

Donna Conkling

From: Josh Frankel <j_frankel@me.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 5:42 AM
To: Clerk's Department
Subject: BoT Meeting Agendas

Mayor Hochvert:

During my 20 years in Scarsdale, agendas at Board meetings have always progressed as follows:

Roll Call
Pledge
Minutes
Bills
Mayor's Comments
Manager's Comments
Public Comments

I'm not quite recalling whether Public Hearings came immediately before or after Public Comments, but I do know that Trustee Committee and Liaison Reports have always and forever been after Public Comments. Until recently, it seems.

I tuned in to the April 24 meeting, and by 9:45PM - when I turned the TV off, as I arise at an ungodly hour - Public Comments had not yet begun.

Public Comments are a crucial, perhaps the most important, part of Board meetings, in my opinion. To push them further back on the agenda is to do the public itself a disservice, unless the intent of doing so is to actually stifle or put a chill on public participation.

This change to the agenda was obviously not random. What was its purpose?

I would urge you to reconsider the structure of the meetings and move Public Comments as high up on the agenda as possible - preferably back to immediately after Manager's Comments so that the public can have an expectation of speaking to the Board at a reasonable hour.

Thanks,

Josh

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