

Village of Barrington Hills
Finance Committee
RULES PERTAINING TO PUBLIC COMMENT

Finance Committee meetings are not Open Public Forums. Finance Committee meetings are legislative sessions held for the specific purpose of conducting the financial business of the Village and make recommendations to the Village Board of Trustees.

While the Finance Committee is not required by law to allow any members of the general public to speak at its meetings, it has allowed the public to speak at Finance Committee meetings for the limited purpose of addressing the Committee with concerns or comments regarding issues of Village's financial business. Village financial business means those matters for which the Finance Committee has the authority to make recommendations to the Village Board to act. Matters that do not pertain to Village financial business will not be heard. The rules below have been adopted to provide an efficient forum for the public to comment on Village financial business.

When addressing the Finance Committee for public comment, the following rules are to be strictly observed:

(1) Speakers are to address the Committee Chairman clearly stating the speaker's name and address before commenting.

(2) Each person desiring to speak will be allowed a single, 3 minute comment period.

(3) A maximum of 30 minutes of public comments will be accepted at each meeting. The Committee may extend the comment period at its discretion.

(4) All public comments shall be addressed to the Committee as a whole. No comments may be addressed to individual Committee Members, the Village Administrator, Village Attorney, members of Village staff or other members of the public.

(5) There shall be no debate on any issue raised during public comments. Cross-examination of speakers will not be allowed. Matters raised under public comment may be referred by the Finance Chair to the Village staff for review.

(6) Any paper or written statement which the speaker would like to present to the Committee should be submitted to the Village Clerk 48 hours prior to the meeting. No handouts will be accepted during the meeting.

(7) All members of the public addressing the Finance Committee shall, at all times, maintain proper decorum. Proper decorum includes:

a. No person shall speak until recognized by the Chair.

b. All comments shall be courteous, respectful and to the point.

c. Statements made shall not impugn motives; be contentious, slanderous or boisterous.

d. No obscene or insulting statements shall be allowed.

e. Threats or personal attacks are prohibited.

(8) Any person called out of order by the Committee Chairman shall immediately stop speaking and shall abide by the Chairman's direction.