

June 24, 2004

Mayor Hanes Cooper
Town of Surgoinsville
P.O. Box 67
Surgoinsville, Tennessee 37873-0067

Dear Mayor Cooper,

You have asked about the ability to call a special meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Specifically, you want to know who can call such a meeting - the Mayor, City Administrator, other Aldermen, etc.?

I have checked with our attorney in Knoxville, Melissa Ashburn, about your question. I have also reviewed the Mayor Aldermanic Charter (TCA 6-1-101 et. seq.) in order to research these questions. We both agree that under your charter the only person who can call a special meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen is the Mayor. Such a meeting cannot be called by the City Administrator or by other members of the Board. If either of these individuals have items which need to be addressed by the Board, and the Mayor refuses to call a special meeting, then their only option is to wait until a regular meeting.

I hope I have answered your question. If not, or if I can provide any further detail please feel free to call.

Sincerely,

Patrick Hardy
Municipal Management Consultant

cc: MTAS Attorney Melissa Ashburn