

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS
ISSUED THROUGH THE
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC ACCESS COUNSELOR
INDEX OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT BINDING OPINIONS
FROM 2010 TO PRESENT



OPINIONS COVERED BY THIS INDEX

2010 - 10-001 through 10-004	2016 - 16-001 through 16-015	2022 - 22-001 through 22-013
2011 - 11-001 through 11-007	2017 - 17-001 through 17-015	2023 - 23-001 through 23-017
2012 - 12-001 through 12-015	2018 - 18-001 through 18-018	2024 - 24-001 through 24-016
2013 - 13-001 through 13-018	2019 - 19-001 through 19-013	2025 - 25-001 through 25-016
2014 - 14-001 through 14-016	2020 - 20-001 through 20-010	
2015 - 15-001 through 15-015	2021 - 21-001 through 21-012	

This document is a comprehensive index of binding opinions issued by the Attorney General through the Office of the Public Access Counselor from 2010 through the present. Please note that an opinion may have been superseded by statute or case law. You should, therefore, review each opinion upon which you would rely in consultation with an attorney familiar with Illinois law.

The opinions cited in this index are available in PDF format on [this website](#). If you do not find an opinion on an issue with which you are concerned, feel free to contact the Public Access Bureau of the Office of the Attorney General (877-299-3642) to inquire regarding the existence of additional records.

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS
Issued Through the
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC ACCESS COUNSELOR
INDEX OF BINDING OMA OPINIONS
FROM 2010 TO PRESENT

current through Opinion No. 25-016
 updated January 5, 2026

SUBJECT MATTER	OPINION NUMBER (YEAR)
-----------------------	------------------------------

AGENDA:

Taking Final Action on Matters Not Included in Agenda	13-002 (2013)
Amending Agenda During 48-Hour Posting Period.....	14-003 (2014)
Taking Final Action on Matter Not on Meeting Agenda.....	15-005 (2015)
Taking Final Action on Matter Not on Meeting Agenda.....	16-015 (2016)
Taking Final Action on Matter Not Sufficiently Identified on Meeting Agenda	19-012 (2019)
Taking Final Action on Matter Not on Meeting Agenda.....	22-006 (2022)
Taking Final Action on Matter Not Sufficiently Identified on Meeting Agenda	22-008 (2022)
Requirement to Provide General Subject Matter of Personnel Transactions on Meeting Agenda.....	23-004 (2023)
Taking Final Action on Matter Not on Meeting Agenda.....	24-007 (2024)

ATTENDANCE BY MEANS OTHER THAN PHYSICAL PRESENCE:

Requirement for the Public to Contemporaneously Hear All Discussion, Testimony, and Roll Call Votes in a Meeting Held Remotely Pursuant to a Public Health Emergency	20-007 (2020)
Proper Remote Meeting During a Public Health Emergency	21-011 (2021)
Improper Remote Meeting During a Public Health Emergency.....	22-003 (2022)
Improper Remote Meetings During a Public Health Emergency.....	22-007 (2022)
Attendance by Means Other Than Physical Presence Because of Employment Purposes	24-007 (2024)

CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSION:

Improper Discussion in Closed Session of Budgetary Matters	12-011 (2012)
Improper Discussion of Proposed Ordinance in Closed Session; Requirement to Recite and Record Basis for Finding that Litigation is Probable or Imminent	12-013 (2012)
Improper Discussion of Financial Matters and Disposal of Property in a Closed Meeting.....	15-003 (2015)
Improper Discussion of Proposed Police Services Contract in Closed Session	15-005 (2015)

SUBJECT MATTER	OPINION NUMBER (YEAR)
-----------------------	------------------------------

Improper Discussion of a Hiring Freeze in a Closed Meeting	15-007 (2015)
Discussion of Legal Matters Under the Exception for Pending, Probable, or Imminent Litigation.....	16-007 (2016)
Improper Discussion of Salary Increases for City Employees in a Closed Meeting	16-013 (2016)
Discussion of Legal Matters Under the Exception for Pending, Probable, or Imminent Litigation.....	17-004 (2017) ¹
Discussion of the Conduct of a Public Body Member in Closed Session.....	17-013 (2017)
Improper Discussion of Budget and Layoffs in Closed Session.....	18-012 (2018)
Discussion of the Duties and Salaries of Elected Officials in Closed Session.....	18-015 (2018)
Discussion of the Process for Evaluating an Employee in Closed Session.....	20-004 (2020)
Improper Discussion of Matters Under the Exception for Pending, Probable, or Imminent Litigation.....	21-003 (2021)
Public Body Violated OMA by Requiring Public Comment to be Provided to Board in Closed Session	21-009 (2021)
Discussion of the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, or Performance of Specific Employees in Closed Session	22-010 (2022)
Improper Discussion of Bids for a Student Transportation Contract in Closed Session	22-010 (2022)
Improper Closed Session Discussion of New School Under the Exception for Purchasing or Leasing Real Property	22-012 (2022)
Improper Closed Session Discussion of Various Topics Under the Exception for Setting the Price For Sale or Lease of Real Property	23-005 (2023)
Improper Closed Session Discussion of Removing Book From Curriculum.....	23-016 (2023)

CLOSED SESSION PROCEDURE:

Improper Discussion of Proposed Ordinance in Closed Session; Requirement to Recite and Record Basis for Finding that Litigation is Probable or Imminent	12-013 (2012)
Duty to Record Closed Meetings	13-007 (2013) ²
Requirement to Record and Enter Into Closed Meeting Minutes Basis for Finding that Litigation is Probable or Imminent	13-008 (2013)

¹Binding opinion 17-004 was overturned on administrative review on July 15, 2019. On appeal, the Appellate Court, Fourth District, reversed the circuit court's judgment and affirmed the Attorney General's Binding Opinion. See *City of Bloomington v. Raoul*, 2021 IL App (4th) 190539 (2021).

²Overturned in other parts by the Supreme Court of Illinois in *Board of Education of Springfield School District No. 186 v. Attorney General of Illinois*, 2017 IL 120343, 77 N.E.3d 625 (2017).

SUBJECT MATTER	OPINION NUMBER (YEAR)
-----------------------	------------------------------

Failure to Cite Closed Session Exception	15-005 (2015)
Failure to Cite an Applicable Exception Before Closing a Meeting to the Public	15-007 (2015)
Requirement to Recite and Record Basis for Finding that Litigation is Probable or Imminent	21-003 (2021)
Duty to Make Verbatim Recording of Closed Session of Committee Meetings.....	21-006 (2021)
Failure to Cite an Applicable Exemption Before Closing a Meetings to the Public	22-010 (2022)
Taking Final Action in Closed Session.....	23-014 (2023)

CONVENIENT AND OPEN MEETING PLACE:

Meeting at Private Residence is Not Convenient and Open to the Public	12-008 (2012)
A Public Body's Special Meeting Held Approximately 26 Miles from its Ordinary Meeting Location is Not "Convenient and Open" to the Public.....	13-014 (2013)
Duty to Make Meetings Convenient and Open to the Public.....	24-010 (2024)

DEFINITIONS:

"Convenient"	12-008 (2012)
"Convenient"	13-014 (2013)
"Open"	12-008 (2012)
"Open"	13-014 (2013)
"Committee of the Whole"	20-001 (2020)
"Meeting".....	23-003 (2023)

FINAL ACTION:

Taking Final Action at Closed Session Prohibited	12-013 (2012)
Taking Final Action at Closed Session Prohibited	13-003 (2013)
Secret Ballots Prohibited	13-006 (2013)
Taking "Final" Action at Closed Session Prohibited	13-007 (2013) ³
Requirement to Publicly Recite Nature of Matter Being Considered and Other Information to Adequately Inform the Public of the Business Being Conducted Before Taking Final Action	13-010 (2013)

³Overturned in part by the Supreme Court of Illinois in *Board of Education of Springfield School District No. 186 v. Attorney General of Illinois*, 2017 IL 120343, 77 N.E.3d 625 (2017).

SUBJECT MATTER**OPINION NUMBER (YEAR)**

Duty to Inform the Public of the Nature of the Business Under Consideration Prior to Taking Final Action	13-016 (2013)
Failure to Sufficiently Inform the Public of the Business Being Conducted before Taking Final Action.....	14-001 (2014) ⁴
Taking Final Action on Matter Not on Meeting Agenda	15-005 (2015)
Taking Final Action on Matter Not on Meeting Agenda	16-015 (2016)
Public Recital of the Nature of the Matter Under Consideration Prior to Taking Final Action.....	19-004 (2019)
Taking Final Action on Matter Not on Meeting Agenda.....	22-006 (2022)
Taking Final Action in Closed Session.....	23-014 (2023)
Taking Final Action in Closed Session.....	24-003 (2024)
Obligation to Identify Applicant for Public Office Before Voting on Appointment.....	25-009 (2025) ⁵

ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND:

N/A

MINUTES:

Summary of Discussion Required in Minutes	13-007 (2013) ⁶
Requirement to Record and Enter Into Closed Meeting Minutes Basis for Finding that Litigation is Probable or Imminent.....	13-008 (2013)
Duty to Approve Meeting Minutes Within Time Period Specified by OMA	20-001 (2020)

NOTICE OF MEETING:

Notice of Remote Meeting During a Public Health Emergency	22-003 (2022)
Notice of Remote Meetings During a Public Health Emergency	22-007 (2022)
Notice of a Change in Regular Meeting Dates.....	24-013 (2024)

OPEN MEETINGS:

Taking Final Action at Closed Session Prohibited	12-013 (2012)
Taking Final Action at Closed Session Prohibited	13-003 (2013)

⁴Overturned by the Supreme Court of Illinois in *Board of Education of Springfield School District No. 186 v. Attorney General of Illinois*, 2017 IL 120343, 77 N.E.3d 625 (2017).

⁵The public body filed for administrative review of this opinion. *Village of Sauk Village v. Office of the Illinois Attorney General*, No. 2025CH08604 (Cir. Ct. Cook Co., filed August 19, 2025).

⁶Overturned in other parts by the Supreme Court of Illinois in *Board of Education of Springfield School District No. 186 v. Attorney General of Illinois*, 2017 IL 120343, 77 N.E.3d 625 (2017).

SUBJECT MATTER	OPINION NUMBER (YEAR)
Secret Ballots Prohibited.....	13-006 (2013)
Taking Final Action at Closed Session Prohibited; Summary of Discussion Required in Minutes	13-007 (2013)
Requirement to Publicly Recite Nature of Matter Being Considered and Other Information to Adequately Inform the Public of the Business Being Conducted Before Taking Final Action.....	13-010 (2013)
Improper Private Meeting.....	23-003 (2023)
Improper Private Meeting.....	25-011 (2025)

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Information Required of Speakers Wishing to Provide Public Comment	14-009 (2014)
Rules for Public Comment	14-012 (2014)
"Established" and Recorded Rules for Public Comment.....	19-002 (2019)
Right to Address Public Officials at a Public Meeting	19-009 (2019)
Duty to Provide Opportunity for Public Comment in Open Session	21-009 (2021)
Restriction on Public Comment is Limited to Established and Recorded Rules Governing Public Comment	23-013 (2023)

PUBLIC RECITAL:

Requirement to Publicly Recite Nature of Matter Being Considered and Other Information to Adequately Inform the Public of the Business Being Conducted Before Taking Final Action.....	13-010 (2013)
Duty to Inform the Public of the Nature of the Business Under Consideration Prior to Taking Final Action	13-016 (2013)
Failure to Sufficiently Inform the Public of the Business Being Conducted before Taking Final Action.....	14-001 (2014) ⁷
Public Recital of the Nature of the Matter Under Consideration Prior to Taking Final Action.....	19-004 (2019)
Obligation to Identify Applicant for Public Office Before Voting on Appointment.....	25-009 (2025) ⁸

RECORDING OF OPEN MEETINGS:

Right to Record an Open Meeting	12-010 (2012)
Right to Record an Open Meeting	16-014 (2016)

⁷Overturned by the Supreme Court of Illinois in *Board of Education of Springfield School District No. 186 v. Attorney General of Illinois*, 2017 IL 120343, 77 N.E.3d 625 (2017).

⁸The public body filed for administrative review of this opinion. *Village of Sauk Village v. Office of the Illinois Attorney General*, No. 2025CH08604 (Cir. Ct. Cook Co., filed August 19, 2025).

SUBJECT MATTEROPINION NUMBER (YEAR)**SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:**

Notice of a Change in Regular Meeting Dates.....24-013 (2024)

SUBSIDIARY BODIES:

Informal Committee of City is Subsidiary Body.....25-007 (2025)

VERBATIM RECORDINGS OF CLOSED SESSIONS:

Requirement to Record Closed Sessions12-013 (2012)

Duty to Record Closed Meetings13-007 (2013)⁹

⁹Overturned in other parts by the Supreme Court of Illinois in *Board of Education of Springfield School District No. 186 v. Attorney General of Illinois*, 2017 IL 120343, 77 N.E.3d 625 (2017).