

1 **..Title**

2 **Code of Civility** - For the purpose of establishing a Code of Civility setting forth how members
3 of the Annapolis City Council and all boards, committees, and commissions appointed by the
4 Council shall treat one another, staff, constituents, and members of the public, and establishing
5 regulations for those attending public hearings or forums to maintain proper order and decorum.

6 **..Body**

7
8 **CITY COUNCIL OF THE**
9 **City of Annapolis**

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11 **Resolution 3-23**

12
13 **Introduced by: Mayor Buckley**

14 **Co-sponsored by: Ald. Savidge, Ald. O'Neill, Ald. Pindell Charles, Ald. Finlayson,**
15 **Ald. Arnett**

16
17 **A RESOLUTION** concerning

18 **Code of Civility**

19
20 **FOR** the purpose of establishing a Code of Civility setting forth how members of the Annapolis
21 City Council and all City boards, committees, and commissions appointed by the Council
22 shall treat one another, staff, constituents, and members of the public, and establishing
23 regulations for those attending public hearings or forum to maintain proper order and
24 decorum.

25
26 **WHEREAS,** Civility is synonymous with courtesy, politeness, graciousness, tolerance,
27 consideration, and respect; and

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29 **WHEREAS,** Civility requires that all members comport themselves in a manner that permits
30 honest efforts at understanding the views and reasoning of others; and

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32 **WHEREAS,** Civility promotes a process that is fair and effective in both appearance and fact;
33 and

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35 **WHEREAS,** Civility is attained through polite action and expression, and it promotes a positive
36 collegial atmosphere wherein all City boards, committees, and commissions may
37 operate effectively for the benefit of Annapolis' citizens; and

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39 **WHEREAS,** Civility leads to effective communication and allows the finding of common
40 ground; and

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42 **WHEREAS,** The presence of the public at all open meetings of the Council, committees,
43 commissions, and boards appointed by the Council is an integral part of a
44 transparent government; and

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1 **WHEREAS,** Public participation in hearings and forums ensures that Members have a complete
2 sense of the views of their constituents; and
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4 **WHEREAS,** Public presence and participation must be adequately accommodated; and
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6 **WHEREAS,** Order and decorum must be maintained so that members of the public may attend
7 and observe the session without interference; and
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9 **WHEREAS,** Section 10-507(b) of the Maryland State Government Code says," (b) A public
10 body shall adopt and enforce reasonable rules regarding the conduct of persons
11 attending its meetings and the videotaping, televising, photographing, broadcasting,
12 or recording of its meetings";
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14 **NOW, THEREFORE,**

15 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that Council members and all
16 members of City committees, commissions, and boards shall in all of their proceedings adhere to
17 the "Code of Civility," a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof;
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19 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that a copy
20 of these regulations shall be posted at the entrance to all meeting rooms and on the City website,
21 and the presiding officer may read aloud all or any part of these regulations before the start of any
22 hearing or forum;
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24 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that each City
25 council member and members of City boards, committees, and commissions shall sign a copy of
26 this "Code of Civility" indicating their willingness and commitment to act accordingly at all times;
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28 **AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that this
29 resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.
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