

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
COUNTY OF STEUBEN
LOCAL LAW TENTATIVELY NO. TWO FOR THE YEAR 2022**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Steuben County Legislature will hold a Public Hearing at the Steuben County Legislative Chambers, 3rd Floor, Annex Building, 20 East Morris Street, Bath, New York on the 23rd day of May, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. upon County of Steuben Local Law Tentatively No. Two for the Year 2022, Allowing for the Expanded Use of Videoconferencing to Conduct Open Public Meetings, Under Extraordinary Circumstances.

The Legislative Chambers is accessible to persons with disabilities. If special accommodations are needed for persons with disabilities, those with hearing impairments, or those in need of translation from English, those individuals should contact the Clerk of the Legislature's Office at 607-664-2247 at least one week in advance of the hearing date to allow for necessary arrangements. The public may also participate and speak during the public hearing via a Zoom Meeting Conference at the following link:

<https://steubencountynygov.zoom.us/j/84689320737?pwd=U1FWNzhQYVRxb2pzTIFrNIJ2M0ZZdz09>

Meeting ID: 846 8932 0737

Passcode: Steuben1

or by phone at +1 646 558 8656 US (New York); Meeting ID: 846 8932 0737; Passcode: 26646472

Said Local Law is as follows:

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT

The intent of this local law is to allow for the expanded use of videoconferencing to conduct open public meetings, under extraordinary circumstances.

SECTION 2. CONDITIONS

After due consideration of the amendment and the requirements thereto, the Steuben County Legislature adopts the expanded use of videoconferencing to conduct open public meetings pursuant to the following procedures:

- (a) Members of the Legislature shall be physically present at meetings, unless allowed remote attendance at locations that do not allow for in-person physical attendance by the public, under extraordinary circumstances.
- (b) The list of extraordinary circumstances is non-exhaustive, but shall include disability, illness, caregiving responsibilities or any other significant or unexpected factor or event which precludes the member's physical attendance at such meeting.
- (c) Members shall provide notice of their inability to attend a meeting to the Clerk of the Legislature's Office at least 24 hours prior to the meeting or as soon as practicable.
- (d) The Chair of the Legislature shall retain discretion over permitted extraordinary circumstances for the Legislature and for Standing Committees when the Standing Committee Chair is unavailable.
- (e) The Standing Committee Chairs, when available, shall retain discretion over permitted extraordinary circumstances for their Committee.
- (f) It is understood that members permitted to attend at a location that does not allow for in-person physical attendance by the public, will not count towards a quorum. Only members present at the physical location which allows for in-person attendance by the public will count towards a quorum.
- (g) Minutes of the meetings involving videoconferencing shall include which, if any, members participated remotely, with those participating under extraordinary circumstances being designated separately.
- (h) Any members of the public attending a meeting must be able to hear, see and identify any member of the public body who is attending remotely while the meeting is being conducted.
- (i) If video conferencing is used to conduct a meeting, the public notice shall inform the public where they can view and/or participate in such meeting, where required documents and records will be posted or available, and identify the physical location for the meeting where the public can attend.
- (j) Meetings conducted using videoconferencing shall be recorded and those recordings shall be posted or linked within 5 business days of the meeting and maintained for 5 years thereafter. Recordings shall be transcribed upon request.

- (k) In those meetings where videoconferencing is used, the public shall be able to view the meeting via videoconference in real time where public participation is authorized.
- (l) Open meetings using videoconferencing shall use technology to permit access by members of the public with disabilities consistent with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act.
- (m) The in person participation requirements of this Local Law shall not apply during a state disaster emergency declared by the Governor or a local state of emergency as declared by the Chief Executive of the county if it is determined that the circumstances necessitating the emergency declaration would affect or impair the ability of the public body to hold an in person meeting.
- (n) These written procedures shall be conspicuously posted on the County's website.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this Local Law or the application thereof, to any person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance, shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional such order of judgement shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, corporation, firm partnership, entity, or circumstance directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

SECTION 5. EXPIRATION DATE

This local law shall remain in effect until July 1, 2024 as set forth by NYS in Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2022.

ALL PERSONS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

"BY ORDER OF THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF STEUBEN COUNTY"

Dated: May 12, 2021
Village of Bath, New York

BRENDA K. SCOTCHMER
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
COUNTY OF STEUBEN