

MARCH 23 2015

RE-ADOPTED PUBLIC COMMENT POLICIES

1. Individuals must state their name and address for the record.
2. Comments or questions must be directed through the Chairman of the Board.
3. No comments by residents or the general public will be addressed in a derogatory or condescending manner to any member of the Board of Selectmen or any staff persons of the Town of Abington.
4. No personal attacks to members of the Board of Selectmen or staff will be tolerated; discussion on topics which are not on the agenda or are perceived to be personal in nature or a direct attack on the integrity or character of any member of the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager or any employee of the Town will result in an immediate end to comments by that individual through the Chairman.
5. The general public is encouraged to contact the Town Manager to attempt to resolve any issues dealing with staff or other departments before voicing such concerns to the Board of Selectmen at a public meeting.
6. Public comment is a privilege provided to the general public and not a "right". The abuse of this privilege may result in either public comment being removed or suspended by the Board, if the individual engages in:
 - Politicking or mailing political statements
 - Personal attacks
 - Failing to direct comments through the Chairman
 - Engaging in direct debate with staff
 - Public comment is not by law required at public meetings, unless such meetings are posted for public hearings, at which point, public comment is entertained and encouraged,
7. The Board of Selectmen may amend or change any items contained in this policy by a majority vote of the Board of Selectmen at a regularly posted meeting of the Board.

Policy Adjusted: _____

Date: _____

Signed: _____
Chairman, Board of Selectmen

Attested by: _____
Clerk, Board of Selectmen