

**Washington Township Public Commentary Policy**  
**Approved 1/3/2011**

Public Act 96-1473 subsection 2.06(g) states; “Any person shall be permitted an opportunity to address public officials under the rules established and recorded by the public body”.

PURPOSE: This policy outlines the Washington Township rules pertaining to “Public Commentary” at any Washington Township open meeting including; ALL board meetings, committee meetings, planning & zoning meetings, workshop meetings or other meetings which may be required.

1. Public Commentary will be allowed only at the allotted time as designated on the meeting agenda. However, if appropriate, the Chairman may allow other commentary during the meeting.
2. Any person wishing to address the board MUST sign in on the meeting “Sign In” sheet and on the “Request for Public Commentary” form. Public comments will be presented in the order as they appear on the “Request for Public Commentary” form. No person signing in under an “alias” will be recognized.
3. The Chairman will allow anyone requesting to comment a reasonable amount of time to speak.
4. In the event that members of an organized group request to speak on the same topic, the Chairman will ask that ONE person speaks on behalf of the entire group and this person will be given a reasonable amount of time to speak as determined by the Chairman.
5. Abusive behavior and profanity will not be allowed. Anyone engaging in such behavior may forfeit their right to speak and may be asked to leave.

Please note that “pubic officials” are not required to engage in debate, be made available for abusive, threatening or harassing behavior or required to provide immediate answers to questions raised by the public.

**Approved this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2011**

Robert Howard  
Supervisor

**ATTEST: TRUE and CORRECT COPY**  
**Joseph Burgess - Clerk**