

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF ETHICS

The Board of Ethics held a regular meeting on Thursday, February 2, 2017 at the Municipal Center, Meeting Room 3, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT. Chairman Villa called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

Present: Jackie Villa, Joyce Murty, Suzanne Copp, Laurie Kilchevsky, Kristen Provost-Switzer

Absent: Thomas Fuchs

Also Present: Town Attorney David Grogins, Ryan Knapp

Minutes: Suzanne Copp moved to approve the regular minutes of January 5, 2017, Joyce Murty seconded, motion unanimously approved.

Correspondence: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review/edit and possible presentation of proposed amendments for the administration of the Code of Ethics – Ryan Knapp informed the board that the Legislative Council Ordinance subcommittee talked about the dynamic of their charge and what the Board of Ethics is currently working on. The charter says it is of the preveue of the Ethics Board to write their own code. The Charter compels the Board of Ethics to do policy and procedures. The LC Ordinance Subcommittee's role is to support them and they made a motion to suspend discussion until they are requested from the Board of Ethics that something needs to be addressed.

A blue lined copy of the Complaint Processing Procedures was discussed with the Town Attorney, David Grogins. Ms. Murty expressed concern because a lot of the original document came from the general statutes. Dave Grogins explained that the general statues do not apply to the Town Charter. The Charter governs the code of ethics and we do not have a probably cause. If you don't have a charter, the general statute applies.

Mrs. Villa explained that the Code of Ethics is lacking but they didn't want to change it, just make it more understandable. Having the state statues to fall back on gave them an extra foundation.

The definition of probable cause was also discussed. Since the LC is looking at this and they have the ability to amend 3.03, they should say in there, in making its determination the standard of probable cause and then define probable cause.

After discussion it was decided more research is needed. There is no urgency so getting it right is better than rushing it.

Q&A can't be done until the Complaint Processing Procedures.

Public Comment – none

Having no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Arlene Miles, Clerk