

Brown Township

Rules for Public Comment

The Brown Township Board of Trustees welcome input from township residents and the general public at its meetings. The Board is committed to an active dialogue with constituents and recognized that such dialogue must be conducted in an organized way to be productive. The following rules, intended to facilitate constructive and civil public comment, will be observed during Board of Trustees meetings.

- Speaker slips may be required at the discretion of the Board Chair. In the event they are required, speakers must turn in completed slips to the Chair or his/her designee by the designated time.
- Speakers must be recognized by the Board Chair before speaking.
- The Board Chair may recognize speakers during discussion periods for agenda items or may recognize speakers during a public comment period or may recognize no speakers at any given meeting, at her/his sole discretion.
- A speaker is to begin her/his comments by stating name and address for the record. If speaking for a group, the speaker must identify the group and indicate whether the speaker's comments represent the official view of the group.
- Speakers are to limit comments to five minutes or less. Exceptions may be made by the Board Chair.
- Speakers are to address each topic only once.
- Speakers are to address the Board, not others in attendance including township employees.
- Members of the Board may question speakers but are not obligated to answer questions or make statements or commitments in response to issues raised by speakers.
- Conversations between and among members of the audience are not permitted. Such conversations must be taken out of the meeting room.
- No disruptive or disrespectful behavior will be permitted. Any speaker demonstrating such behavior will lose the opportunity to address the Board and may be removed from the meeting room.
- The Board Chair may revoke the opportunity to provide public comment, at his/her sole discretion, for any length of time from any person who consistently violates these rules.
- These rules may be suspended at any meeting at the sole discretion of the Board Chair.

4/17/17