



Public Comment Policy

Per NCGS 160A-81.1, the Wadesboro Town Council is committed to allowing members of the public an opportunity to offer comments and suggestions for the efficient and effective administration of government. In addition to public hearings, a special time is set aside for the purpose of receiving such comments and suggestions during regular meetings. All comments and suggestions addressed to the Board during the Public Comment Period shall be subject to the following procedures:

- The comment period is intended to provide the Board an opportunity to hear citizens. Speakers will be expected to be civil in their language and presentation and not to engage in slander or name calling.
- Persons who wish to address the Board during the public comment period will register on a sign-up sheet. Sign-up sheets will be available in the Town Council Meeting Room thirty minutes prior to the start of the regular meeting. Speakers should place the following on the sign-up sheet: name, permanent residence, and subject matter. Speakers must sign-up in person and not be signed up by anyone else. No one will be allowed to have his or her name placed on the list by telephone request to Town Staff.
- The public comment period will be limited to a maximum of thirty (30) minutes. Each person signed up to speak will have two minutes but not more than three (3) minutes per meeting to make his/her remarks. Each speaker during the public comment period shall be limited to one opportunity to speak during each public comment section.
- The Mayor may require the designation of spokesmen for groups of persons supporting or opposing the same positions. The Mayor may also require for the selection of delegates from groups of persons supporting or opposing the same positions when the number of persons wishing to attend the hearing exceeds the capacity of the room.
- Speakers will be acknowledged by the Mayor in the order in which their names appear on the sign-up sheet. Speakers will address the Board from the lectern at the front of the room and begin their remarks by stating their name and permanent address.
- Only one speaker will be acknowledged at a time. If the time period runs out before all persons who have signed up get to speak, those names will be carried over to the next Public Comment Period at the next regular meeting.

- Public comment is not intended to require the Board to answer any impromptu questions. The Board is not obligated to respond to any speaker. Action on items brought up during the Public Comment Period will be at the complete discretion of the Board.
- Speaker will address all comments to the Board as a whole and not one individual member or individual Town staff member.
- Discussions between speakers and members of the audience will not be allowed.
- Speakers who have prepared written remarks or supporting documents are encouraged to leave a copy of such remarks and documents with the Town Clerk.
- Any applause will be held until the end of the Public Comment Period. The audience should not be disruptive during the Public Comment Period.
- The Mayor may otherwise act to maintain order and decorum during the public comment period.



MAYOR

ATTEST:



TOWN CLERK

(Seal)

