

RULES - AD - 1989 - 110

4/3/89

- letter to judge re: Bedminster's
alleged "closed door" meeting.
- w/ attachment

Pgs. 9

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April 3, 1984

Re: Bedminster ads Allan-Deane
Docket Nos. L-36896-70 P.W.
L-28061-71 P.W.

RECEIVED

APR 3 1984

The Honorable Eugene D. Serpentelli
Superior Court of New Jersey
Court House, CN-2191
Toms River, New Jersey 08754

My dear Judge Serpentelli:

Mr. Basralian's letter to the Court of March 30, 1984 is simply wrong: The Town never proposed a closed meeting in which Mr. Raymond was to participate. We have never done so, and we do not propose to do so.

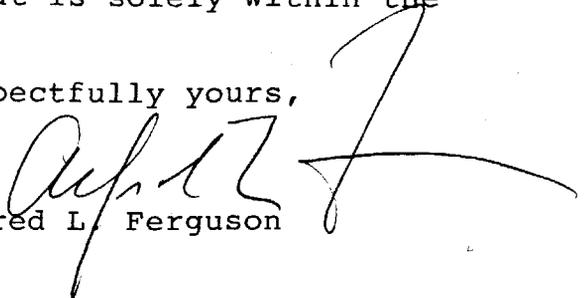
We had planned a tentative meeting which was later cancelled because of too many absences. Mr. Raymond requested a chance to explain the pending issues, as he saw them, to the Committee. I indicated to Mr. Raymond that I saw no problem in his addressing the Committee, in the open part of the meeting, a procedure we have frequently followed in the past.

Mr. Basralian's information comes from Mr. Dobbs himself, who participated in the meeting here on March 28 with Mr. O'Connor. Mr. Basralian was absent. However Mr. Dobbs came to his erroneous conclusion is irrelevant; his conclusion was wrong.

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Mr. Dobbs is once again improperly trying to obtain a court order that he be allowed to "participate" in Bedminster Township meetings. That is solely within the Committee's discretion.

Respectfully yours,


Alfred L. Ferguson

ALF/nw

cc: Henry A. Hill, Jr., Esq.
Kenneth E. Meiser, Esq.
Herbert A. Vogel, Esq.
Mr. George Raymond, AICP
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March 30, 1984

The Honorable Eugene D. Serpentelli
Superior Court of New Jersey
Court House, CN-2191
Toms River, New Jersey 08754

Re: Bedminster/Allan-Deane/Dobbs

Dear Judge Serpentelli:

It has recently come to our attention that the Bedminster Township Committee intends to conduct a closed meeting to discuss the Township's Mt. Laurel II obligation and intends to invite Mr. Raymond to attend and participate at such meeting. Although the meeting had been scheduled for next Wednesday, April 4, 1984, we understand that it may be rescheduled for a later date.

On behalf of Leonard Dobbs, we most strenuously object to Mr. Raymond's attending such a closed meeting of the Bedminster Township Committee. Not only would such a meeting be violative of the Open Public Meetings Act, but it is totally contrary to the procedures which this Court has set up in connection with this matter to date. In our view, it would be totally inappropriate for an impartial master to participate in a closed session of the municipal body. We would request the Court to direct that either Mr. Raymond not attend such a closed meeting or that such meeting be open to the public and that interested parties, including Leonard Dobbs, be able to attend and participate.

Furthermore, we wish to renew our continued objection to the failure of the parties to adhere to the schedules established by the Court.

Very respectfully,


Joseph L. Basralian

JLB/pmc

cc: Alfred L. Ferguson, Esq.
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