

**From:** [Bristol Clerk](#)  
**To:** [Bristol Town Administrator](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Amendments to Open Meeting Law Take Effect July 1  
**Date:** Thursday, June 13, 2024 7:03:15 AM

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FYI

Thanks.

Sharon Lucia  
Town Clerk & Asst Treasurer  
Town of Bristol  
PO Box 249  
Bristol, VT 05443  
802.453.2410 x5  
[clerk@bristolvt.org](mailto:clerk@bristolvt.org)  
[www.bristolvt.org](http://www.bristolvt.org)

**NOTE: Our office hours are Monday – Thursday - 8 am to 4:30 pm. The office is CLOSED on Fridays. Appointments are still required for research in the Land Records.**

Please note that this email message, along with any response or reply, is considered a public record, and thus, subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Law ([1 V.S.A. §§ 315-320](#)).

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**From:** VLCT <[info@vlct.org](mailto:info@vlct.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 12, 2024 1:25 PM  
**To:** Bristol Clerk <[clerk@bristolvt.org](mailto:clerk@bristolvt.org)>  
**Subject:** Amendments to Open Meeting Law Take Effect July 1

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## **[Act 133 \(S.55\) Amendments to Open Meeting Law to Take Effect July 1, 2024](#)**

VLCT's Municipal Assistance Center is feverishly updating online resources affected by the new amendments as well as developing new Act 133 (S.55) Open Meeting Law FAQs, which

will be out in advance of the law's July 1 effective date.

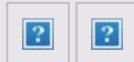
**Act 133 (S.55) is a permanent amendment to Vermont's Open Meeting Law that:**

- permits "advisory bodies" – those that do not have supervision, control, or jurisdiction over legislative, quasi-judicial, tax, or budgetary matters – to meet electronically without a physical meeting location (i.e., remotely);
- requires all other public bodies (i.e., "nonadvisory bodies") to record, in audio or video form, their meetings and post the recordings in a designated electronic location for a minimum of 30 days following the approval and posting of the official minutes of the meeting which was recorded;
- allows all public bodies to meet remotely in response to a state of emergency or "local incident";
- requires all public bodies to provide local residents, members of the press, or members of the body itself electronic/telephonic or in-person meeting access options to a regularly scheduled meeting, if requested (unless it causes an undue hardship);
- requires a municipality to post on its website (if it maintains one):
  - an explanation of the procedures for submitting notice of an Open Meeting Law violation to the public body or the Attorney General; and
  - a copy of the text of 1 V.S.A. § 314; and
- imposes annual training requirements on selectboard chairs, town managers, and mayors.

**None of these changes take effect until July 1, 2024.** Until that time, all public bodies can continue holding remote meetings (see our COVID-19 Open Meeting Law FAQs), and after that time all public bodies will continue to be able to hold hybrid meetings.

**The training requirements take effect on January 1, 2025.**

Please direct any questions you may have to [info@vlct.org](mailto:info@vlct.org) or 1-800-649-7915.



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