

How To Enjoy Being An Effective Board/Council

1. Choose a strong chair or president.
2. Have a full board/council orientation session after each election including how members are going to treat each other, working through conflict for the common good, etc.
3. Adopt a "Code of Conduct" so everyone knows the expectation of how to deal with each other, the staff and the public.
4. Read a brief statement at the start of each meeting how everyone at the meeting is expected to act.
5. Annual goal setting meeting including a reminder to all about the Code of Conduct.
6. Take a breath. Do you really need to be part of every conversation?
7. Is this issue a one or a ten? Keep things in perspective. Your community has been around for hundreds of years and faced difficult issues along the way.
8. You can't keep everyone happy but you can vote to do what you believe is in the best interest of the community.