

1. What is the most appropriate place on a Select Board agenda for members of the public to address the Select Board on any topic?

		Response Percent	Response Count
At the beginning of the meeting		10.0%	4
After routine agenda items such as approval of warrants and minutes, and communications by the Board, Town Manager and other Town employees and committees?		15.0%	6
At the end of the meeting		30.0%	12
During the discussion of a topic where they have a significant interest		37.5%	15
Not at all?		7.5%	3
	Other (please specify)		17
		answered question	40
		skipped question	5

2. The purpose of Select Board meetings is to conduct Town business in a public forum. While recognizing the importance of encouraging public input on any Town topic, the Board also has to balance this with the effective use of meeting time for the elected officials. The Board also has to insure that comments from any Town official, Town employee, or member of the public are legally appropriate and do not infringe on the rights of anyone else. To balance these interests, the Board should (select all appropriate):

		Response Percent	Response Count
Only allow comments on specific agenda items from invited speakers		12.8%	5
Occasionally allow comments from any member of the public on any topic on the agenda, if time allows and the majority of the Board agrees		56.4%	22
Inform the public about legally inappropriate statements and enforce the Board's policy on public communications		53.8%	21
Provide an opportunity for comments to the Board that is not broadcast or recorded.		41.0%	16
		answered question	39
		skipped question	6

3. Would you like to see the public communication section broadcast live?

		Response Percent	Response Count
yes		60.5%	26
no		39.5%	17
	why or why not?		27
	answered question		43
	skipped question		2

4. The Select Board has to manage meetings to protect the rights of citizens and Town employees. Inappropriate comments and remarks impugning the character of staff and residents has become an issue for the Board in the past. How do you suggest we manage meetings to protect both citizens and employees, while we do the business required to keep the Town running?

	Response Count
	38
answered question	38
skipped question	7

5. Do you watch the broadcast of Select Board Meetings?

		Response Percent	Response Count
All the time		29.5%	13
Never		34.1%	15
Occasionally		36.4%	16
	answered question		44
	skipped question		1

6. Would you like to see the Select Board hold an open forum for one hour periodically that is not broadcast live for residents to share input and concerns with us? The Board would suggest that comments, questions or concerns requiring detailed information be submitted to the Board in advance.

		Response Percent	Response Count
yes		53.5%	23
no		46.5%	20
	why or why not?		28
answered question			43
skipped question			2

7. The Board needs to ensure that meetings do not infringe on the rights of elected officials, employees and the public. What rules or guidelines should the Board use to meet this goal? Select all appropriate answers.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Limit all communications to the substance of an issue.		74.3%	26
Prohibit any expressed personal allegations, accusations, or attacks against any Town official, employee, or member of the public.		80.0%	28
Enforce through the Chair all rules or guidelines, by stopping any inappropriate communications, requesting anyone who breaks the rules to leave the meeting, or stopping the meeting entirely if needed.		85.7%	30
	Other (please specify)		17
		answered question	35
		skipped question	10

8. Which of the following methods should the Board use to clearly inform elected officials, employees and the public regarding acceptable or appropriate communications within Select Board meetings? select all appropriate answers.

		Response Percent	Response Count
A printed policy posted on the wall in meetings		93.0%	40
Handouts with the printed policy for anyone attending meetings		55.8%	24
Downloadable policy posted on the Town's website		72.1%	31
Weekly broadcasting of the policy on the PEG cable station		48.8%	21
Article run in the Community Advertiser?		34.9%	15
	Other (please specify)		12
answered question			43
skipped question			2

9. The Select Board is not required by law to tape or broadcast Select Board meetings. Would you like to see the taping stop?

		Response Percent	Response Count
yes		20.9%	9
no		79.1%	34
	why or why not?		29
answered question			43
skipped question			2

10. Information from this survey will help the Select Board decide how to conduct future meetings. Please express any comments, questions or concerns that you feel were not addressed in this survey.

	Response Count
	30
answered question	30
skipped question	15

Q1. What is the most appropriate place on a Select Board agenda for members of the public to address the Select Board on any topic?

1	QUESTION NUMBER 2 IS TOTALLY ONESIDED!! I couldn't even answer it. There is nothing that gives the citizens a chance to be heard by all of the community.	Jan 22, 2013 2:12 PM
2	This is PUBLIC office, keep everything public and above board, no more behind closed doors or midnight decisions.	Jan 15, 2013 9:45 AM
3	Before, after or both, but not during.	Jan 15, 2013 8:03 AM
4	I believe this is a nice place to let the public comment if they have something positive to speak about.	Jan 14, 2013 7:19 PM
5	At the end of the Board's discussion of a topic where the public may have a significant interest and the Board is compelled to make a decision.	Jan 6, 2013 5:44 PM
6	Note on response above: It is highly unfortunate that some members of the public repeatedly have made legally inappropriate comments, particularly regarding Town employees, during Select Board meetings. While I would prefer to see time-limited public comment during discussion of agenda items, if people cannot engage in civil discourse and follow clearly stated rules about inappropriate comments, the end of the meeting is likely the best alternative.	Jan 2, 2013 5:14 AM
7	Prior to any final vote on topics where they have a significant interest. So long as that opportunity exists, placement in a particular agenda is irrelevant.	Dec 16, 2012 9:00 PM
8	Should be able to speak on topics and also on anything that is not listed at the end of the meeting.	Dec 15, 2012 12:35 PM
9	Comments should be limited to 5 minutes per person.	Dec 12, 2012 1:42 PM
10	and during the discussion of a topic where they have significant interest.	Dec 11, 2012 7:40 PM
11	Would like to be able to speak on topics and also during open sessions on other items not on the agenda	Dec 11, 2012 1:42 PM
12	During a period for new subjects	Dec 11, 2012 6:16 AM
13	during a discussion of topic of interest and at beginning of meeting	Dec 10, 2012 6:12 PM
14	Beginning with strict time limit	Dec 10, 2012 6:11 PM
15	I think that the Selectmen should have the right to set their own agenda, and determine on an issue-by-issue basis whether or not to solicit public comment.	Dec 10, 2012 4:55 PM
16	Its more respectful to let members of the public to speak first.	Dec 10, 2012 4:40 PM
17	Selectmen's meetings should not be turned into public forums. If the Selectmen want advice or input on a particular topic they should ask the public to comment. People who show up every meeting should run for office and if elected fine. If not, then they should take up a hobby.	Dec 10, 2012 3:28 PM

Q3. Would you like to see the public communication section broadcast live?

1	Due to the inappropriate comments that have been made, using folks names, should not be broadcast.	Jan 22, 2013 2:18 PM
2	THE CITIZENS OF THIS COMMUNITY NEED TO HEAR THE IDEAS OF THEIR NEIGHBORS AND HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE THEIRS HEARD BY ALL.	Jan 22, 2013 2:12 PM
3	Isnt this PUBLIC office! not PRIVATE OFFICE!!!	Jan 15, 2013 9:45 AM
4	I don't consider that "Town business"; it is a private citizen's comment.	Jan 15, 2013 8:03 AM
5	NO, I am very tired of hearing it. I feel that this is what is separating this town. I believe that the Select Board needs to do their business and the people that work in the town office have a right from us town people to STOP the bashing of our workers.	Jan 14, 2013 7:19 PM
6	some take advantage of live broadcast make untrue	Jan 14, 2013 7:01 PM
7	There should be total transperancy, it feels like censorship when public communications are shut off.	Jan 10, 2013 12:01 PM
8	It's usually the same people complaining about the same thing. And if it's at the end I can turn it off if you decide to still broadcast.	Jan 7, 2013 12:16 PM
9	At least until such time that comments show a pattern of respect.	Jan 6, 2013 5:44 PM
10	I believe that this portion of the meetings should be broadcast, but I am not in favor of the broadcast of illegal comments about employees and citizens that should be made more privately, in accordance with established law and Town procedures. Perhaps Select Board meetings should not be broadcast live, but on a delayed basis, to permit editing to delete illegal discussion of employees and citizens, which unfairly treats those individuals.	Jan 2, 2013 5:14 AM
11	Helpful to those watching from home - can be reviewed by any and all	Jan 2, 2013 5:03 AM
12	gets too heated @ times	Dec 27, 2012 5:35 AM
13	waste of time/expense	Dec 21, 2012 6:37 AM
14	If we are going to have this section then it should be broadcast, but all folks must follow the rules.	Dec 17, 2012 3:00 PM
15	BUT only if speakers are forced to abide by rules regarding civil discourse, non-abuse of public employees, volunteers and Board members, and are making germaine comments, not simply playing to a political audience at home.	Dec 16, 2012 9:00 PM
16	Residents should be able to view and hear what is taking place in there town government.	Dec 15, 2012 12:35 PM
17	creates opportunities for "grandstanding"	Dec 14, 2012 6:46 AM
18	Not everyone is interested in what this one group of people are always complaining about	Dec 13, 2012 8:01 AM

Q3. Would you like to see the public communication section broadcast live?

19	Certain people have said some very inappropriate comments on a personal level.	Dec 12, 2012 1:42 PM
20	If I have something to bring to the board the residents have the right to be informed of the information that I bring	Dec 11, 2012 1:42 PM
21	The public in attendance can influence the viewing public with wrong statements, statements need to be verified just like the board's statements before being put out there.	Dec 11, 2012 10:29 AM
22	If you are not going to broadcast public comments, don't broadcast any of the meeting.	Dec 10, 2012 6:18 PM
23	if meetings are broadcast so should public comments	Dec 10, 2012 6:12 PM
24	Enforce rules and disallow any future comments from violators	Dec 10, 2012 6:11 PM
25	Again, it's up to the Board. If someone violates policy, cut off the cameras. I don't think that you are obligated to provide them with a forum.	Dec 10, 2012 4:55 PM
26	Not possible with satellite TV.	Dec 10, 2012 4:40 PM
27	Transparency is critical to protecting the credibility of the board and town officials	Dec 10, 2012 4:03 PM

Q4. The Select Board has to manage meetings to protect the rights of citizens and Town employees. Inappropriate comments and remarks impugning the character of staff and residents has become an issue for the Board in the past. How do you suggest we manage meetings to protect both citizens and employ...

1	Perhaps public comments could be submitted to the Board 1 or 2 days before the meeting, addressed at the meeting and not be broadcast. The public needs to be given a time limit for comments and held to it.	Jan 22, 2013 2:18 PM
2	Take legal action against violators at the taxpayers expense. They will learn.	Jan 22, 2013 2:16 PM
3	Do your job and not worry about the amount of time needed to cover the item topic. Let the public speak on each item as it is being discussed by the Board	Jan 22, 2013 2:12 PM
4	Remain professional, allow for public opinion, Regard everyone's comments as important. It takes courage to speak to the select board and if the select board gives respect eventually they will get it. The public is a reflection of the attitudes of the board. Just because people are elected does not give them any special "HIGHER LEVEL" than the citizens who attend and speak up at the town/board meetings. It is due to the public being minimized or disregarded that has led to the state of unrest that exists. The public works is gone- let it go!	Jan 15, 2013 9:45 AM
5	There must be an arbitrator with the discretion to recognize inappropriate content who is empowered to limit it/cut it off effectively.	Jan 15, 2013 8:03 AM
6	Have strict rules on allowable comments and enforce them.	Jan 15, 2013 7:39 AM
7	By keeping the public part out of the meetings. This is a meeting of the people that we have appointed to service for us. If we have issues call or speak to them (select board)	Jan 14, 2013 7:19 PM
8	The last couple of months have worked well for this and should continue.	Jan 14, 2013 7:01 PM
9	who says the select board has to protect the rights of citizens? Freedom of speech and if someone says something libelous, there will be consequences. Enforce through the Chair all rules or guidelines, by stopping any inappropriate communications, requesting anyone who breaks the rules to leave the meeting, or stopping the meeting entirely if needed.	Jan 11, 2013 9:10 AM
10	I don't think much should change from past meetings prior to the censorship of the public communications portion. They could possibly state at the beginning of the meeting that employee names should not be mentioned, but it's important that certain issues/complaints need to be addressed but without the mentioning of employee names.	Jan 10, 2013 12:01 PM
11	The people we are paying and elect to do jobs should be able to do their jobs. People who have a problem with that should not vote for them next time.	Jan 7, 2013 12:16 PM
12	If comments do not sound constructive in nature while being made, the Board Chair should cut off the commentor. Give the Chair a buzzer!	Jan 6, 2013 5:44 PM
13	non issue	Jan 4, 2013 4:55 PM
14	Insist that all parites involved with public comments and conversations be respectful of all in making such comments	Jan 3, 2013 3:46 AM
15	As noted above, I suggest that the Town explore the idea of delayed broadcast	Jan 2, 2013 5:14 AM

Q4. The Select Board has to manage meetings to protect the rights of citizens and Town employees. Inappropriate comments and remarks impugning the character of staff and residents has become an issue for the Board in the past. How do you suggest we manage meetings to protect both citizens and employ...

of Select Board meetings, with editing to remove illegal comments detrimental to Town employees and citizens. I would prefer to have live broadcast of meetings, but NOT if illegal comments are broadcast on a frequent basis. I believe that it is vey important for the Select Board to regularly and clearly state, for the benefit of attendees of its meetings and those watching the broadcasts, legal restrictions and Town policy on public comment about employees and other parties, and to immediately intervene when anyone at a meeting violates those laws or policies.

16	Stay calm and if need arises respectfully ask individual to please not make disparaging remarks and if need be ask them to stop speaking and step away from the mike until they can control themselves and relay their issues in a calm and respectful manner.	Jan 2, 2013 5:03 AM
17	Have a seperate meeting time for them every month or just when necessary.	Dec 27, 2012 5:35 AM
18	"inappropriate comments.....HAVE becomee..." Suggest private audience with citizen, then agree to what can be said publicly.	Dec 26, 2012 5:35 AM
19	The town has been taken over by a small group whose only desire is revenge on town officials...	Dec 21, 2012 6:37 AM
20	Cut off a speaker who is inappropriate AND have them leave the meeting, followed by no longer be permitted to make comments at future meetings. Process with legal action if appropriate.	Dec 17, 2012 3:00 PM
21	Make sure the rules are clearly understood; have speakers acknowledge that they understand the rules; suspend the speaking priviliges of any speaker not abiding by the rules. Clear rules, strongly enforced (not always the case now), and consequences for breaking the rules is the only way to maintain order.	Dec 16, 2012 9:00 PM
22	Remind both town officials and citizens alike about the code of appropiate behavior and if it should start any member of the board should be able to stop the speaker.	Dec 15, 2012 12:35 PM
23	do not broadcast public communication section	Dec 14, 2012 6:46 AM
24	How do other towns prevent this from happening? Is Readfield the only town that broadcast live?	Dec 13, 2012 8:01 AM
25	Anyone who wants to address should submit their comments/concerns on the Friday before the meeting. The SB should then decide if they want to address these comments/concerns.	Dec 12, 2012 1:42 PM
26	Start to follow your own rules, responsibilities and policies that are already in place. I wouls live up to purchasing policy in writing. I would try to conduct myself in a manner to regain the trust of the citizens. I wouls take my rols as select person serious and be prepared for the meetings. I would certainly take control over the only employee the board has. I would be responsible for finding out more information as a board member and not rely on only the information given to you from youe employee. If I was a board member, I would really work	Dec 11, 2012 1:42 PM

Q4. The Select Board has to manage meetings to protect the rights of citizens and Town employees. Inappropriate comments and remarks impugning the character of staff and residents has become an issue for the Board in the past. How do you suggest we manage meetings to protect both citizens and employ...

on regaining the towns respect and trust. I would change up how the current meetings are run and the positions of each member and how they come across to the public.

27	The public would need to give their question in writing prior to meeting and if a legitimate question then a board member would address the question in the last hour of the meeting.	Dec 11, 2012 10:29 AM
28	Announce that such comments are inappropriate. subject commentator to expulsion from meeting and carry out if appropriate.	Dec 11, 2012 6:16 AM
29	Allow a max of three minutes for each person to speak. Be clear about guidelines that need to be followed. Chair should be polite but firm on time and use of appropriate language etc.	Dec 10, 2012 6:18 PM
30	No comments about specific personalities should be allowed. If there is a problem with an employee it should be taken up with the town manager. If about the manager it should be discussed with select persons individually. If they feel it is still not resolve they should vote and/or run for office.	Dec 10, 2012 6:12 PM
31	Enforce rules and disallow any future comments from violators. Set time limits for public comment; only accept NEW comments, not repetitions	Dec 10, 2012 6:11 PM
32	Robert's Rules of Parliamentary Procedure. It works.	Dec 10, 2012 4:55 PM
33	Do not allow those types of personal comments. Period. Only comments on an issue. No divergence.	Dec 10, 2012 4:40 PM
34	The rights of the individual is paramount. Slander can and should be addressed in courts of law not in a public forum. Having said that, every word at a public meeting should be broadcasted and is public record.	Dec 10, 2012 4:09 PM
35	Generally, I encourage free and open discussion of issues. I have been favorably impressed with the town employees and staff over the years but recognize that others may disagree. If public discussion at a meeting does approach the point of infringing on employee rights (and I think folks working for a public entity need to pretty thick skinned), then the board should let the person know that they have crossed a line and need to refrain from further comments on the issue. The person's response will be the best indicator of how much weight their opinions and concerns should be afforded. Accordingly, all discussion should be broadcast and recorded in order that there is a clear record of how the situation has been handled. Individuals who repeatedly violate other's rights (and I hope there would be none) could be dealt with as needed and restricted from commenting if necessary.	Dec 10, 2012 4:03 PM
36	There should be opportunity to comment as time allows but not to harass, waste time or create confrontation. One or two constant critics should not be given free reign. We want good people to run for office and not be harassed.	Dec 10, 2012 3:28 PM
37	do not manage this, allow existing liability laws to prevail in this situation	Dec 10, 2012 3:27 PM
38	Act like adults.	Dec 10, 2012 3:22 PM

Q6. Would you like to see the Select Board hold an open forum for one hour periodically that is not broadcast live for residents to share input and concerns with us? The Board would suggest that comments, questions or concerns requiring detailed information be submitted to the Board in advance.

1	There would be an opportunity for the general public to express comments and concerns and time should be limited.	Jan 22, 2013 2:18 PM
2	Broadcast all meetings in full!!!!	Jan 22, 2013 2:12 PM
3	IF the select board is going to limit public input then there needs to be some way to allow for opinions that differ from the few elected officers. Broadcast on networks other than cable, many people have satellite service. Create a local network that can reach all of Readfield. Try radio signal if not TV?- for question #6 since no comment area.	Jan 15, 2013 9:45 AM
4	Wouldn't that be a town meeting?	Jan 15, 2013 8:03 AM
5	not needed	Jan 14, 2013 7:01 PM
6	it could be a way to increase input as long as it doesn't eliminate regular meetings.	Jan 14, 2013 6:21 PM
7	What do you have to hide, again total transparency.	Jan 10, 2013 12:01 PM
8	All we have to do is call the Town Office if we have a complaint. Why call a big meeting about it, I don't get it.	Jan 7, 2013 12:16 PM
9	It's worth a try if the Board can get a reasonable amount of constructive public participation.	Jan 6, 2013 5:44 PM
10	I believe that forum such as these would be seized upon as grandstanding opportunities by a small minority of possible participants.	Jan 2, 2013 5:14 AM
11	But I think this should be broadcast also so those that are unable to attend meetings can see what the issues are.	Jan 2, 2013 5:03 AM
12	do not see why it should not be broadcast	Dec 26, 2012 5:35 AM
13	good way to preserve regular SB meetings	Dec 21, 2012 6:37 AM
14	The board already spends too much time on the job. Have the public write their comments and email or mail them to the board, just like our senators and congressmen.	Dec 17, 2012 3:00 PM
15	A periodic "Open Forum with the Selectboard", not tied to a specific Board meeting or agenda, and perhaps not limited to an hour, would be a great public involvement tool... but only if time limits for individual speakers are set and enforced to ensure that all have an equal opportunity to speak.	Dec 16, 2012 9:00 PM
16	Feel an open forum would be great, but should have had another choice here to have it broadcast live when it takes place.	Dec 15, 2012 12:35 PM
17	select board members are already available via phone, letter or email to share input or concerns	Dec 14, 2012 6:46 AM
18	Problems should either be taken to the manager OR to an individual selectboard	Dec 13, 2012 8:01 AM

Q6. Would you like to see the Select Board hold an open forum for one hour periodically that is not broadcast live for residents to share input and concerns with us? The Board would suggest that comments, questions or concerns requiring detailed information be submitted to the Board in advance.

	member	
19	It should not be broadcasted, and people should have a five minute time limit.	Dec 12, 2012 1:42 PM
20	Perhaps it might be all right but I would want it telivised as I have nothing to hide. Transpasrency should be shown at all times. Having time to interact with the board would be helpful, but still needs to be broadcast.	Dec 11, 2012 1:42 PM
21	Would provide an oppportunity for presentation of new items without wasting time on frivolities.	Dec 11, 2012 6:16 AM
22	Quite a bit to ask of SB members and town staff. My guess is only those few who show and do most of the complaining would take advantage of the oppportunity.	Dec 10, 2012 6:18 PM
23	if there is interest in this it should be broadcast	Dec 10, 2012 6:12 PM
24	Yes, but huge burden on staff and board	Dec 10, 2012 6:11 PM
25	Your discretion.	Dec 10, 2012 4:55 PM
26	Every word at a public meeting should be broadcasted and is public record.	Dec 10, 2012 4:09 PM
27	Having open forums is a good idea, but only if the forum is broadcast. Again, complete openness and transparency is the only effective way to deal with these issues.	Dec 10, 2012 4:03 PM
28	It is important to allow input while keeping business moving. This may be a better way for public comment. Try it.	Dec 10, 2012 3:28 PM

Q7. The Board needs to ensure that meetings do not infringe on the rights of elected officials, employees and the public. What rules or guidelines should the Board use to meet this goal? Select all appropriate answers.

1	Let the citizens speak so all can hear. You seem to be more worried about yourselves that getting the job accomplished	Jan 22, 2013 2:12 PM
2	Roberts Rules of Order and have a true parliamentarian present for all meetings that knows and can enforce the rules of order. Remain professional- its public office not personal office. Stay professional! Public officials have the same rights as the general population- to be treated with respect in a dignified and professional manner- LEAD!	Jan 15, 2013 9:45 AM
3	All communications to be relevant to the issue.	Jan 15, 2013 8:03 AM
4	perfect	Jan 11, 2013 9:10 AM
5	There are issues/complaints that need to be addressed openly, but without specific employee names being mentioned.	Jan 10, 2013 12:01 PM
6	Again, let the elect Select Board do their jobs. Only speakers are invited speakers.	Jan 7, 2013 12:16 PM
7	all subject matter in writing prior to meeting	Jan 7, 2013 12:01 PM
8	Also, make clear what the policy/process is for personal complaints.	Jan 6, 2013 5:44 PM
9	all the above assumes chair does not abuse authority	Dec 26, 2012 5:35 AM
10	This is the board's meeting. The public needs to communicate in writing to the board members unless the topic is on the agenda.	Dec 17, 2012 3:00 PM
11	Having speakers acknowledge the understand the rules and agree to abide by them before beginning their comments. Eliminates the "I didn't know I couldn't say that" defense after the violation has occurred.	Dec 16, 2012 9:00 PM
12	Chair should not be the only one to stop someone. Any board members should be able to speak up.	Dec 15, 2012 12:35 PM
13	The chair has to become more like a leader not a dictator. Respect is given when it is received. This clearly is written for the board to answer and not for public input.	Dec 11, 2012 1:42 PM
14	All communication in writing	Dec 11, 2012 10:29 AM
15	See comments on Question 4	Dec 11, 2012 6:16 AM
16	A request to leave the meeting should only be used in cases of extreme irresponsible behavior.	Dec 10, 2012 6:18 PM
17	#3 starts to infringe on freedom of speech. However no personal attacks should be a standard requirement.	Dec 10, 2012 4:09 PM

Q8. Which of the following methods should the Board use to clearly inform elected officials, employees and the public regarding acceptable or appropriate communications within Select Board meetings? select all appropriate answers.

1	COULDN'T POSSIBLY ANSWER THIS QUESTION	Jan 22, 2013 2:12 PM
2	How about an ethics training for ALL town employees that the public is made very aware of. Take responsibility for your actions. Then follow the ethical standards of the training. With strict penalties for noncompliance. After disciplinary actions are taken, even up to removal from office if rules/policy/procedures are not followed at all times, include the town manager and all town office employees. Limit gossip and impose sanctions against town employees if they speak non-supportively or offer subjective views of any community member. That is where to start. If you want to educate the public about public etiquette that is truly sad. Educate by example! Remember the Golden Rule and you will be ok. Take the time to develop as a leadership group- give what you want to receive, RESPECT. Plan together with the community, not against it. Use your time wisely, this was a good opportunity- use the information and really take a look at not only the common ideas but the outliers as well. Develop synergy with the community. NO MORE ANGRY OUTBURSTS PUBLICLY OR PRIVATELY! Do not tolerate retaliation or expressions of anger from the town officials toward the public.	Jan 15, 2013 9:45 AM
3	e-mail	Jan 15, 2013 8:03 AM
4	Lets get real, if you are going to follow the rules you know them, if not, you do not care about them.	Jan 14, 2013 7:19 PM
5	Posting of the Golden Rule on a banner hung on the wall behind the Board's seats!	Jan 6, 2013 5:44 PM
6	reminder at beginning of meeting or beginning of pulic speaking section	Jan 2, 2013 5:03 AM
7	Include the Policy as part of Meeting Agendas posted on the Town Website (maybe on the Cover Page). Community Observer makes too many typos to rely on them to do it.	Dec 16, 2012 9:00 PM
8	Believe that you can get the word out without it costing the taxpayers more money.	Dec 15, 2012 12:35 PM
9	prohibit offenders from attending meetings	Dec 14, 2012 6:46 AM
10	At the beginning of the meeting remind those attending the meeting what the policy is.	Dec 11, 2012 7:40 PM
11	No need to spend money to make sure all understand how to act.	Dec 11, 2012 1:42 PM
12	Readfield Messenger	Dec 10, 2012 6:11 PM

Q9. The Select Board is not required by law to tape or broadcast Select Board meetings. Would you like to see the taping stop?

1	I cannot often get to meetings and I wish to stay informed as to what is happening in Readfield. What I cannot stand is for a particular faction of people to render insults to the Board and Town Manager in a public forum.	Jan 22, 2013 2:18 PM
2	We need some record to protect us against approved Selectboard minutes	Jan 22, 2013 2:12 PM
3	I would like to see the digital tapings made available for public review. Sometimes things get taken out of context and in order to review for correctness of attitude, verbiage and response quality making the tapings public would provide proof of professional conduct and would also allow for accuracy and clarification, as well as may lead to civility within the meetings. Make things more public to get a real picture of what is REALLY happening.	Jan 15, 2013 9:45 AM
4	Seems like an appropriate means of recording town business.	Jan 15, 2013 8:03 AM
5	I feel that the meetings are educational to all of us and interesting, but if we continue to use it to get 5 minutes on TV and bash people take the whole thing out. That was not the purpose of it in the first place.	Jan 14, 2013 7:19 PM
6	SB meetings should be just that	Jan 14, 2013 7:01 PM
7	Not required by law? Are you kidding me? So transparent!!!	Jan 11, 2013 9:10 AM
8	I like to watch the business part.	Jan 7, 2013 12:16 PM
9	It creates an artificial atmosphere and opportunity for the bully pulpit.	Jan 6, 2013 5:44 PM
10	I believe that the recording and broadcast (not necessarily live) is a valuable public service.	Jan 2, 2013 5:14 AM
11	It is an excellent way to keep the public informed of Town Business and issues that concern us all	Jan 2, 2013 5:03 AM
12	waste of time/expense	Dec 21, 2012 6:37 AM
13	It is good, like C-Span, to inform the public.	Dec 17, 2012 3:00 PM
14	Taping provides a good record of Board discussion, votes etc... Whether or not the tapes should be broadcast is a different issue. Broadcasting is a "nice" service to the community, but if ways to stop the ongoing abuse of public comment periods cannot be found-- and successfully implemented -- there is no need to continue to provide a "soap box" for those with personal agendas different from the civil conduct of public business. The ongoing harangues of recent months show total disrespect for town government, town officials, town employees, town volunteers and town residents. If those responsible cannot change their behavior, there is no need to provide the "expanded" public forum offered by broadcasting the meetings. Privileges abused should be privileges lost !!	Dec 16, 2012 9:00 PM
15	This is a public service to let residents watch. Stopping it would look like lack of transparency.	Dec 15, 2012 12:35 PM
16	tape okay; broadcast not necessary	Dec 14, 2012 6:46 AM

Q9. The Select Board is not required by law to tape or broadcast Select Board meetings. Would you like to see the taping stop?

17	It is just being used for grandstanding.	Dec 13, 2012 8:01 AM
18	Unfortunately, this forum has been abused by certain people. It' has given some people a soap box for their personnal agendas.	Dec 12, 2012 1:42 PM
19	Public has a right to know what is going on in town with the officials and keep it from being censored which makes it look like you are trying to hide information.	Dec 11, 2012 1:42 PM
20	Can't always watch original broadcast	Dec 11, 2012 6:16 AM
21	If the SB is taped, all appropriate public comments should also be taped.	Dec 10, 2012 6:18 PM
22	don't bother taping unless it is for broadcast	Dec 10, 2012 6:12 PM
23	How many viewers?? Quality of audio is very poor	Dec 10, 2012 6:11 PM
24	Up to you.	Dec 10, 2012 4:55 PM
25	i just wish i could watch	Dec 10, 2012 4:40 PM
26	Everything said at a public meeting is public record. The PEG was started to serve all the people of the town and should remain doing so. We have a lot of folks who can't make meetings and the re-broadcast is a valued way of knowing what is going on in our town.	Dec 10, 2012 4:09 PM
27	Openness in all governmental affairs is a good thing and broadcasting meetings is a step toward that goal.	Dec 10, 2012 4:03 PM
28	There is legitimate public interest.	Dec 10, 2012 3:28 PM
29	some people cannot attend the meeting can view it on the TV	Dec 10, 2012 3:27 PM

Q10. Information from this survey will help the Select Board decide how to conduct future meetings. Please express any comments, questions or concerns that you feel were not addressed in this survey.

1	One member of this Board clearly has their own agenda and does not behave in a way that would benefit the town of Readfield nor its employees. I believe we need to protect the town Manager and all of our truly wonderful staff from the insults, hurled their way, that I have heard when the public comments were broadcast. Broadcasting live is a free venue for those folks who just want things their way.	Jan 22, 2013 2:18 PM
2	Don't punish the whole town over the behavior of a few.	Jan 22, 2013 2:16 PM
3	First you need someone who knows how to compose a survey that takes in account both sides of the problem. Each of these question is wriiten in favor of the Board and Town Manager. This is a slap in the face to the citizens in this community. YOU SHOULD ALSO PLACE THIS SURVEY ON THE HOMEPAGE SO A CITIZEN DOES NOT HAVE TO HUNT FOR IT.	Jan 22, 2013 2:12 PM
4	Everyone in the town office should be held to the level of ethics appropriate to the scope of their job. If someone feels targeted or persecuted then there should be an intervention appropriate to the situation. Similar to other levels of government, politics has gotten out of hand. It is your job to bring them back in line. The elected town officials were elected because the public felt that you all could preserve and even raise the value of the citizens of the town of Readfield. It has become a battlefield of he said she said. STOP the fighting and listen to the public. We are trying to team up with you not fight against you. When there is fighting all possible progress is lost. Take time to sit and plan together for the future of Readfield. You know it is pathetic when anyone of us thinks we know what is right for all of us. Some things need to be done. The schools, roads, fire department, and business need to be supported. Show your support by helping the citizens to prosper. Don't look for the weak and sue all possible resources to squash them, reach out your hands, provide opportunities for others to join in and help. even others with different opinions. Are you foolish enough to think that everything you do is not seen or heard by the public? Buck up and represent the town! Unite and move forward. Follow the direction being offered and darn it WORK TOGETHER! Quit the petty bickering! Stop printing only one view - really lead by example. Multiple opinions always make for better, more well-reasoned decisions. That is why we have a town meeting form of government in Readfield!!!! If the select board feels that public opinion is not important then please take a moment and remember that it was public opinion that got you elected, with the trust and hope that you could make a positive difference in Readfield. There have been some improvements but they are overshadowed by what is apparent in this survey- I protest shutting down public opinion. If the public is outraged then you really have to take a look at the decisions over which the outrage occurs. Maybe the decisions are not in the best interest of the public...if the public is in distress. Listen with your eyes and your heart, not just your ears. Not everyone is an orator; some people need time to communicate their ideas, thoughts and feelings. Allow time for that. And finally DO WHAT IS JUST AND RIGHT!! We are all proud to live where we do and want to be able to continue to be proud, Begin righting the wrongs, make amends, acknowledge the wrongdoing, forgive and move forward. TOGETHER not to-get-her! Respectfully Submitted, Jeff Freeman	Jan 15, 2013 9:45 AM
5	I feel we should give the meeting a few months with no public input. We all have the right to contact our Select Board with any concerns. If this does not work	Jan 14, 2013 7:19 PM

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take it all off air.

6	Protecting the employees needs to be top priority. I feel some public taking advantage of live broadcast to spread untrue information.	Jan 14, 2013 7:01 PM
7	I feel the selectboard should take time to listen to the public on every issue during every meeting.	Jan 14, 2013 6:21 PM
8	We see your intentions, don't think we don't.	Jan 11, 2013 9:10 AM
9	This Board works for the residents, the residents put them in their position, they should remember that and stop trying to shut out the residents that question their decision making. The decisions that are made affect all the residents and we all should have a say. Also, question #2 should have an "Other" response for if you do not agree with the four options provided.	Jan 10, 2013 12:01 PM
10	Oh, just to much to write. I think I have said it already. The Select Board have a job to do, let them do it, thats why we vote in 5 not 1 or 2 board members.	Jan 7, 2013 12:16 PM
11	I like to watch to be informed about what is going on with my Town. Don't want to watch people's personal agenda's being aired in public!	Jan 7, 2013 12:01 PM
12	Though it has been a problem in the past and will no doubt happen in the future because it is human nature to become caught up in an issue and forget to engage a filter - we are all adults and as such need to be accountable for our actions and reactions. So if someone (whether it be town officials or citizens) becomes disrepectful then they need to be held accountable - but also need to make sure that it is truely disrepectful and not just someone perception of being disrepectful.	Jan 2, 2013 5:03 AM
13	The residents on the Sadie Dunn Road as well as other residents in town do not get the select board meetings on cable tv. It would benifit many if it could be broadcast on the web .	Dec 26, 2012 8:16 AM
14	My observation is that the problems are equally divided by heavy handiness of chair and short-sighted public members.	Dec 26, 2012 5:35 AM
15	It is really just a few folks who routinely cause problems at meetings. These folks need to be removed from any meeting where they do not follow the rules and then not permitted to speak at future meetings. Everyone else should be allowed to speak on the item on the agenda if it is value added information that could not be shared ahead of time.	Dec 17, 2012 3:00 PM
16	The need to balance the "added value" of broadcasting Selectboard meetings with the duty to ensure civil, rational discourse that does not abuse town government, town officials, town employees, town volunteers and members of the public is a delicate one. So long as Board Meetings remain open to members of the public who choose to attend, which they must by State Law, broadcasts on the Local Access Channel should be seen as an "additional offering" not a necessity. While it would be unfortunate if the opportunity for greater public outreach afforded by broadcasting the meetings were lost, the ongoing damage which can be done by those abusing the public comment	Dec 16, 2012 9:00 PM

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periods, and thereby abusing the privilege of having their comments broadcast, is of greater concern, and must be given greater consideration, in determining whether or not to continue the broadcasts. The Board should be applauded for its willingness to finally confront this issue -- whatever decision you make will anger some town residents, but the abuse of the current system must stop, regardless of the severity of the steps taken to achieve that goal.... enough is enough!

17	Number 2 is totally biased to the people and just to the Town. Number 5 Can't watch due to not having time warner cable. But read online on website whats going on. We residents continue to ask questions because I have taken the time to read your policies. The Select Board and Town Manager are creating the issues from the public comment section. If you all followed your roles and rules, you would not be being questioned by the public. Need to re-read what your rules are if you are unsure. Stop saying, I will get back to you, I don't remember, I don't recall, you were all elected to answer to the residents. Not following through with that is unacceptable as a resident. Weeks and months go by and sometimes a resident question continues to go unanswered. Is this behavior acceptable to you? Needs to be better leadership in the town.	Dec 15, 2012 12:35 PM
18	This survey suggests that the selectboard is trying to limit free speech and input from residents. The way the questions were worded looks to an attempt to lead the answers in a specic direction.	Dec 14, 2012 8:26 AM
19	The Select Board needs to return to a more civilized and professional way of conducting town business. Too much time is wasted on public comments that are usually defamatory and are not helpful in any way. Lets stop the broadcasting circus and get back to business.	Dec 14, 2012 6:46 AM
20	as it clearly isn't written for us to answer properly. you don't even want the public input on thisUnder #2Under # 5 never wach due to not having time warner cable. The board has been the one creating issues that have caused this problem to reappear. If the board followed there role and was true to fulfilling the position they were elected to do, residents would not have to question your actions. Look back at the past years tapes and review them and you will clearly see that it has been town officials, board and committee members that have slammed the public more than the public slamming them. When you clearly won't respond to a resident when they come sit up front, we could have valuable information to share on the subject you are discussing. Waiting until the end of the meeting is then to late to listen to our thoughts when you have already made a decision. This entire survey seems one sided, to the town's behalf. Why didn't you ask why we question your actions? If you were all doing your job properly you would not see the questioning by residents of your actions.	Dec 11, 2012 1:42 PM
21	The Select Board needs to conduct their business and needs to do an agenda to inform the public of business being conducted. The Select Board needs the same from the public in order to prepare for their question. All comments in writing so that the Board may be prepared with the correct answer.	Dec 11, 2012 10:29 AM
22	Please get back to having the whole meeting broadcast. Thank you for posting the survey to get input from a larger audience than just the people who go to the meetings.	Dec 10, 2012 6:18 PM

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23	would more committees, even ad hoc, be useful to defuse some of the frustration people apparently feel?	Dec 10, 2012 6:12 PM
24	Thank you!	Dec 10, 2012 6:11 PM
25	Good luck.	Dec 10, 2012 4:55 PM
26	Communication key for community and town officials	Dec 10, 2012 4:53 PM
27	Its really important to listen respectfully to every ones opinions on issues, not personal attacks.	Dec 10, 2012 4:40 PM
28	I think that Readfield is a well run town and that we have quality employees in all positions. I also think we have good people serving on our various boards and committees. Having said that, there are clearly town residents who have a different viewpoint. Their views are no less valid than mine and they should have a fair opportunity to express themselves. I think it would be a huge mistake to do anything that limits public input and involvement. Limiting public comments or not airing the comments only serves to feed the distrust that some people have in town officials and makes the situation worse, not better.	Dec 10, 2012 4:03 PM
29	There should be a way to disagree without being disagreeable.	Dec 10, 2012 3:28 PM
30	a primary job is how to select board is too listen to the opinion of the people they represent and vote accordingly they should make every effort the Select board should make every effort to listen to people live in this town	Dec 10, 2012 3:27 PM