

Freedom of Information Commission  
of the State of Connecticut

In the Matter of a Complaint by )  
Edward A. Peruta, Complainant ) Report of Hearing Officer  
against ) Docket # FIC76-77  
Town of Rocky Hill and Town ) June 3, 1976  
Council of Rocky Hill,  
Respondents )

The above captioned matter was heard as a contested case on May 28, 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. On April 29, 1976, the public safety committee, a standing committee of the respondent council, consisting of three councilmen and the mayor (ex officio), was to meet to gather information to report back to the full council.
3. The respondent council consists of eight councilmen and the mayor; and a quorum thereof consists of six members.
4. Three councilmen and the mayor were present at the public safety committee meeting of April 29, 1976 (only one councilman member of the committee was present).
5. The public safety committee's function is merely information gathering and recommendatory, reporting back to the full respondent council. No other authority is delegated to the committee.
6. The meeting of April 29, 1976 was open to the public although notice of same was not given pursuant to P.A. 75-342.
7. It is concluded that the public safety committee meeting of April 29, 1976 was not a meeting of a public agency within the purview of P.A. 75-342.

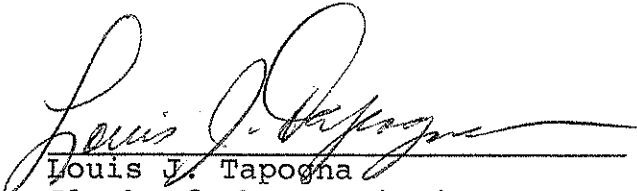
The following order by the Commission is hereby recommended on the basis of the record concerning the above captioned complaint:

1. The complaint is hereby dismissed.
2. This opinion is limited to the facts presented herein and shall not be construed as commenting upon whether meetings of committees of a public agency must comply with P.A. 75-342, except as hereinabove provided.
3. Although not required by P.A. 75-342 in this case, the Commission recommends that appropriate notice of all committee meetings of the respondent council be given as a matter of public policy.

  
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Commissioner Judith A. Lahey

as Hearing Officer

Approved by order of the Freedom of Information Commission on June 9, 1976.

  
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Louis J. Tapogna  
Clerk of the Commission