

OFFICE OF THE SELECTBOARD
TOWN OF HALIFAX
P.O. BOX 127
WEST HALIFAX, VT 05358

July 3, 2020

Fabio Girelli-Carasi
3524 Deer Park Road
Brattleboro, Vermont 05301

Dear Fabio Girelli-Carasi:

Your June 26, 2020 letter to the Selectboard referenced the Board's June 23, 2020 meeting, and alleged two violations of law during that meeting; 1) that the meeting was warned without providing remote electronic access for public participation, and 2) that the meeting was held indoors with a participation in excess of 25 people.

In response to the first claim, we conferred with both the Vermont Secretary of State's Office and Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) on this topic, and were advised that when the municipality holds an open meeting in a physical location there is no statutory requirement for remote electronic access.

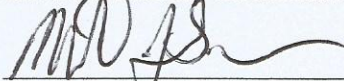
Secondly, the June 23rd meeting was an open-air gathering; the garage building's large bay doors were fully open and participants situated themselves in the bays or the outer yard, with more than ample space for social distancing. Some attendees never left their vehicles; they requested that others sign the attendance sheets for them.

Therefore the Selectboard believes, and so states, that there was no violation of Vermont open meeting law in either instance.

Sincerely,



Lewis Sumner, Chairman



Mitchell Green, Vice Chair

Bradley Rafus

Halifax Selectboard