

Asked Questions

LEGAL

by arrest or issuance of a warrant on the entire width of a highway and on the entire intersection of such a highway and a highway located in adjacent jurisdiction. This jurisdiction does not extend to a city or village police officer who enforces traffic regulation on both a city or village and a township road that serves as a boundary between the city/village and another city/village irrespective of whether the city or village boundary covers all or none of the boundary highway.



2. Can a member of a governmental body, as a member of the public, bring up items not specifically designated on the agenda under the period of notice requirements of the Open Meetings law?

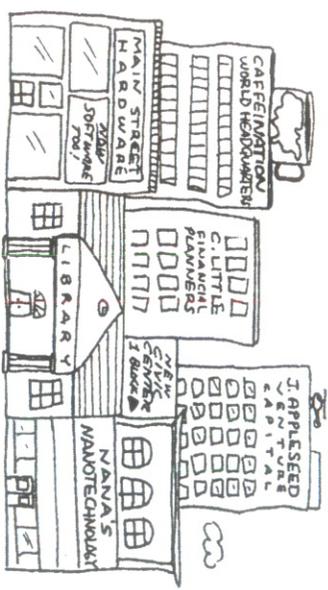
No. Wisconsin Statute sec. 19.84(2) provides a limited exception to the general notice requirements of the Open Meetings law which allows members of the public to bring up items not specifically designated on the agenda during a period of noticed public comment. It is intended to allow local governments to be responsive to their constituents and to allow the governing body to receive information from members of the public. However, it was not intended to allow members of governmental bodies to bring up items for discussion without placing the items on the agenda and giving notice to the public. Given that members of governmental bodies have ready access to agendas of the body, use by members of the public, use by members of the public, 19.82(4) exception to discuss unnoticed matters will likely be seen as an impermissible attempt to circumvent the notice requirements of the Open Meetings law.

3. Must a village or city hold a referendum election on an issue merely because a resident or group of residents requests one by petition?

No. The instances in which a resident or resident group may compel a governing body to hold a referendum election using a petition or otherwise are limited to those circumstances specified by state law or local ordinance. For example, state law requires that a referendum be held in some annexation actions if a sufficient number of qualified petitioners file a referendum petition. Wis. Stat. sec. 66.021(5)(c). Likewise, a referendum would result from a proper petition for direct legislation (see Elections 593 for an in-depth discussion of direct legislation petitions) and the governing body failure or refusal to adopt the proposed ordinance or resolution. Sec. 9.20(4), Stats. However, in the absence of a specific statute, a referendum is not required.

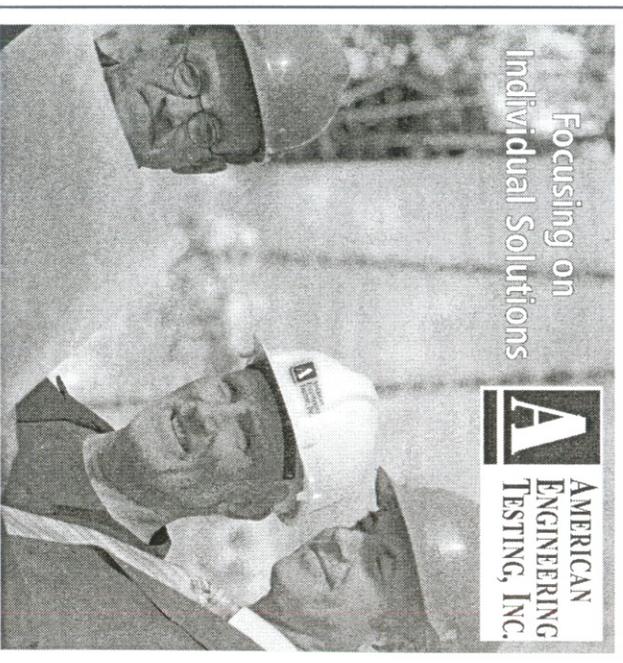
4. This question regards the statute that creates the license statute.

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