $\qquad$
Home Phone: $\qquad$ Business Phone: $\qquad$
Email: $\qquad$

|  |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Event Name: |  |

Time:
From: $\qquad$ a.m. /p.m. To $\qquad$ a.m. / p.m.

Date(s) or, If Recurring, Day of the Week or Month
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
Number of attendees expected: $\qquad$
Space Requested: $\qquad$ Meeting Room (Occupancy of $60 \mathrm{w} /$ tables or $99 \mathrm{w} / \mathrm{o}$ tables)
$\qquad$ Building C (Occupancy of $22 \mathrm{w} /$ tables or $48 \mathrm{w} / \mathrm{o}$ tables)

* Please note the occupancy limits established by the Fire Marshal for each meeting room. These limits will vary according to whether tables and other obstructions are used in the rooms. Groups that may exceed these limits should seek other accommodations.


## Rules for Use of City Meeting Rooms

Any person or organization applying to use a City facility must sign a hold harmless agreement. Scheduling arrangements must be made at the City Manager's office in advance. The key will be available in the City Manager's office on the day prior to the scheduled event. When an event is scheduled for a Monday, the key may be picked up on the preceding Friday.

The following conditions apply to use of the meeting rooms:

1. NO SMOKING is permitted in any City building.
2. The meeting rooms and facilities will be clean and in order prior to use and must be returned to the same condition immediately after the meeting. Please note the following:

- Check to be sure all lights, including those in the restrooms are turned off.
- Return all chairs, tables, etc. to original positions.
- Place any trash or debris in the trash cans provided in the meeting rooms and kitchen. Take any other materials brought to the meeting with you when you leave.
- Check for any spills on carpeting and clean up immediately. There is no janitor on duty after office hours, and stains left overnight will damage the carpet. Cleaning supplies will be left in the kitchen area.
- The main corridor entrance doors at the north and south ends of the building and the outer door to the meeting room (south side) must be unlocked while the building is occupied. CHECK TO BE SURE ALL THESE DOORS ARE LOCKED BEFORE LEAVING
- If more than one group is meeting on the same evening, the last group to leave the building is responsible for securing the building and turning off the lights.

3. Return keys promptly. They must be returned to the City Manager's office before 12:00 noon on the next business day following use of the meeting room or left in the key deposit box in the kitchen area immediately after the event.

Failure to comply with the above conditions may result in the use of City facility being denied.
We hope you will be will help us keep the rooms in good condition so that you and other groups can continue to enjoy them.

## Agreement:

As the user or authorized representative of the user of the facilities described above, I agree to observe all rules regarding their use as outlined on this form. I understand that I will be financially responsible for any damage to the facility and/or the equipment therein.

The key will be returned before 12:00 noon on the next business day following use of the facilities (or placed in the key deposit box before that time). Failure to return the key as agreed will result in a $\$ 25.00$ replacement charge, which will be payable immediately.

I understand that a signed Hold Harmless Agreement will be signed by me or the authorized agent or representative of my organization prior to use of the facilities.
$\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$

## HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

The undersigned agrees to protect, defend, reimburse, indemnify and hold harmless the City of St. Augustine Beach, Florida, its agents, employees, and officers and each of them, free, and harmless at all times from and against any and all claims, liability, expense, loss, cost, fine, and damages (including reasonable attorney's fees) and causes of action of every kind and character to the fullest extent allowed by law by reason of any damage to property or the environment, including any contamination of City property, or bodily injury (including death) incurred or sustained by any party hereto, any agent or emplovee of any party hereto, or any other person whomsoever, arising out of or incident to any acts, omissions or operations related to the use authorized by this Special Event Permit, and the undersigned expressly recognizes the broad nature of this indemnification and hold harmless clause, and voluntarily makes this covenant.
(Name of Event)
sponsored or arranged for by $\qquad$
(Applicant)
which will occur on $\qquad$
(Date/Dates)

Dated this $\qquad$ day of $\qquad$ 20 $\qquad$

Signed: $\qquad$
Print Name: $\qquad$

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(Name of organization, agency, etc.)
Address: $\qquad$
Phone: $\qquad$ Email: $\qquad$

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(This individual will be responsible for payment of all charges and for retum of the key.)
Address: $\qquad$
Home Phone: $\qquad$ Business Phone: $\qquad$
Email: $\qquad$


Date(s): $\qquad$
$\qquad$
Number of attendees expected: $\qquad$
Space Requested:

| Up to 4 hours | Over 4 hours | Kitchen |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\$ 75.00$ | $\$ 150.00$ | $\$ 100.00$ |

## Meeting Room

$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
(Occupancy of $60 \mathrm{w} /$ tables or $99 \mathrm{w} / \mathrm{o}$ tables)

## Building C

(Occupancy of $22 \mathrm{w} /$ tables or $48 \mathrm{w} / \mathrm{o}$ tables)

## Total Charge:

$\qquad$

* Please note the occupancy limits established by the Fire Marshal for each meeting room. These limits will vary according to whether tables and other obstructions are used in the rooms. Groups that may exceed these limits should seek other accommodations.


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Signature:
Date:

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(Name of Event)
sponsored or arranged for by $\qquad$
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which will occur on $\qquad$
(Date/Dates)

Dated this $\qquad$ day of $\qquad$ 20 $\qquad$

Signed: $\qquad$
Print Name: $\qquad$

