

CITY OF STAMFORD
Board of Ethics
Stamford Government Center

December 20, 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 (*Remote*)
Benjamin Folkinshteyn, Member (*In-Person*)
Dennis Torres, Member (*Remote*)
Kevin Quinn, Alternate (*In-Person*)

Other:

Stephen Conover, Counsel (*Remote*)
Kimberly Hawreluk, Human Resources & Benefits Assistant (*In-Person*)
Chanta Graham, Deputy Town Clerk & Board of Representatives member (*Remote*)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Springer at 7:04 p.m.

1. Chair Springer presented the November 15, 2023, Board of Ethics (“BOE”) Meeting Draft Minutes for review and approval. Subject to a revision suggested by Mr. Quinn, all members approved the minutes.
2. Chair Springer introduced Chanta Graham and asked that she share her request for an advisory opinion. Ms. Graham explained that several Board of Representatives colleagues raised concerns about potential conflicts of interest that could arise between her role as Deputy Town Clerk and a newly appointed member of the Board of Representatives who has also been assigned to the Public Safety, Operations, and Fiscal Committees.

Ms. Graham, is seeking guidance from the BOE on how to best avoid conflicts in her dual roles. In her role as Deputy Town Clerk, she handles all administrative tasks for the Town Clerk, including training, assistance with administrative tasks related to the budget process, payroll, and election assistance. Discussion ensued, questions were asked of Ms. Graham, and she was advised that the BOE would discuss her request and prepare an advisory opinion. Ms. Dzujna volunteered to draft the advisory opinion with assistance from Mr. Torres.

Mr. Folkinshteyn moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m., Mr. Torres seconded, all others in favor. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Dzujna, Secretary