Provided by and posted with the permission of Michael Johnson, Superintendent, Averill Park Central Schools

## **Tips for Public Meetings**

- 1. Be an active listener when others are speaking.
- 2. Maintain eye contact with the speaker.
- 3. Ask a question if something is not clear.
- 4. Figure out the assumption(s) of the questioner correct the assumption if necessary.
- 5. Reflect the question back.
- 6. Don't answer the negative person; answer the audience (be in control of the meeting).
- 7. Receive/accept anger, hostility (and stay clam).
- 8. Look honest, be honest.
- 9. Treat all with respect, even negative people.
- 10. Anticipate the key question and prepare succinct responses beforehand.