



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
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25-OMD-354

November 10, 2025

In re: Lori Davenport/Ludlow City Council Finance Committee

Summary: The Ludlow City Council Finance Committee (“the Committee”) violated the Open Meetings Act (“the Act”) when it failed to issue a written response to a complaint within three business days and when it held meetings that were not open to the public.

Open Meetings Decision

On October 7, 2025, Lori Davenport (“Appellant”) submitted an inquiry to the City of Ludlow regarding the time the City Council’s Finance Committee met and her ability to attend that meeting. In response, the City stated the Committee’s meetings are not “public meetings” as defined by the Act, and therefore, are not open to the public. Subsequently, on October 8, 2025, the Appellant submitted a complaint to the Committee alleging it had violated the Act by not allowing the public to attend its meetings. On October 27, 2025, having received no response to her complaint, the Appellant initiated this appeal.

Upon receiving a complaint alleging a violation of the Act, a “public agency shall determine within three (3) business days . . . after the receipt of the complaint whether to remedy the alleged violation pursuant to the complaint and shall notify in writing the person making the complaint, within the three (3) day period, of its decision.” KRS 61.846(1). On appeal, the Committee does not address or justify its lack of response to the Appellant. Thus, the Committee violated the Act.

Turning to the merits of the appeal, a “[p]ublic agency” includes “[e]very state or local legislative board, commission, *and committee*.” KRS 61.805(2)(b). “All meetings of a quorum of the members of any public agency at which any public business is discussed or at which any action is taken by the agency, shall be public meetings, open to the public at all times.” KRS 61.810(1). On appeal, the Committee

states that it “does not dispute” the appeal and acknowledges that its meetings should have been open to the public. Therefore, the Committee violated the Act when it held meetings that were not open to the public.¹

A party aggrieved by this decision may appeal it by initiating an action in the appropriate circuit court pursuant to KRS 61.846(4)(a). The Attorney General shall be notified of any action in circuit court, but shall not be named as a party in that action or in any subsequent proceedings. The Attorney General will accept notice of the complaint emailed to OAGAppeals@ky.gov.

**Russell Coleman
Attorney General**

/s/ Zachary M. Zimmerer
Zachary M. Zimmerer
Assistant Attorney General

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Distributed to:

Lori Davenport
Laurie Sparks, City Clerk
Sarah Thompson, Mayor
Patrick Grote, Esq.

¹ The Committee also states it is pausing its meetings “until a regularly noticed time and place is established for those meetings, so that the public can attend the same.”