
Data Center Public Comment

From Nolan Ming <nming@mcminnvilletn.gov>

Date Wed 5/27/2026 4:01 PM

To McMinnville Mayor <mayor@mcminnvilletn.gov>

Cc Samantha Moore <smoore@mcminnvilletn.gov>; Tim Pirtle <timpirtle@gmail.com>; Sean Garrett <sgarrett@mcminnvilletn.gov>

 1 attachment (280 KB)

Public Meeting and Agenda Policy Amendment 5-2025 - FINAL.pdf;

Ryle,

We've noticed growing interest on social media from community members expressing a desire to speak at the upcoming BoMA meeting regarding the Hixson Data Center proposal. As you may be aware, this project is still in pre-application stages and has not been formally presented to the city, meaning it is not anticipated to appear on the June agenda.

This creates a procedural question we'd like your guidance on before we communicate anything publicly.

Under our Public Meeting & Agenda Policy (Attached) and Robert's Rules of Order, public comment is generally limited to items on the published agenda. If residents arrive expecting to comment on a topic that isn't on the agenda, the Chair will need a consistent, pre-decided approach for handling those requests, both to keep the meeting orderly and to avoid any perception that the city is suppressing public input.

We are preparing a social media post to set accurate expectations for attendees, and we'd recommend consulting with Tim prior to the meeting to confirm the Chair's authority and preferred approach in this situation.

A few specific questions where your guidance would be helpful:

1. Would you like us to proceed with posting public comment guidelines on social media, and if so, do you have a preferred tone or any specific messaging?
2. Should we encourage residents with concerns about the data center to contact their Alderman or the Community Development Department directly in the interim?
3. Our Policy does not require people to sign up, but in this case, it may be helpful planningwise if we encourage people to sign up. This is appropriate as long as we allow anyone that shows up to speak, time to speak.
4. Our Policy limits comments to 3 minutes, but time limits can be adjusted by the chair.

We're happy to discuss at your convenience. Thank you for your direction on this.

Kind regards,

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