

**CITY COUNCIL/SCHOOL BOARD JOINT WORKSHOP  
MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2014**

Mayor Merrifield called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Franklin City Hall.

This meeting concerned the Right-To-Know Law as well as related items such as requirements for minutes, ethics, etc.

**In Attendance City Council & Administration**

Mayor Merrifield, City Manager Dragon, Councilor Feener, Councilor Dzujna, Councilor Clarenbach, Councilor Desrochers, Councilor Barton, Councilor Boyd, Councilor Starkweather and Councilor Giunta.

**Absent**

Councilor Cournoyer

**In Attendance School Board & Administration**

Superintendent Dr. Compton, Chair Tamara Feener, Member Ed Cogan, Member Peter Heath, Member Chad Carey, Member Timothy Dow, Member Robert A. Warner, Member Kathleen Russo, and Vice Chair Gregory Husband.

**Absent**

Member Angela Carey

Mayor Merrifield turned the meeting over to Attorney Paul Fitzgerald and Attorney Allison Ambrose. Attorney Fitzgerald

distributed a packet to everyone concerning Right-To-Know Law Materials, Section 1 The Law and Section 2 Attorney General's Memo.

Attorney Fitzgerald thanked everyone for coming and commented that the Right-To-Know Law is constantly changing and the Law applies to almost everything. He discussed what constitutes a quorum which is a simple majority and thus constitutes a meeting whether via email, telephone or in person. The question was asked if you are in a meeting and leave prior to the vote on an item, is it acceptable for that person to call and give his/her vote via telephone. Attorney Fitzgerald responded that would be up to the Mayor or Chair and if deemed as justified reason or need or leaving the meeting, it would be acceptable to allow the vote via telephone. Exceptions that would not be considered meetings would be negotiations with regard to collective bargaining; consulting with legal counsel; and if attending a social function or a chance meeting would not be considered a meeting. Also a non-public does not fall under the right-to-know and legal counsel does not have to be in attendance.

Non-Public Sessions would be to discuss personnel issues, the possible hiring of someone, things if discussed in public might hurt the reputation of someone; the possible sale or purchase of property; claims or litigation. To seal the minutes of a non-public meeting, 2/3 of the council or board must be in agreement to seal them and there is usually a policy that they will be sealed for so many years.

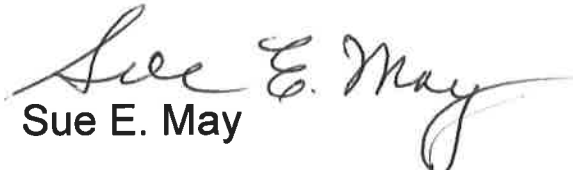
Attorney Ambrose distributed a printout titled New Hampshire's Right to Know Law, Electronic Meeting and Communications.

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Both this printout and the 71 page packet distributed by Attorney Fitzgerald will be attached to these minutes once approved by the City Council.

***Motion to adjourn made by School Board Chair Tamara Feener, seconded by Councilor Dzujna. All in favor; meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.***

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sue E. May