

# Bob Mollette

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Councilman

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Correspondence#: 09-012

May 11, 2009

Jim Kalb, Mayor  
728 Second Street  
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

**Re: 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Neighborhood Meeting held April 29, 2009**

I was pleased you were able to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Neighborhood Meeting that was held at the Portsmouth Public Library on April 29th. These informal meetings are open to the public and provide an opportunity for me to better understand the problems that affect the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward and our community. We must continue to find ways to inform and create an environment that encourages public involvement.

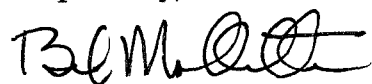
I received a request dated May 4, 2009, which was enclosed in my May 11th Council packet. Your request was for the video recording of the above meeting due to your earlier departure. Jim, I scheduled the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward meeting but I did not request or make arrangements to have the meeting recorded. The recording of that meeting was performed by a private citizen, which also records many of the public City Council Meetings. Your request for a copy of that recording will need to be made through the private citizen who recorded the event. Keep in mind anyone can record a meeting open to the public as long as it does not disrupt or interfere with that meeting.

As always, you will receive any unresolved or unanswered concerns expressed to me in a letter form for your evaluation and appropriate actions.

The Ohio Sunshine Laws are constantly being evaluated and enhanced. These evaluations and enhancements are to ensure information gathered by the government is not shielded from public view and that individuals rights remain protected to the greatest extent possible. My suggestion to you, attend an Ohio Sunshine Laws Seminar rather than sending a designee. This could help provide you a better understanding of the requirements and the information available in the Sunshine laws. It would also provide you the necessary information for determining who is a public official and what determines a public meeting.

If you have any additional questions or comments contact me.

Respectfully,



Bob Mollette, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Advocate and Representative on City Council

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cc: Jo Ann Aeh, Clerk (Record)