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January 7, 2013

Mr. Mark Koch
500 Edith
P.O. Box 280
Sargent, NE 68874

Re: Tape Recording of Public Meetings, City of Sargent.

Dear Mr. Koch:

This letter is in response to correspondence which we received from you on December 20, 2012. In your correspondence, you complained that the village board for the City of Sargent, Nebraska, does not tape record its meetings so that minutes for those meetings can be verified. We assume that your complaint was based upon the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 84-1407 through 84-1414 (2008, Cum. Supp. 2010, Supp. 2011).

For your information, the Open Meetings Act does not require public bodies in Nebraska to record their meetings in any fashion. In fact, an amendment to the Open Meetings Act was proposed several years ago in the Nebraska Legislature which would have required such recordings by public bodies, and it failed to pass. Therefore, the City of Sargent is not required to record its meetings under the Open Meetings Act, and there is no basis for action by this office against the City under those statutes.

Thank you for contacting this office.

Sincerely,

JON BRUNING
Attorney General

Dale A. Comer
Assistant Attorney General
Chief, Legal Services Bureau

05-435-30

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