



TOWN OF HAMDEN

Final/Unapproved 08 14 2020

Board of Ethics

Minutes: The Board of Ethics, Town of Hamden held a special meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday August 11, 2020 via virtual Zoom; the following issues were discussed:

Attending: Philip G. Kent, Jean Larson, Ann Pari, and Edward Simon. Absent: Walter Rochow and Ellen Rosenthal. Also in attendance: Kathleen Schomaker, Legislative Councilperson; and Patrice LeMoine, Clerk for the Board.

1. Call to order: Mr. Kent called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting of June 2 and the special meeting of June 23, 2020. Chairman Kent entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Larson motioned to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2020 regular meeting as presented. Mr. Simon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Larson motioned to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2020 special meeting as presented. Ms. Parson seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
3. Correspondence: Mr. Kent noted the exchange of emails with Mayor Leng regarding the upload of documents to the Board of Ethics' section on the town's website. This will allow someone to view and/or download the rules and regulations, code of ethics, instructions, and application to remit an inquiry or complaint. Ms. LeMoine will send a sample for the Board to review and approve.
4. New Business:
 - a. Discussion: formal inquiry received. Mr. Kent discussed the formal inquiry received. Ms. Schomaker presented the inquiry and was in attendance this evening. Her inquiry is regarding her part-time position working for the town and as legislative councilperson. A discussion was held among the Board members and Ms. Schomaker. The Board agreed to review the information presented and will determine if there is a conflict of interest with Ms. Schomaker's position as councilwoman. The Board will review the information and draft a legal form of

opinion and share with the town attorney before August 30. Ms. Schomaker thanked the Board for their time and service.

At 7:24 p.m. Ms. Schomaker withdrew from the meeting, and at this time Ms. Judy Clark entered the meeting as an attendee.

- b. Discussion: inquiry received from the community – Mr. Kent received an inquiry regarding a possible violation of code of conduct among the members of the legislative council. There has been negative articles and messages posted on various media. Discussion was held regarding whether the members of the council have a code or level of standard to abide by. Since the Board received an inquiry, no complaint received, the Board will address this within our assembly.
5. Old Business:
- a. Continued discussion on updating Procedures and Requirements – (Discussion re Remote Attendance document) – Ms. Larson wrote to Attorney Gruen with questions regarding meetings held remotely. To-date, no response was received. Ms. Parson added that under normal circumstances, the Board of Ethics will hold meetings as noted in the draft policy. Ms. Larson agreed to go over the draft, make revisions to the policy and include remote meetings. The current executive order issued due to the pandemic will be carried outside of this policy. She will distribute the information via email.
 - b. Review and discussion of complaint form – As previously discussed, the Board will request Attorney Gruen’s approval before posting to the town’s website.
6. Next Meeting: Other than a special meeting, the regular meeting is Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
7. Adjournment: Chairman Kent requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. At 8:14 p.m.

Submitted by:

s/ Patrice A. LeMoine

Clerk for the Board of Ethics