

# Town of Auburn, Massachusetts

Julie A. Jacobson  
Town Manager



## Board of Selectmen

Scott C. Wrenn, Chairman  
Sara Ruffi, Vice Chairman  
Daniel S. Carpenter  
Steven Chambers

### Section 100

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN POLICY

### Board of Selectmen Policy Regarding Online Live-Streaming of Meetings

#### Intent:

This policy was adopted to allow the Auburn Board of Selectmen to live-stream meetings to YouTube in order to reach a wider public audience. All Board of Selectmen meetings are open to the public, however a variety of factors may impair a resident's ability to travel to Town Hall to attend these meetings in person. While the Board of Selectmen meetings are currently streamed to local access channels, not all residents have access to cable television. Additionally, residents who frequently travel for work or school may be away and unable to view the meeting in real time. By livestreaming over the internet the Board of Selectmen hopes to encourage public engagement with those previously unable, increase transparency in local government and better inform the residents of current events.

#### Definitions:

The board – The Auburn Board of Selectmen as a whole body.

- a. Starting on February 25, 2019 and every meeting following, all Board of Selectmen meetings with more than one item on the agenda shall be live streamed to YouTube when technology allows.
- b. The Board of Selectmen will not respond to comments and inquiries posted to YouTube under the live stream either during or after the meeting.
  - i. Nothing in the above clause shall be interpreted to prevent an individual member of the board from responding to comments and inquiries on their own.
  - ii. All comments made by members of the Board of Selectmen shall be in line with the board's adopted code of conduct policy.
- c. Monitoring for inappropriate comments and inquiries posted to the YouTube live stream shall be the responsibility of the Supervisor of cable and community television, information, and radio. Who shall, at their discretion, report such comments to YouTube.
- d. A link to the YouTube livestream shall be made available on the town website and shall be included in social media posts advertising the new feature. These social media posts shall be made prior to the first three (3) meetings of the Board of Selectmen in which live streaming is possible.

- i. The above clause shall not be interpreted to prevent social media posts advertising the new live streaming feature from being made after the initial three (3) meetings in which the feature is available.
- e. The YouTube livestream recordings shall be archived on the aforementioned Town of Auburn YouTube channel to allow resident viewings post live stream as is already done. The link to the video archives shall be posted on the Town of Auburn website as is already done.

*Accepted by Vote of Board of Selectmen with Revisions*

*February 11, 2019*