

CITY OF STAMFORD  
Board of Ethics  
Stamford Government Center  
(Meeting held virtually via Zoom)  
November 16, 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  
Myrna Sessa, Member  
Monica Smyth, Member  
Christine Dzujna, Member  
Benjamin Folkinshteyn, Member  
Laura Indellicati, Member  
Kevin Quinn, Alternate

**Other:**

Stephen Conover, Counsel  
Kimberly Hawreluk, Human Resources Processing Technician  
Ashley Ley, Member Board of Representatives  
Various members of the public

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lang at 7:01 p.m.

1. Mr. Folkinshteyn moved to amend the agenda to add an item, Ms. Smyth seconded, all others in favor. The motion passed. Mr. Folkinshteyn reported that a matter he, Ms. Smyth, and Ms. Indellicati are investigating requires an extension of 30 days beyond the initial deadline. He moved to extend the deadline, Ms. Dzujna seconded, all others in favor. The motion passed. Mr. Conover noted the Code of Ethics (the "Code") provisions on providing notice to those involved in the investigation; the investigating committee confirmed that it will review and follow the requirements of those provisions.
2. Chairman Lang presented the October 19, 2022, Board of Ethics (the "BOE") Meeting Draft Minutes for review and approval. Mr. Folkinshteyn moved to approve the minutes, Ms. Smyth seconded, all others in favor. The motion passed.

3. Chairman Lang invited Board of Representative member Representative Ashley Ley to share the issue for which she is seeking an advisory opinion: she was asked to join an ad-hoc community advisory committee in Stamford to support the national and global Vision Zero program that assesses and addresses roadway safety in an effort to eliminate roadway fatalities. In her professional capacity, she is employed as an urban planner with an environmental engineering and planning company. Her employer has done work on behalf of Stamford and has no objection to her joining the committee.

There is a potential that her employer might respond to an RFP but Ley would not be involved in the RFP design, review, and selection process. She has offered to remove herself from any meetings where an RFP submitted by her employer was discussed, and from any and all role or work related to such RFP. In her professional role, she has to date made it her regular practice to refrain from performing any work on behalf of her employer related to the city of Stamford so as to avoid any appearance of a conflict in her role as a member of the Board of Representatives.

Questioning of Ms. Ley and discussion among the BOE members ensued. The BOE concluded that sections 19-4, 19-5, 19-6, and 19-8 of the Code of Ethics may be triggered by Ley's role on this committee. The BOE members agreed to take this opportunity to guide Ms. Ley on certain committee roles and discussions where she should recuse herself, and to remind her that she is not to share any information with her employer that she obtains in her role on the committee. The BOE agreed that Ms. Sessa and Mr. Folkinshteyn will work together to draft an advisory opinion.

4. Chairman Lang presented for review the draft advisory opinion prepared for Board of Education Member Fritz G. Chery who appeared at the last BOE meeting. Various edits were suggested, and a question arose regarding guidance the BOE agreed upon in its prior meeting. Ms. Dzujna agreed to consult the October meeting video in order to answer the open question, and then revise the draft advisory opinion accordingly. Mr. Folkinshteyn moved to table the draft advisory opinion until the next meeting when a revised version can be presented, Ms. Smyth seconded, all others in favor. The motion passed.
5. Chairman Lang presented the proposed 2023 BOE meeting schedule. Ms. Smyth moved to approve the schedule, Ms. Dzujna seconded, all others in favor. The motion passed.

Chairman Lang adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Dzujna, Secretary