Trustee rejects supervisor's request to restrict comments to agenda items

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In an avowed effort to keep discussions on track at Bedford Township Board meetings, Supervisor Greg Stewart has asked board members to keep their public comment time at the conclusion of meetings to just comments, rather than asking questions on nonagenda items.

The request, he said, came after conversations at meetings began straying away from the agenda

more and more often. Mr. Stewart said he would prefer for meeting time be used for idea and opinion sharing on agenda items rather than minor, tedious clarification, as those clarifications could be made prior to the meeting.

"This is to give board members uninterrupted time for comments," Mr. Stewart said.

However, Trustee Nancy Tienvieri made it clear during the board meeting Aug. 12 that she disagrees with Mr. Stewart's re-

quest, saying in an e-mail following the meeting that she believes the supervisor "has no authority" to request how board members use their comment time.

"I have told (Mr. Stewart) before and said it again that night, I will not call and discuss public business with them one on one because I believe it is deliberating away from the public view and I will not be a part of it," Mrs. Tienvieri said.