

## **RESOLUTION 2017 - 06**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LIBERTY TOWNSHIP, ADAMS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, Section 710.1 of the Sunshine Act (65 Pa.C.S. §701 et seq) provides that residents and taxpayers shall have a reasonable opportunity for public comment at each advertised regular and special meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 710 of the Sunshine Act (65 Pa.C.S. §701 et seq) permits the Board of Supervisors to adopt rules and regulations for the conduct of meetings and maintenance of order.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of Liberty Township, Adams County, Pennsylvania, that public comment shall be governed by the following rules and regulations:

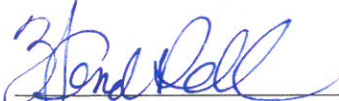
- A. There will be placed at the beginning of the agenda for each public meeting a time for residents and/or taxpayers of the Township to comment on matters of concern, official actions or deliberation which are or may be before the Board of Supervisors. Such time on the agenda shall be titled "public comment." The following guidelines are established for this portion of the public meeting:
- (1) Residents and/or taxpayers shall comment only after being recognized by the Chairman conducting the meeting.
  - (2) Residents and/or taxpayers of the Township shall stand and announce their name and address prior to addressing the Board of Supervisors.
  - (3) The Chairman may rule out-of-order scandalous, impertinent, and redundant comments, or comments the discernible purpose or effect of which is to disrupt the proceedings of the meeting.
  - (4) The Chairman may request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum. Further, the Chairman may request the assistance of law enforcement officers to remove a disorderly person when his/her conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting.
  - (5) The Chairman may call a recess or adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting.
  - (6) The Chairman may allocate available time among individuals wishing to comment.

- B. Time allocated for the public comment period at each meeting shall not exceed 30 minutes. Each speaker will be allotted up to 5 minutes to present his or her topic.
- C. Speakers are encouraged to not be redundant, and repetitive.
- D. At the discretion of the Chairman conducting the meeting, residents and/or taxpayers of the Township may comment on issues being discussed during the meeting other than during "public comment."
- E. Residents and/or taxpayers may use audio or stenographic recorders to record all or any portion of the meeting (except any executive sessions). Said recorders shall be operated from the area set aside for the general public seating and may not be placed on the Board of Supervisors' table without prior consent of the Chairman conducting the meeting.
- F. Video recorders may be used to record all or any portion of a public meeting (except any executive sessions). The operator of the recorder shall remain seated in the area set aside for the general public or stand in the rear of the room behind the general public seating area so as to not interfere in any way with the activities of the Board of Supervisors or the ability of the general public to observe the Board.
- G. The Chairman or, in his or her absence, the Vice Chairman or other appointed individual, shall preside over all meetings of the Board of Supervisors. The presiding officer shall control the order of the business and conduct of the meeting, including but not limited to public comment from Township residents and taxpayers.
- H. All statements of public comment shall be directed to the Chairman or, in his or her absence, the Vice Chairman; no participant should address or question the Board of Supervisors members, or Township Staff.
- I. Any resident and/or taxpayer proposing to operate recording equipment at the public meeting shall make a general announcement, prior to the operation of recording equipment, that the meeting shall be so recorded.
- J. In the event that there is not sufficient time for all public comments, the Board of Supervisors, at its discretion, may continue the public comment to its next regular meeting or to a special meeting occurring in advance of the next regular meeting.

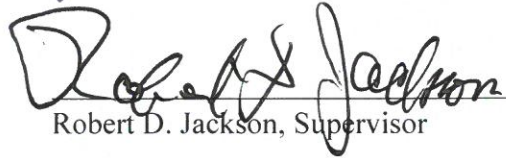
ADOPTED, this 2 day of May, 2017.

ATTEST:

**LIBERTY TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

  
Secretary/Treasurer

  
John C. Bostek, Chair

  
Robert D. Jackson, Supervisor

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Walter Barlow, Supervisor

(SEAL)