

Privilege of the Floor Policy at Caroline Town Board Meetings

- Privilege-of-the-Floor is offered at the beginning of town meetings as an opportunity for individuals to provide input to the town board. Speakers have up to three minutes to address the board. The Town Board may curtail Privilege-of-the-Floor, set a different speaking time limit for a particular meeting, or hold public comments until a specific agenda item. Privilege-of-the-Floor will be given uniformly to all residents of the Town of Caroline and non-residents, as time permits. The Town Board will not use its authority of granting/denying Privilege-of-the-Floor for political purposes or to silence or mute a particular point of view.
- A sign-in sheet will be available prior to the meeting and the Supervisor will call speakers in order. A person can sign up only once for Privilege-of-the-Floor at a given meeting.
- The speaker shall address remarks to the Board. Written comments may also be submitted for consideration by the Board.
- Privilege-of-the-Floor is a time for sharing of perspectives and information, not a time for debate. Character assassination of any individual, derogatory remarks, profanity, interrupting or speaking over the person holding the floor, and disorderly conduct will not be tolerated, and will result in loss of “Privilege” at that meeting.
- Topics that fall within the responsibility of the Highway Department should be addressed to the Highway Superintendent apart from the Town Board Meeting.
- Topics that fall within the responsibility of the Building Department should first be addressed to the Code Enforcement Officer. Individuals may then contact and/or meet with the Supervisor if they wish.
- Questions should be directed to the Supervisor, who may either answer them or refer the questions to another town board member. The Board is not obligated to answer any questions presented at the meeting as the public will be better served with due research and thought by the town board. Questions presented in writing will be answered at a later time.