

THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS RESOLUTION IS May 5, 2015

RESOLUTION NO. 15-06

RE: FREDERICK COUNTY CODE OF CIVILITY

"Civility" is synonymous with courtesy, politeness, graciousness, tolerance, consideration, and respect, and is attained through polite action and expression; and

Civility requires elected and appointed officials, as well as staff, applicants, and members of the public to comport themselves in a manner that permits honest efforts at understanding the views and reasoning of others; and

Civility promotes a positive, collegial atmosphere in which all those involved in County business may interact in an effective manner for the benefit of the residents of Frederick County.

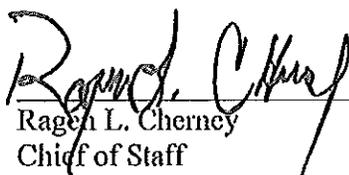
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the County Council hereby adopts the Code of Civility attached hereto as Exhibit A; which shall be appended to the County Council of Frederick County Rules of Procedure and duly incorporated therein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in signing this resolution, the County Council of Frederick County, Maryland, is evincing its support for the Code of Civility and its intent to act in accordance therewith.

The undersigned certifies that this Resolution was approved and adopted on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2015.

ATTEST:

COUNTY COUNCIL OF  
FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

  
Ragen L. Cherney  
Chief of Staff

By:   
Bud Otis, President

MTC 5/19/15

**EXHIBIT A**

**FREDERICK COUNTY CODE OF CIVILITY**

Purpose: To promote civil discourse in the conduct of County meetings and other County business, this Code of Civility is intended to encourage citizens-led through example by elected and appointed County officials- to abide by and exhibit behavior guided by the following:

**(1) Be respectful.**

- (A) Speak and act politely, calmly, and reasonably. Do not resort to personal attacks, name calling, or harassment.
- (B) Through both words and actions, demonstrate respect for the views of all citizens, County employee and representatives.
- (C) Ensure that disagreement with opposing viewpoints is expressed as disappointment with a position, not an individual.
- (D) Be a positive role model for public discourse by practicing courtesy and consideration towards others.
- (E) Engage in respectful, non-judgmental listening and be aware of non-verbal communication.
- (F) While working toward the goal of attaining a majority on a particular issue, respect the rights of the minority.

**(2) Be responsible.**

- (A) Demonstrate fairness by ensuring that all who speak have an opportunity to present their respective positions. Treat all speakers equally.
- (B) Clearly distinguish opinions from facts. Ensure that all statements of fact are accurate and verifiable.

- (C) Recognize the art of achieving consensus as an important tool in community-building.
- (D) Exercise your rights and responsibilities as a citizen. Encourage others to become informed and involved.
- (E) Encourage the use of language that is free from political bias and is relevant to the issue or matter at hand.