

TOWN OF HUDSON

Code of Ethics Committee

7:00PM

January 11th, 2022

Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Kimberly Rice at 7:00PM in the Buxton Room at Town Hall.

Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge of allegiance was led by Chairwoman Rice.

Roll Call: Present: Kimberly Rice; Todd Terrien; Michael MacDonald and Heather Smalley. All members were present.

New Business:

Ethics Complaints Review (Delano)

Chairwoman Rice: We have received two complaints to review. We need to start the review process within 30 days of receiving the complaint. We will review them tonight and then schedule another meeting to meet with the town attorney because he was not available. I will say, this is one of the best detailed complaints we have received. The actual town codes were cited. It would help to watch the Selectmen's meeting that was cited before the next time we meet.

Ms. Smalley: Off topic slight but with respect to the minutes, can we forward the review of the minutes from last meeting to the next meeting.

Chairwoman Rice: Yes, we can as we don't have copies of the notes right now.

Mr. MacDonald: I can check my email, I believe I had done the meeting minutes last time we met.

Chairwoman Rice: I'd also like to formally nominate Mike to officially be the clerk

Motion by Chairwoman Rice, seconded by Mr. Terrien, to approve Mr. MacDonald as the Code of Ethics Committee Clerk. The motion passed 4-0.

Chairwoman Rice: Back to the complaints

Mr. MacDonald: I'd like to get the attorney's view on this matter and understand if this is truly a violation of the ethics does. If they really did pay the court fee, it sounds like there could be a conflict of interest there if you are doing something in a personal capacity that affects town business.

Chairwoman Rice: I do think we need to speak with the attorney.

Mr. Terrien: So it seems like the crux of the issue is Mr. Gagnon and Ms. Roy paying legal fees for the new selectmen.

Ms. Smalley: I'd just like to note that this is all alleged.

Chairwoman Rice: The complaint does reference video of Selectmen meetings in which the selectmen, both mention making the payments. Could the clerk contact the complainant for any additional information she has regarding the complaint?

Ms. Smalley: For all the viewers out there, I'd just like to remind people that we report to the Board of Selectmen. We have limited power to investigate and if you'd like to change that, we recommend that you draft a warrant article.

Chairwoman Rice: Yes, draft a warrant article for those people who want more accountability. We have no teeth and no budget, so our hands are tied somewhat. I will speak with the attorney and schedule the next meeting

Motion by Mr. Terrien, seconded by Mr. Mr. MacDonald, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 4-0.