

Public Comment Guidelines

In an effort to provide citizens an opportunity to share their ideas/concerns the Selectboard will continue to include a Public Comment period on their regular agendas. Additionally, the Selectboard will include this agenda item on special Selectboard meetings when deemed appropriate.

Twenty minutes will be designated for this comment period with the expectation that each person speaking will limit their comments to 2 to 3 minutes. It is helpful, but not necessary, if the individuals speaking submit a written summary of their comments.

Individuals wishing to speak should avoid repeating what was previously presented to allow more time for others to express similar or opposing views and/or introduce new items for the Selectboard to consider.

This Public Comment period is NOT intended to begin an open dialogue with participants. However, Board members may ask clarifying questions to better understand the views of each speaker. When deemed appropriate, the Selectboard may include topics raised on future Selectboard agendas.

The Chair has the discretion to extend the Public Comment period and/or allow for a speaker to have a few extra minutes. It is the expectation of the Selectboard that speakers will be respectful at all times and manage their emotions accordingly.

If an individual's behavior becomes disruptive, they will forfeit their opportunity to speak and may be asked to leave the meeting. If necessary, the Chair will recess the meeting until the individual is removed by a police officer.

Additionally, if a particular topic "raises the temperature of emotions the Chair may suspend the public comment period and resume it at a future meeting.

This Public Comment period does not apply to agenda items, whereby individuals attending remotely or in person who may have insight or special knowledge on a particular topic and the Chair invites the individual(s) to address the Board.

Selectboard reviewed first draft on July 22, 2024

Selectboard voted to accept and adopt August 12, 2024