



10 TIPS FOR TOWN HALL MEETINGS

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GO WITH A FRIEND

It can be hard to speak in a hostile crowd, so go with friends and divide up roles. At least one person should ask a question and one other person should record your interaction. Keep your cell phone or camera fully charged!



PRACTICE

You can read from a card or your phone, but making eye contact is often more effective. Your audience includes the candidate AND the people around you.



DON'T ASSUME

Imagine your audience has very little background knowledge. Don't lecture. Make clear what you want the candidate to do. If a candidate says, "I'll look at that and get back to you," follow-up!



BRING A PROP

Aim to make a lasting impression on your audience like in theater. Bring something to represent your issue. Ex. Hold a water bottle and say, "This is not getting into Gaza due to our country's policies. What will you do to help?"



SIT STRATEGICALLY

Arrive early and sit close to the candidate or public microphones. If possible, spread supporters out across the room. To show strength in numbers, wear a distinguishing item.



SMILE

It could be hard, but while the candidate is speaking, smile and stare adoringly. Candidates pick up on body language and will pick folks they think are friendly to their positions.



ASK STRONG QUESTIONS

If questions are taken on cards, write different questions with different colored pens to increase your chances. For live questions, relate your question to a previous topic. Ex. "Like the last speaker, I am concerned about how our tax money is used. I don't want my taxes spent to kill Palestinians."



BE ACTIVE

Clapping for one another's questions shows the candidate that your message has broad support. Passing out information helps the audience learn and could grow your support.



DON'T GIVE UP

If your question wasn't asked, find the candidate after and shake their hand. Don't let go of their hand until you have asked your question. Get a friend to film!



DEBRIEF

Evaluate what went well and what you might do differently. Post your experience on social media. Follow up with the candidate, whether or not you got the answer you wanted. You are building a relationship – even if it isn't always friendly.