



Amendments to Change Motions

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the MTAS website ([mtas.tennessee.edu](https://www.mtas.tennessee.edu)). This website is maintained daily by MTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee municipal government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with municipal government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other MTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Amendments to Change Motions

Reference Number: MTAS-1009

1. After a main motion is made and seconded, and debate has begun, an elected official may suggest a change to the legislation with another motion: *I move to amend the ordinance by...* and striking out, inserting, or substituting a word, phrase, sentence, or paragraph.
 2. Another member: *I second the motion to amend.*
 3. Mayor: *It has been proposed to amend Ordinance _____ to read as follows...* The mayor states the main motion and amendment so it is understood how the amendment changes the legislation. The amendment changes the motion. The amendment is handled in the same way as a main motion.
 4. The mayor opens the floor to debate on the amendment: *Is there any discussion?*
 5. Question: *If there is no further discussion, the amendment is...*
 6. Vote: *All in favor of the amendment...* The mayor announces the outcome: *The amendment is carried* (or defeated). *The motion now before the governing body is...* (the motion plus the amendment, if carried).
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