

MINUTES

ETHICS COMMISSION

June 7, 2016

The newly appointed members of the Ethics Commission conducted meeting on **TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2016** in the Employee Lounge of the Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT pursuant to a notice duly posted.

I. Call to Order

The meeting began at 7:02PM.

Ethics Commission Members in attendance (appointed by the Stratford Town Council on April 11, 2016): Susan Birge, Thomas Kulhawik, Robert J. Chimini

Absent: Bruce Hawley

Also in attendance: Greg Cann

II. Election of Officers

After introductions the following members were nominated and elected by the members present as officers of the Ethics Commission by the members present:

Chairperson: Susan Birge

Vice Chairman: Thomas Kulhawik

Secretary: Robert Chimini

III. Review of the Ethics Code and Forms

- Chairperson Birge spoke generally concerning the Town of Stratford Ethics Code (Article IV: ETHICS CODE #08-09). She specifically noted Section 5-30:3 and the responsibility of the Ethics Commission to provide needed training of the Ethics Code to all Town of Stratford public officials and employees.
- Vice Chairman Kulhawik noted that if the Town is a member of CIRMA (Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency), that association will often provide training to municipalities on various topics. Chairperson Birge will check with CIRMA .
- Secretary Chimini noted that in 2010 the former Chief of Staff Geen Thazhampallath had drafted a pamphlet addressing the Town's Code of Ethics. Mr. Thazhampallath resigned shortly before the project was never completed. Chairperson Birge will look into resurrecting Code of Ethics Training for all Town public officials and employees. Chairperson Birge will reach out to Mayor Harkins regarding this matter.

IV. New Business

- Chairperson Birge will issue a press release to the Stratford Community of the need for additional members on the Ethics Commission and the process to apply.
- Chairperson Birge will recommend to the Town Council that going forward the Ethics Commission is made part of the vetting process for new commission members.
- It was agreed by the members present that since the Ethics Commission has been relatively "inactive" for the past two years it is now goal of the Commission to publicize to the Stratford community and inform residents that the Commission exists to serve the Town.
- Commission members were asked to prepare biographies and submit them to Chairperson Birge.

V. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Susan Birge, seconded by Tom Kulhawik. The motion passed and Chairperson Birge adjourned the meeting at 7:26PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Chimini
Secretary