

CITY OF TWIN FALLS
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

Public Hearing Procedures for Zoning Requests

1. Prior to opening the public meeting, the Chairman shall review the public hearing procedures, confirm a quorum is present and introduce staff present.
2. Individuals wishing to testify or speak before the Commission shall wait to be recognized by the Chairman, approach the microphone/podium, state their name and address, then commence with their comments. Following their statements, they shall write their name and address on the Sign-In record sheet(s) located on a separate table near the entrance of the chambers. The administrative assistant shall make an audio recording of each public meeting.
3. **The Applicant, or the spokesperson for the Applicant, shall make a presentation** on the application/request. No changes to the request may be made by the applicant after the publication of the Notice of Public Hearing – WHICH IS A MINIMUM OF 15 DAYS PRIOR TO PUBLIC HEARING. **The applicant's presentation should include the following:**
 - **A complete explanation and description of the request.**
 - **Why the request is being made.**
 - **Location of the Property.**
 - **Impacts on the surrounding properties and efforts to mitigate those impacts.**The Applicant is limited to 15 minutes, unless a written request for additional time is received and granted by the Chairman prior to commencement of the public meeting.
4. Upon completion of the applicant's presentation City Staff will present a staff report which shall summarize the application/request, history of the property, if any, staff analysis of the request and any recommendations.
 - **The Commission may ask questions of staff or the applicant pertaining to the request at this time.**
5. The public will then be given the opportunity to provide public testimony/input/comments regarding the request.
 - **The Chairman may limit public testimony to no more than two (2) minutes per person.**
 - **Five (5) or more individuals, having received personal public notice of the application under consideration, may select a spokesperson by written petition. The spokesperson shall be limited to 15 minutes.**
 - **No written comments, including e-mail, received after 12:00 o'clock noon on the date of the hearing will be accepted for consideration by the hearing body. Written comments, including e-mail, received by 12:00 o'clock noon or before the date of the hearing shall be either read into the record or displayed on the overhead projector either during or upon the completion of public comment.**
 - **Following the Public Testimony, the applicant is permitted a maximum five (5) minutes rebuttal to respond to Public Testimony.**
6. Following the Public Testimony and Applicant's response, the Public Input portion of the public hearing shall be closed-**No further public testimony is permitted.** Commission Members, as recognized by the Chairman, shall be allowed to request clarification of any public testimony received of the Applicant, Staff or any person who has testified. The Chairman may again establish time limits.
7. The Chairman shall then close the Public Hearing. The Commission shall deliberate on the request. Deliberations and decisions shall be based upon the information and testimony provided during the Public Hearing. **Once the Public Hearing is closed, additional testimony from the staff, applicant or public is not allowed.** Legal or procedural questions may be directed to the City Attorney.

**** Any person not conforming to the above rules may be prohibited from speaking. Persons refusing to comply with such prohibitions may be asked to leave the hearing and thereafter removed from the room by order of the Chairman.**