

Joe Colangelo

From: Garrett Baxter <gbaxter@vlct.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2013 2:06 PM
To: 'jcolangelo@hinesburg.org'
Subject: RE: interviews for committee appointments

Hi Joe,

Abby is going to post how other municipalities handle the interview process for boards and committees on the manager/administrator list serve and get back to you with that data. As for the rest of your questions, we do not have a prescribed or recommended best practice for how to make appointments to these positions however we are of the opinion that applicants for appointment to empty/vacant seats on municipal boards, committees, commissions may be interviewed in executive (closed) session under the category of "(t)he appointment or employment or evaluation of a public officer or employee." 1 V.S.A. § 313(a)(3). Utilizing executive session can aid in the full vetting of candidates and/or to prevent disclosure of potentially damaging information concerning a candidate, however whether or not a municipality avails itself of this exception to the Open Meeting Law for this purpose is probably more a function of its voters' expectations concerning the degree of transparency governing the process. Those expectations are going to vary greatly from community to community.

Sincerely,

Garrett A. Baxter

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From: Joe Colangelo [<mailto:jcolangelo@hinesburg.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2013 9:31 AM
To: Abigail Friedman
Subject: interviews for committee appointments

Dear Abby –

I would appreciate feedback from VLCT and Administrators/Managers of other communities.

In Hinesburg we interview applicants for our various Town Boards, Commissions and Committees during open session at our Selectboard meetings. I have received feedback from some applicants (or potential applicants) that the interview