DELIBERATIVE SESSION RULES OF PROCEDURE

Kensington is an SB2 Community, where Town meeting business is conducted in two sessions.

The first session, in early February, is termed the deliberative session, the second is the annual ballot vote, the second Tuesday in March.

Warrant articles are presented by the Board of Selectmen, The Planning Board, and by petition from citizens

The Moderator is tasked with conducting the meeting, fielding questions from voters, and being the facilitator of debate.

In this meeting, voters are acting as the legislative body of Town government. As debate occurs, all voters are reminded that the manner and tone of speaking should be respectful and relevant to the article that is being presented. Personal attacks, discussion beyond the warrant article and disruptive behavior will not be allowed.

Planning Board articles go directly to the Ballot and are not able to be amended by the voters at the deliberative session. Discussion is allowed, and questions may be answered by Planning Board members.

All other Warrant articles are subject to the Deliberative session procedures.

Warrant articles at the deliberative meeting will be acted on as follows:

The proponent of a warrant article will be asked to discuss the article

Debate will be encouraged from the voters present. Each speaker is allowed 5 minutes and speaking a second time is allowed after all others have been given their opportunity.

To speak, you must be recognized by the Moderator, and shall state your name and address, and speak into the microphone at the podium provided. Except for points of order, the Moderator will not recognize speakers unless standing at the microphone or speaking into a handheld microphone.

Warrant articles may be amended from the floor; however, any amendment must be in written form, presented to the moderator. Amendments may not change the intent of the original warrant.

Amendments must be made by motion and require a second to be considered.

Amendments, if carried, will be placed on the ballot in lieu of the original warrant article. If the amendment is defeated, the original article will go to the ballot.

At the conclusion of the above procedure, the meeting will move to the next warrant article.

After the discussion, debate and amendments are complete, the warrant, presented as written, or amended by the voters present, will be presented to the March Ballot vote.