

TOWN OF MOUNT GILEAD

Post Office Box 325
110 West Allenton Street
Mount Gilead, North Carolina 27306
Incorporated 1899
Phone (910) 439-5111 – Fax (910) 439-1336

Mayor
Beverly A. Harris

Mayor Pro Tem
Tim McAuley

Commissioners
Vera Richardson
Paula Covington
Mary Lucas

Town Manager
David Smith

Town Clerk
Amy Roberts, CMC

Rules for Public Comment

Meeting of the Town Board of Mount Gilead always include a Public Comment period. The purpose of this time is for members of the community and the general public to make their views known directly to the Town Board. To ensure a fair proceeding for all who wish to speak, please be aware of the following rules that were unanimously adopted in December 2016, that will be observed during all public meetings:

1. All persons wishing to speak shall do so from the podium to ensure an accurate record of testimony. Each person requesting to speak shall do so by signing their name, phone number on the Public Comment sign up sheet and must provide a phone number, address, and/or email address in order. No one is permitted to speak from the audience or interact and/or question the person speaking. This is a public comment session and not a public debate. Open Meetings laws for the State of North Carolina, section 197, pg. 87., and section 239, pg. 105, agree that a Mayor nor the Board of Commissioners are allowed to respond to public comment or debate with a citizen during this time. If a response is necessary, a separate meeting can be called to discuss the issue at hand or if the answer is readily available it will be answered during Department Reports by the Town Manager.
2. Each person who has signed up to speak shall have one opportunity to speak for a period not to exceed 3 minutes in duration. The speaker will not be permitted to speak again once they leave the podium, or their 3 minutes expire.
3. The Board requests that a group be represented by a spokesperson in order to keep repetitive testimony at a minimum. If this spokesperson is representing a group of more than 5 citizens, he/she is afforded the opportunity to speak for a period not to exceed 5 minutes.
4. Town staff will note all comments and provide answers directly to citizens or make information available town-wide during department reports or at the next meeting.
5. Inflammatory or immaterial testimony will not be allowed.
6. In addition to the comment period during the public meeting, individuals can provide written comments to the Town Board of Commissioners by submitting them in writing to the Town Clerk. This can be addressed by email to clerk@mtgileadnc.com or via USPS at PO Box 325, Mt. Gilead, NC 27306.

