

CITY OF STAMFORD
Board of Ethics
Stamford Government Center

November 15, 2023

DRAFT Minutes

Hybrid Meeting: In-person & Zoom Meeting
Location: Democratic Caucus Room, 4th FL
Government Center
888 Washington, Boulevard
Stamford, CT 06901

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, Chair (*In-Person*)
Monica Smyth, Member (*Remote*)
Christine Dzujna, Member (*In-Person*)
Benjamin Folkinshteyn, Member (*In-Person*)
Dennis Torres, Member (*Remote*)
Kevin Quinn, Alternate (*In-Person*)
Ira Stechel, Member (*In-Person*)

Other:

Stephen Conover, Counsel (*Remote*)
Kimberly Hawreluk, Human Resources & Benefits Assistant (*In-Person*)

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

1. Chair Springer presented the August 16, 2023, Board of Ethics (“BOE”) Meeting Draft Minutes for review and approval. Mr. Folkinshteyn moved to approve the minutes, Mr. Quinn seconded, all others in favor. The motion passed.
2. Chair Springer presented the 2024 proposed BOE meeting dates. Subject to moving the June meeting to the 12th and the October meeting to the 9th, all members approved the calendar dates, and to continue holding meetings in a hybrid format.

3. Mr. Folkinshteyn submitted a motion to revise the agenda to add several general matters, Ms. Dzujna seconded, all others in favor. The motion passed.

Chair Springer referenced a recent article in the Stamford Advocate addressing the fact that a new Board of Representatives member is also a deputy city clerk. Concerns about a potential conflict have been raised and it has been suggested that the matter be brought before the ethics board, though it's not clear whether the reference was to the state or city board of ethics. Mr. Conover reminded the BOE that we addressed a similar dual role concern last year, though the facts in the current matter may be different. All agreed that the BOE cannot address the current matter unless it is brought to us for review by any city resident, subject to any recusal rules that may be appropriate.

Mr. Conover reminded Chair Springer about the need to rotate complaints among BOE members for investigation in a fair manner.

Chair Springer announced that BOE member Laura Indellicati gave birth to a girl in October and that the entire BOE wished to congratulate her and her family.

Mr. Folkinshteyn moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m., Mr. Dennis seconded, all others in favor. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Dzujna, Secretary