

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by)
William J. Curran,) Report of Hearing Officer
Complainant)
) Docket #FIC76-141
)
) September 30, 1976
)
City of Shelton and Board of)
Aldermen of the City of Shelton,)
Respondents)

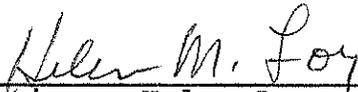
The above captioned matter was heard as a contested case on September 20, 1976, at which time the complainant and the respondents appeared and presented testimony, exhibits and argument on the complaint.

After consideration of the entire record, the following facts are found:

1. The respondents are public agencies.
2. At 7:00 p.m. on July 23, 1976, the respondent board held a special meeting.
3. By letter of complaint filed with this Commission on August 6, 1976, the complainant alleged that such meeting was held in violation of P.A. 75-342 in that the respondent board failed to provide the required notice for a special meeting.
4. The purpose of this meeting was to rescind prior motions and to consider new motions relative to activating the Charter Revision Committee of the town of Shelton.
5. Notice of the meeting in question was not posted twenty-four hours prior to the time of such meeting in the office of the Town Clerk in accordance with §6 of P.A. 75-342.
6. Respondent board contended that the meeting in question constitutes an emergency special meeting and therefore notice of a special meeting was not required.
7. The legislative policy underlying P.A. 75-342 clearly requires public notice of all meetings of public agencies except for the most compelling reasons for which an emergency special meeting may be called. It is found that the purpose of the meeting in question was not of such an emergency nature within the meaning of P.A. 75-342 as to justify failure to provide the notice required by the Act.

The following order by the Commission is hereby recommended on the basis of the record concerning the above captioned complaint:

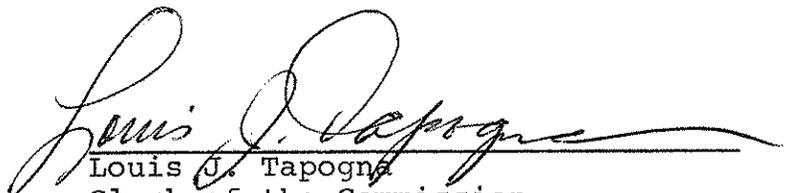
1. Henceforth, the respondent board shall strictly comply with all the provisions of P.A. 75-342 concerning the notice requirements of special meetings.



Commissioner Helen Loy

as Hearing Officer

Approved by order of the Freedom of Information Commission
on October 13, 1976.



Louis J. Tapogna
Clerk of the Commission