

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by Victoria Sharman, Complainant)	Report of Hearing Officer
)	
against)	Docket #FIC77-121
)	
Town of Montville and Board of Selectmen of the Town of)	July 27, 1977
Montville, Respondents)	
)	

The above captioned matter was heard as a contested case on July 6, 1977, at which time the complainant and the respondents appeared and presented testimony and argument on the complaint.

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

1. The respondents are public agencies as defined by §1-18a(a), G.S.

2. By letter dated May 25, 1977, the complainant requested certain information from the first selectman of the respondent board.

3. In such letter, the complainant failed to make it sufficiently clear which public records she was seeking.

4. This whole matter was brought to the Commission by letter of complaint filed herewith on June 14, 1977.

5. The confusion surrounding the aforesaid request was dispelled for the first time at the hearing herein. The complainant is seeking the following information which the respondents have agreed to provide without the necessity of the complainant's making a renewed request in writing:

a. The record of school attendance of the town assessor and the town building inspector from September 1, 1976 to August 31, 1977, which information the respondents have agreed to furnish the complainant by July 22, 1977.

b. Copies of the litigation bills of the town attorney from 1974 to present, consisting of some 25 documents, which the town has agreed to provide the complainant by July 29, 1977.

6. It is found that the complainant's request of May 25, 1977 did not constitute a request under §1-15, G.S. for plain copies of public records.

7. It is therefore concluded that the respondents have not denied the complainant her right to such copies for purposes of the within appeal.

8. It is noted that the Commission received on July 25, 1977 a copy of a letter dated July 21, 1977 from the first selectman of the respondent board to the complainant wherein the documents described in subsection b, of paragraph 5 above, describing the terms of the agreement of the parties, have already been made available to the complainant well in advance of the date set forth therein. Such prompt action on the part of the board is certainly in keeping with the spirit of the Freedom of Information Statutes.

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

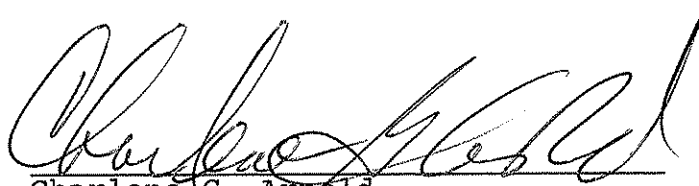
1. The complaint is hereby dismissed.



Commissioner Donald W. Friedman

as Hearing Officer

Approved by order of the Freedom of Information Commission on September 14, 1977.



Charlene G. Arnold
Clerk of the Commission