

CITY OF STAMFORD
Board of Ethics
Stamford Government Center
(Meeting held virtually via Zoom)

August 16, 2023

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:

Fred Springer, Vice Chair
Monica Smyth, Member
Christine Dzujna, Member
Laura Indellicati, Member
Benjamin Folkinshteyn, Member
Dennis Torres, Member
Kevin Quinn, Alternate
Ira Stechel, Member

Other:

Kimberly Hawreluk, Human Resources & Benefits Assistant
Various members of the public

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Springer at 7:05 p.m.

1. Vice Chairman Springer presented the June 21, 2023, Board of Ethics (“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.
2. With regard to the fourth agenda item, Representative Dakary Watkins failed to appear at the meeting to present his request for an advisory opinion. Several attempts have been made to contact him in recent weeks with no response. The BOE agreed to refrain from considering his request until he appears.
3. Vice Chairman Springer introduced new BOE member Ira Stechel and invited him to share his background with the audience and reasons for joining the Board. Dennis Torres was also asked to re-introduce himself since he is a relatively new member.

4. Vice Chairman Springer raised the question of proper governance steps in filling the BOE Chair role. The Code of Ethics suggests that it is up to the BOE to decide how best to proceed. Mr. Folkinshteyn moved to appoint Mr. Springer as Chair, Mr. Torres seconded, all others in favor. The motion passed. Vice Chairman Springer asked Ms. Dzujna to continue in her role as Secretary; she agreed.
5. Vice Chairman Springer announced that Ms. Indellicati is expecting a child in October and will be taking a 3 month leave of absence from her BOE role. He suggested that her attendance records in the BOE Annual Report properly reflect that her absence at several upcoming meetings will be the result of maternity leave. Subject to consulting Mr. Conover on proper procedure, Mr. Folkinshteyn moved to approve the approach, Ms. Dzujna seconded, all others in favor. The motion passed.

Vice Chairman Springer adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Dzujna, Secretary