

**Town of Rumney
Board of Selectmen
79 Depot Street – P.O. Box 220
Rumney, New Hampshire**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

The primary purpose of Board of Selectmen's meetings is to conduct the business of the Town. The Board encourages residents to attend Board meetings so that they may become better acquainted with the operation and programs of the Town. All official meetings of the Board shall be open to the press and public. However, the Board reserves the right to meet and to adjourn or recess a meeting at any time. The Board also reserves the right to enter non-public session at any time, in accordance with RSA 91-A:3.

Public participation in the Board's regular meetings is a privilege that the Board has adopted in order to assure that persons who wish to appear before the Board and either discuss agenda items or who schedule an appointment to bring new matters to its attention may be heard. At the same time, in order to assure it may conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the Board adopts as policy the following procedures and rules pertaining to public participation at Board meetings.

1. The Meeting agenda will reflect a time to allow public input. The Board welcomes public input but reserves the right to limit the amount of time for input.
2. Any individual desiring to speak shall give his or her name, address, and the group, if any, that is represented.
3. The presentation should be as brief as possible. Speakers are allotted three (3) minutes per person to speak to an agenda item. Written remarks are encouraged.
4. Speakers will be allotted five (5) minutes per person to speak on non-agenda items during the public input session during the regularly scheduled meeting on the first Monday of the month.
5. Speakers may offer comments on such Town operations and programs as concern them. In public session, however, the Board will not hear personal complaints of Town personnel nor complaints against any person connected with the Town government. Other channels are provided for Board consideration and disposition of legitimate complaints involving individuals. All speakers are to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Obscene, libelous, defamatory or violent statements will be considered out of order and will not be tolerated.
6. Individuals that wish items of business brought before the Board should contact the Town Administrator to be placed upon the agenda.

The Board vests in its Chairperson or other presiding officer authority to terminate the remarks of any individuals when they do not adhere to the rules established above as to content or time limitation.

Persons appearing before the Board are reminded, as a point of information, that members of the Board are without authority to act independently as individuals in official matters. Thus, questions may be directed to individual Board members, but answers must be deferred pending consideration by the full Board. All comments and questions will be directed to the Board.

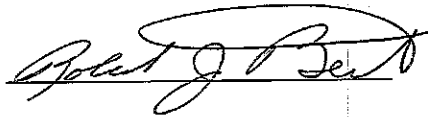
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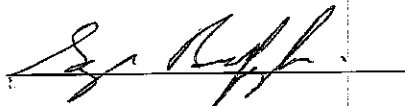
Statutory Reference:

RSA 91-A:2; Meetings Open to Public

RSA 91-A:3; Non-Public Sessions

Board of Selectmen,







Adopted: March 2, 2020

Policy 20-01