

114 Maple Avenue
Atkinson, NH 03811
October 5, 2007

Selectman Paul Sullivan, Jack Sapia
Fred Childs: Request you refrain from discussing or voting on this complaint
21 Academy Avenue
Atkinson, New Hampshire 03811

Subject: Complaint Against Town Administrator: Request for Right-To-Know Information As Per RSA 91-A

Gentlemen:

On October 4, 2007, after following instructions from Russ McAllister's letter of September 27, 2007, I entered the Atkinson, Town Hall to scan the documents requested in my Right To Know letter dated September 24, 2007. Upon arrival, I was informed by Mrs. Snicer that Mr. McAllister **had instructed her** that I would not be allowed to make scanned copies of the material. (something I had done repeatedly before) She said I was only allowed to read them in the selectmen's office. I complained under the Right To Know law, but was told to talk to Russ. Selectman Fred Childs was present, and told me that I had to talk to Russ. When I asked where he was, I was told they did not know. Fred went to find him, and returned telling me I could scan documents, but needed to have my own generator to generate the power necessary to run my computer and scanner. When I asked Fred if I could use the outlets in the office, he told me he could not make a decision without another selectman in the office, and again directed me to Russ.

I finally found and confronted Russ in Shirley's office, and was told that he didn't live in town. He stated that he was from Portsmouth, and no taxpayer there would dare to ask to use town power, to run their computer. I again asked him if he was denying me power and the Right To Know information required by law. He finally relented, and I was allowed to proceed with our task.

I am now filing a formal complaint against Mr. McAllister, for the following reasons:

1. Attempting to deny me my rights to Right To Know material under RSA 91-A. (not the first time)
2. Instructing another town employee to deny me my rights to Right To Know material under RSA 91-A.
3. Attempting to mislead a taxpayer as to his rights.
4. Attempting to deny me electricity that the taxpayers of Atkinson pay for, in an effort to make my obtaining Right To Know information more difficult.
5. Creating a hostile environment for an Atkinson Taxpayer while he is exercising his rights.
6. Creating a hostile environment for an Atkinson employee.
7. Directing an employee to break the law while dealing with an Atkinson taxpayer.
8. Over stepping his authority as an employee of the town.
9. Misleading taxpayers as to the validity of investigating their intentions in visiting the town office.

Remedy

1. We request that Mr. McAllister (employee at will) be immediately terminated from the position he holds with the town.
2. A free copy of the Town of Atkinson employee manual be emailed to me, so as to determine what other town policies Mr. McAllister has broken.
3. A copy of this letter be put into his employee file, for future reference.
4. A hearing be held with the Ethics Committee, to determine future policy for a Town Administrator.
5. An immediate investigation into the assessing policies of the Town of Atkinson.
6. An immediate investigation into the contracts (present and past) of the Town of Atkinson.
7. Putting me on the Selectmen's meeting agenda where I can be first: To present the Abatement Summary results of 2006 in its entirety to you and the taxpayers of Atkinson on cable television.
8. Your immediate response to the Department of Revenue recommendations (or no recommendation) to the 2006 Purvis assessing contract you signed. (Mr. McAllister stated he doesn't know of any, as requested in my Right To Know letter dated September 24, 2007)
9. Selectmen's immediate written response to Ms. Elaine's Vaillancourt's letter dated August 21, 2007. (Per Rod Wood, only you can grant the additional abatement and is your responsibility only)
10. Posting this letter on the Town Office bulletin board, to warn other taxpayers of the hostile environment they are entering.

It is interesting to note that Mr. McAllister is not declaring all Right To Know information requested. We believe it begs the question: Why?

Respectfully,

Mr. Leon Artus

Atkinson Taxpayers For Fair Evaluations