## **ETHICS COMMISSION**

## Town of Colchester

## Special/Rescheduled Meeting August 11, 2021 Recreation Complex Pavilion, 6:00 p.m.

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Members present: Ursula Tschinkel, Dean Dest, John Malsbenden and Betty Wagner Member excused: Teresa Pineau.

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Ursula Tschinkel.
- 2. Motion to remove Agenda Item #2 Additions to the Agenda- by Mr. Malsbenden, second Mr. Dest. Motion carries.
- 3. Approval of Minutes:
  - a. 6/1/21: Motion by Mr. Malsbenden, second by Mrs. Wagner to approve as presented Vote: Unanimous approval.
  - b. 6/29/21: Motion by Mr. Malsbenden, second by Mrs. Wagner to approve as presented. Vote: Unanimous approval.
  - c. 7/6/21: Ms. Tschinkel made following change: Mrs. Wagner was excused from the meeting. Motion by Mr. Malsbenden accept as amended, second by Mr. Dest. Vote: three in favor. One abstention - Mrs. Wagner abstained because she had not been able to attend the meeting.
- 4. Citizen's Comments: none.
- 5. Discussion re: Town Hall.
  - a. Employee Acknowledgement Form. Ms. Tschinkel met with the new Human Resources director and was provided with a copy of the form he currently requires all new hires to sign. It covers conflict of interest more than ethics and the Commission agreed that both should be included.
  - b. Boards and Commissions. Ms. Tschinkel and Mr. Dean met with the First Selectman who commented to them that she believes that all current and any newly appointed board and commission members should sign the agreement. The copies would be kept in the Selectman's office.
- 6. Review: Draft Ordinance with Atty. Recommendations. The Commission completed review of the draft from the town attorney and added additional changes as follows:
  - a. Add heading of "Conflict of Interest." Remove "a form designated by the Ethics Commission" Take out "on a form designated by the Ethics commission." Also remove statement "declaring" and replace it with "declaration of."
  - b. No changes
  - c. Remove "this conflict of interest." Substitute "Such a declaration."
  - 53-13: Remove "The Commission shall cause", replace with "A", replace "to" with "shall." Replace "retained on file by the Town Clerk," with "placed in the Human Resources file of all town employees and retained for board and commission members by the First Selectman." In addition the following is added: "With each revision of the code, all employees and board and commission members must review the new code and sign the Ethical Conduct Agreement. "
- 7. Discuss next meeting. The commission agreed to review and revise the Ethical Conduct Agreement at the next meeting.
- 8. Citizens' Comments. None.
- 9. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn by Mr. Dest. Second by Mr. Malsbenden. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m. The next meeting will be on August 18, 2021 at 6:00 at the Rec Plex.

Respectfully submitted,

**Betty Wagner** Secretary