

CITY OF STAMFORD
Board of Ethics
Stamford Government Center
(Meeting held virtually via Zoom)
June 15, 2022
Draft Minutes

This Meeting was recorded, and the audio recording is available from the Board of Ethics and the City of Stamford. Such audio recording is intended to be the official public record of the Meeting and not these minutes, and such recording is incorporated into these minutes by reference and made a part hereof. These minutes summarize the proceedings and are not intended as verbatim notes.

Present Members:

Allan Lang, Chair
Fred Springer, Member
Myrna Sessa, Member
Monica Smyth, Member
Christine Dzujna, Member
Benjamin Folkinshteyn, Member
Kevin Quinn, Alternate

Other:

Stephen Conover, Counsel
Kimberly Hawreluk, Human Resources Processing Technician
Various members of the public

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lang at 7:03 p.m.

1. Chairman Lang presented the April 27, 2022, Board of Ethics (“BOE”) Meeting Draft Minutes for review and approval. Mr. Springer moved to approve the minutes, Mr. Folkinshteyn seconded, all others in favor. The motion passed.
2. Chairman Lang invited Board of Representatives member Robert Pavia to share the issue for which he is seeking an advisory opinion: he is employed as a paraeducator for the Board of Education and is seeking guidance on the types of Board of Education matters brought before the Board of Representatives that he should abstain from voting on.

After discussion, Mr. Pavia was advised to review the conflict of interest sections of the Code of Ethics, which provide clarification on the types of situations where a conflict could exist and should be avoided. In addition, he was advised that the advisory opinion recently posted by the BOE for Representative Campbell may also prove helpful to him.

Mr. Pavia declined a written advisory opinion but was invited to come back with any specific questions he may still have for the BOE after reviewing the Code of Ethics. Mr. Springer moved to refrain from issuing an advisory opinion to Mr. Pavia, Ms. Sessa seconded, all others in favor. The motion passed.

3. Chairman Lang presented a draft of the Annual BOE Report to the Mayor and the Board of Representatives for review and approval. Minor typo corrections were suggested. In addition, Ms. Sessa suggested that we add to the report a recommendation that officers and employees of the City receive training in the near future on the Code of Ethics in light of the recent substantive changes to the Code, rather than adhere to the usual four year training schedule.

It was also recommended that similar Code training recently provided to the BOE by Corporation Counsel be made available to other boards and commissions of the City and be tailored to the needs of each board and commission. Chairman Lang moved to approve the Annual Report subject to various suggested changes, seconded by Mr. Folkinshteyn. Roll call taken, Mr. Springer opposed, all others approved, motion carried.

4. Chairman Lang noted his understanding that there is currently a candidate for the BOE making their way through the appointment process.

Chairman Lang adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Dzujna, Secretary