

State of New Hampshire
PUBLIC EMPLOYEE LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

TOWN OF ALTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Petitioner

and

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE,
COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES,
COUNCIL NO. 68, AFL-CIO

CASE NO. A-0474

DECISION NO. 82-26

BOARD DECISION

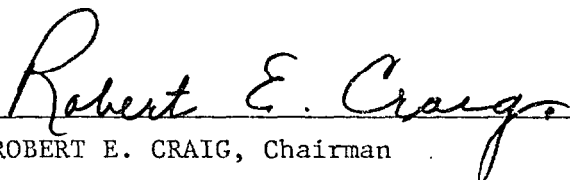
Counsel for the town of Alton filed a petition for a declaratory ruling relative to the Town's obligation to bargain with the certified representative, AFSCME, on items which would affect the 1982 Alton budget.

The Board (PELRB) considered the history of the petition for certification filed on March 25, 1981 and noted that the unit was determined by PELRB action on May 28, 1981, Decision No. 81-13, however due to the heavy workload and scheduling, the election was not conducted until October 8, 1981. The "Letter of Intent" to bargain was not filed by AFSCME with the Town until October 15, 1981, eleven days after the 120-day deadline.

RSA 273-A:3, Section II (a) is specific and states:

"Any party desiring to bargain shall serve written notice of its intention on the party at least one hundred and twenty days before the budget submission date..."

The Town, therefore, is under no obligation to bargain cost items affecting the 1982 budget; however, the policy of RSA 273-A is to foster harmonious and cooperative relationship between employers and employees and every effort should be made by both parties to negotiate in good faith.


ROBERT E. CRAIG, Chairman

Signed this 6th day of May, 1982.