

TOWN OF MOOERS PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY

The Town of Mooers Town Board has a long standing policy which encourages citizens to contact its elected Supervisor and Council members to readdress issues which involve the Town. When members of the public desire to address the entire Town Board, the Town of Mooers hereby establishes a Public Comment Policy to allow those members of the public an additional opportunity to address the Board in addition to public hearings, a special time is hereby set aside for the purpose of receiving comments and suggestions from citizens. All comments made during the public comment period shall be subject to the following procedures:

1. A public comment period not to exceed thirty minutes will be held during the regular scheduled Town Board Meeting held on the second Tuesday of each month.
2. Individuals who wish to make a statement during the public comment period will register on a sign-up sheet available the day before the Regular Town Board Meeting. No one will be allowed to have his or her name placed on the list by telephone request to Town staff.
3. Each person who signed up to speak will have up to 5 minutes to make his or her statement.
4. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Supervisor, or in his absence his designee, in the order in which their names appear on the sign-up sheet. Speakers shall address the Board members from their seat, and not approach the Board or any other Town employees. Speakers will begin their statement by first stating their name and address for the minutes.
5. Statements are to be directed to the Town Board as a whole, and not to individuals. Public comment is not intended to require the Board to provide any answer to the speaker. Discussions between speakers and members of the audience will not be allowed.
6. Speakers will be courteous in their language and presentation.
7. Only one speaker will be acknowledged at a time. In the event, a group of persons supporting or opposing the same position desires to be heard, in the interest of time, a spokesperson shall be designated to express the group's concerns. If the time period expires before all persons who have signed up get to speak, those names will be carried over to the next Town Board Meeting Public Comment Period.
8. Any action on items brought up during the public comment period will be at the discretion of the Board. The Town Board will not likely take any action on subject matter for which they have not had the opportunity to fully investigate and gather complete information.
9. The following items will not be discussed:
 - a. Public hearing items;
 - b. Candidacy of any person seeking public office;
 - c. Matters in current or anticipated litigation;
 - d. Matters which are closed session items, including, but not limited to, matters within the attorney-client privilege, anticipated or pending litigation, personnel, property acquisition and matters which are made confidential by law.
10. After the speaker has made his or her statement, he or she will be seated with no further debate, dialogue, or comment unless asked by the Town Board.
11. Any applause will be held until the end of the public comment period. Speakers shall not disrupt the meeting.

We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to working together with you for our common goal, The Success and Betterment of the Town of Mooers.

Thank you,
The Mooers Town Board