

PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF INFORMATIONAL AND LEGAL SUPPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF TERRITORIAL-PUBLIC AUTONOMY BODIES

Sergey E. Mikhailov^{1*}, Svetlana A. Utrosina², Sergey V. Dergachev³, Natalia K. Shvetsova⁴

¹Senior Lecturer, Mari State University, Russia, sergey0583@mail.ru

²Mari State University, Russia, USA_sveta@mail.ru

³Mari State University, Russia, dergachev_sv@mail.ru

⁴Mari State University, Russia, av.shvetsov@yandex.ru

*Corresponding author

Abstract

The article is devoted to the issues of interaction of such an institution as territorial public self-government with state authorities, local self-government, enterprises, institutions and organizations with the aim of developing and supporting civil initiatives at the municipal level, involving as many citizens as possible in solving local issues. Citizens are not always able to cope with emerging problems on their own. Based on the analysis of the current legislation in the field of local self-government, the experience of the bodies of territorial public self-government, the authors attempted to determine the main directions and mechanisms for supporting associations of citizens in the place of residence.

Keywords: local government, territorial public self-government, civil society, civic initiatives

1. INTRODUCTION

The municipal level of power is characterized by the greatest variability of forms of democracy (Emeshov, 2008). In recent years, the activity of non-profit associations and organizations created by citizens for implementing various issues has become noticeable. At the same time, the development of democracy and civil society as a whole depends on the functioning of public institutions at the municipal level (Mikheeva, Gornev, 2015). The main goal of their creation is to improve the quality of life. The most actual problems that concern most of us are related to living in a city, in a village or in any regional districts. These are the problems that we face every day: the quality of public services, the improvement of streets and courtyards, and the quality of roads, public order and some others. Traditionally, it is considered that these issues are

intended to be addressed by local authorities, since this duty is vested in it by law. However, this opinion is somewhat erroneous.

The consolidation of a number of powers on the issues of local importance for local government does not mean that citizens should not or are not able to participate in their solution. This opportunity is given to the most active of them by the law. Thus, Chapter 5 of the Federal Law «On General Principles of the Organization of Local Self-Government in the Russian Federation» establishes the following forms of participation of the population in the implementation of local self-government: citizens' gathering, lawmaking initiative of citizens, territorial public self-government, public hearings, citizens' meeting, citizens' conference (meeting of delegates) a survey of citizens and some others.

2. METHODOLOGY

The main research methods used by the authors are empirical, which consist of investigating the practical activities of the bodies of territorial public self-government; theoretical method, which is expressed in the study of legislation governing the implementation of territorial public self-government in the Russian Federation; method of comparative legal analysis.

3. RESULTS

The most popular was the form of citizens' participation in the implementation of local self-government called territorial public self-government, which refers to the self-organization of citizens at their place of residence on the part of the territory of the city, the inner city or the city of federal significance, the inner city area for independent and self- local issues. For example, 53rd territorial public self-government (TPSG) is currently operating in Yoshkar-Ola. TPSG can be implemented within the following boundaries: the entrance of a multi-unit residential building; apartment building; group of apartment houses; residential microdistrict; a rural settlement; other territories of residence of citizens. However, experience shows that in a number of places, for example, in Yoshkar-Ola, TPSG are created within the boundaries of an apartment building (in multi-storey buildings) and streets (in the private sector).

TPSG, as mentioned above, are created to involve citizens in solving local issues, mainly related to living in a local area. Some of them can be solved by residents independently; however, most of them require significant organizational, financial and other aids. At this point, the question consists of supporting citizens' initiatives in addressing issues of local importance. Such support can be provided by both authorities and various enterprises and institutions. For example, the Mari State University is assisting in the creation and legal support of TPSG.

Speaking about organizational support, student legal consultation held by the Faculty of Law of Mari State University assists citizens in preparing a set of documents and registration of TPSG in the city administration, and university lecturers, together with representatives of government and municipal organizations, conduct classes for TPSG on various aspects of their activities (monitoring for the quality of public services, the development of urban areas, the improvement of yards, the protection of public order, etc.).

Material and financial support of TPSG can be carried out in two directions: from budgetary and extrabudgetary sources. Extrabudgetary sources of funding the TPSG are income from contributions from residents of the relevant territory where it is carried out (contributions can be both one-time and permanent), sponsorship of individuals and business partners, and income from commercial activities. Budget sources refer to receipts from budgets of all levels, but as a rule - regional and municipal. These income can be transferred through the contract system on the basis of the Federal Law No. 44-FL of April 5, 2013 «On the contract system in the procurement of goods, works, services for ensuring state and municipal needs», in the form of subvention or grants .

The third option seems more successful, as it allows financial support for various forms of associations of citizens in the community. For example, in Yoshkar-Ola, for several years in a row, the city administration has been implementing projects to support civil initiatives and competitions for the best TPSG . The

objectives of such competitions are the development of TPSG in the territory of Yoshkar-Ola, increasing the effectiveness, stimulating and supporting public initiatives of citizens, creating conditions for the implementation of socially significant TOC projects. In 2017 to support civil initiatives the city budget allocated 1500000 roubles, which was very significant. Generally, these funds are sent to the TPSG improvement of yard areas (landscaping, parking facilities, installation of children's playgrounds) and maintenance of public order (equipping the local area with cameras connected to the Safe City system).

4. CONCLUSION

Obviously, in conditions of financial crisis, the support of the authorities by any initiative of citizens to improve the quality and comfort level of life in the municipality is especially urgent. The work of TPSG and other associations of citizens at the place of residence allows to support public interests, moods, needs and bring them to the authorities (Mikheeva, Yaichnikova, 2015).

REFERENCE LIST

- V.I. Emeshov, T.N. Mikheeva. (2008). *Problems of formation and activity of representative bodies of local self-government*. Monograph. Yoshkar-Ola, P.25.
- T.N. Mikheeva, R.V. Gornev. (2015). To the question of the formation of public councils under the bodies of local self-government. *The Russian Justice*. № 8. P.15-17.
- T.N. Mikheeva, Yaichnikova Y.S. (2015). Public Chambers of the Subjects of the Russian Federation: New Trends and Prospects. *The Legal World*. No. 1 (217). P.16.