

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by) Harry A. Weide, Complainant)	Report of Hearing Officer
))	Docket #FIC76-158
))	November 5 , 1976
Town of Stratford and the Stratford) Housing Authority of the Town of) Stratford, Respondents)	

The above captioned matter was heard as a contested case on September 29, 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 as defined in §1(a) of P.A. 75-342.
2. At 8:00 p.m. on August 30, 1976, the respondent housing authority held a special meeting.
3. By letter of complaint dated September 10, 1976 and filed with this Commission on September 15, 1976 the complainant alleged that the notice to the aforesaid meeting was not posted as required by §6 of P.A. 75-342. The complainant further alleged that the respondent authority transacted business not included in the notice to the meeting.
4. The notice of the special meeting of August 30, 1976 was placed on the desk of the town clerk. This desk is located behind a service counter that separates it from incoming members of the public.
5. Item 4 of the notice stated: "And any other business that may properly come before said meeting."
6. Several matters were discussed and acted on pursuant to item 4 of the aforementioned notice at the respondent authority's August 30, 1976 meeting.
7. It is found that the notice to the August 30, 1976 meeting was not "posted" as required by §6 of P.A. 75-342.
8. It is also found that inclusion of the general

category "other business" in the notice and the discussion that ensued therefrom at the aforesaid meeting of the respondent housing authority violated §6 of P.A. 75-342. §6 of P.A. 75-342 states that the notice to a special meeting must specify the business to be transacted. Including "other business" among the business to be discussed is not specific enough and therefore does not conform to the requirements of §6.

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

1. The clerk of the respondent town shall henceforth strictly comply with the §6 requirement of P.A. 75-342 by designating an appropriate location for the posting of notice of special meetings.


2. The respondent housing authority shall henceforth strictly comply with §6 of P.A. 75-342 and shall not discuss or act upon matters other than those properly set forth in the notice of any special meeting.



Commissioner Judith Lahey

as Hearing Officer

Approved by order of the Freedom of Information Commission
on November 10, 1976.



Louis J. Tapogna
Clerk of the Commission