

BILL NO. G-12-01-22

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
SECTION 32.59, PUBLIC HEARINGS,
OF THE FORT CODE OF ORDINANCES**

WHEREAS, the Fort Wayne Common Council seeks open government and values the insights and wisdom of its citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the Fort Wayne Common Council has taken positive strides since 2008 to increase openness and transparency of local government; and,

WHEREAS, the Fort Wayne Common Council recognizes the talent and education of Fort Wayne citizens that may be brought to bear in the consideration of public issues; and,

WHEREAS, the Fort Wayne Common Council should seek to provide opportunities for open testimony allowing members to more fully explore with citizens their insights and information; and,

WHEREAS, the Fort Wayne Common Council desires to expand citizen opportunity for participation; and,

WHEREAS, the participation of citizen James Redmond before the Fort Wayne Common Council's Committee session provided an example of the value of such participation; and

WHEREAS, The Common Council seeks to adopt a provision in its rules known at the "Redmond Rule."

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA:**

SECTION 1. That Section 32.59 of the Fort Wayne Code of Ordinances: "PUBLIC HEARINGS" shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

§ 32.59 PUBLIC HEARINGS

(A) Public hearings shall be held on all ordinances and resolutions as required by Indiana Statutes in the manner prescribed by state statute, after due notice by law.

(B) A motion to conduct a public hearing duly made and passed by Common Council, requires a public hearing on any other resolution or ordinance when such public hearing is not otherwise required by law.

(C) A Committee Chair may call for public comment during the consideration of an ordinance or resolution before a committee session of Common Council, any member of Common Council may request a citizen be recognized for the purpose of public comment during such consideration or, prior to a meeting of Common Council, a citizen may request to make a public comment by contacting a member of Council. Such a request made by a Council member or a citizen, shall not be unreasonably denied.

SECTION 2. That the City is directed to take all action necessary and proper for the implementation of this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and any and all necessary approval by the Mayor.

Mitch V. Harper, Council Member

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

Joseph G. Bonahoom, Attorney for City Council