



PUBLIC HEARING
ORLEANS COUNTY LEGISLATURE

July 27, 2022 at 4:10 p.m.

Local Law No. 2-Intro of 2022

TO ADOPT AMENDMENTS TO THE NYS OPEN MEETINGS LAW FOR THE EXPANDED
USE OF VIDEOCONFERENCING

Present: Chairman Lynne M. Johnson, Vice Chairman William Eick, Legislators: Donald, Allport Merle Draper, John Fitzak, Fred Miller, Ed Morgan; County Attorney Kathy Bogan, Chief Administrative Officer John C. Welch, Jr.,

Chairman Johnson called the public hearing to order at 4:10 p.m.

Clerk Stenshorn read the published legal notice.

Chairman Johnson asked if anyone wished to comment.

County Attorney Bogan gave an overview that NYS changed their open meeting law to allow for expanded use of videoconferencing; Zoom, Teams, etc. They call it an expansion but it is really a contraction. The new law provides that members must be physically at meetings unless they have extraordinary circumstances. These extraordinary circumstances are defined as disability, illness, caregiving responsibility or other significant or unexpected factors that would preclude the member's physical presence at the meeting. The Local Law goes on to address the requirements of the use of video teleconferencing should a member have to attend via videoconferencing. The State, despite the fact that this has been used for the last two years with very little issue in Orleans County, have decided that the public physical presences should be the ultimate goal. This does not apply pursuant to the state regulations during a State of Emergency, whether is it a State or County State of Emergency.

Chairman asked three times for any public comment.

With there being no additional public comment, Chairman Johnson closed the Public Hearing at 4:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Stenshorn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Lisa Stenshorn, Clerk of the Legislature
Orleans County Legislature