

Special Ethics Committee Meeting – Open Session Minutes

January 27th, 2017

Meeting called to order at 1:31pm.

Present: Carol Seacord, Brian Schiffelbein, Mary Oele, Andrew Cascini – Township attorney, Julie Smith (arriving at 1:38pm)

Carol makes a motion at 1:44 to move the meeting to a closed session pursuant to Section 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act. Brian seconded. All in favor. Motion passes by roll call vote. (Note: Party named in complaint requested Committee discussion of the complaint in closed session). The Committee entered closed session.

Committee resumed open session at 1:48. In closed session, the Committee discussed Ethics Complaint #1, filed against George Haga. The Committee concluded that Ethics Complaint #1 arguably alleged a procedural violation with respect to Committee reporting procedure (Standard of Conduct C-1), but that Mr. Haga committed no ethical violation. A second committee meeting will be held to determine whether the Committee will make recommendations regarding further action to remedy issues with reporting procedure.

Brian made a motion for the Committee to hold an additional meeting to make recommendations regarding the procedural violation, but to dismiss any ethical violation alleged against Mr. Haga in Complaint #1. Julie seconds the motion. All in favor. Motion passes.

Carol motioned at 1:56 to go back into closed session pursuant to Section 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act. Brian seconded. All in favor. Motion passes by roll call vote. (Note: Party named in complaint requested Committee discussion of the complaint in closed session). The Committee entered closed session.

Committee resumed open session at 2:16. In closed session, the Committee discussed Ethics Complaint #2, filed against Fire Chief David Murray. The Committee concluded that the employment/personnel investigation conducted by Attorney Andrew Cascini from Miller Johnson has adequately covered all the cited ethical violations alleged in Ethics Complaint #2 against Fire Chief David Murray. The Committee does not intend to duplicate work that has already been completed.

Brian motions for the Committee to conclude that ethical violations named in the complaint against David Murray (Standard of Conduct B-1-c; B-2-b; B-2-c) are sustained, but were covered in the investigation by the attorney. Julie seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

Julie motions for the Committee to proceed on the ethical violations by holding an additional meeting including George Haga and David Murray to discuss the inclusion of the Committee in further discussions related to any future ethical violations by Mr. Murray related to the issues identified in Complaint #2. Brian seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

Mary motions to adjourn the meeting at 2:18pm. Brian seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

Next meeting is February 10, 2017 at 2:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Seacord