PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETING

The purpose of the Brookfield Board of Selectmen’s meeting is to conduct the business of the Town. The Board reserves the right to meet and to adjourn or recess a meeting at any time. Public meetings shall be open to everyone. However, the Board also reserves the right to enter non-public session at any time in accordance with the provisions of NH RSA 91-A: 3.

POLICY

Public participation in the Board’s regular meetings may be allowed in order to hear Town-related business. At the same time, in order to assure that it may conduct its meetings properly and efficiently the Board adopts the following procedures and rules pertaining to public participation at Board meetings.

PROCEDURES AND RULES

1. If Public Input is on the agenda then Public Input will not exceed 15 minutes unless extended by vote of the majority of the Board. Each public speaker is limited to 5 minutes.
2. Public Input will be allowed only for Town-related business.
3. The Board will not consider employee / personnel matters, or matters which if discussed in public would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person. Either of these matters may be communicated to a Selectman privately.
4. The Chair of the Board conducts Public Input and receives the public commentary. The Chair will call on those wishing to be heard and only that person may provide commentary to the Chair.
5. Persons who have been recognized by the Chair to provide commentary must state their name(s), address and the issue(s) on which they wish to be heard. Persons should speak directly to the issue and as concisely and completely as possible. Those who have not been recognized by the Chair shall not direct commentary to the Board.
6. When addressing the Chair all speakers are asked to conduct themselves in an orderly and non-disruptive manner. Obscene, unduly repetitive, disruptive, discriminatory, criminally harassing or criminally threatening statements will not be tolerated from anybody at the meeting.
7. Once Public Input is finished, there will be no further commentary to the Board by individuals in the audience unless the Board Chair asks for public comment during a discussion and the speaker is formally recognized by the Board Chair.
8. The audience may not talk with one another during the Board of Selectmen’s meeting.
9. Any person whose conduct is in violation of this policy and who has caused an actual disruption of the meeting will be warned by the Chair that that person must cease and desist such behavior. Should the disrupting person’s behavior continue to cause an actual disruption after due warning, the disrupting person will be asked to leave the meeting room. If that person does not leave when asked, then the Board Chair will contact or authorize someone else to contact law enforcement and request that the disrupting person be removed from the meeting room and /or further legal action be taken as appropriate.
The above Policy is adopted and immediately effective upon signature by the Board of Selectmen.

Richard Zacher, Chairman

Date: 12/2/2020

Brian Robischeau, Vice Chairman

Date: 1/12/2021

Rick Surette, Selectman

Date: 12-06-2020

Recorded with the Town Clerk on ________________________________.