

MINUTES
ETHICS COMMISSION

TOWN OF WINDHAM
REGULAR MEETING

THURSDAY, November 12, 2015

Present: Mike Sikoski, Chairman; John McGrath, Secretary; Robin Dixon-Rouse; Peter Hughes; Joshua Eves

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. at the Windham Town Hall, second floor conferenceroom.

The minutes of the August 13, 2015 regular meeting were approved unanimously as presented. Motion by Peter Hughes; Seconded by Joshua Eves seconded; Peter Hughes and Robin Dixon- Rouse abstained.

The minutes of the September 8, 2015 special meeting were approved unanimously as presented. Motion by John McGrath; Seconded by Joshua Eves seconded.

Mike Sikoski moved to add item 8a to the agenda. John McGrath moved; Joshua Eves seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

Motion was made by John McGrath to add to next month's agenda the scheduling of regular meetings of the Ethics Commission for the 2016 calendar year. Seconded by Robin Dixon-Rouse.. Motion was unanimously approved.

No ethics complaints were received since the last meeting.

There was a general discussion of the special meeting with the town council. It was noted that there appears to be a belief that having ethics language in a union contract means that a town employee is not subject to the town's ethics ordinance. This was not the interpretation of the ethics committee members. There was a discussion of changing the ethics ordinance to reflect the interpretation that the town's ethics ordinance is not applicable to a town employee who is a member of a union and whose union contract contains ethics provisions. No motion was made.

There will be a special meeting of the Ethics Commission on December 16, 2015 in a joint meeting with the Board of Education at 7:00 p.m. at Windham High School media center.

Under Old Business the committee discussed the ongoing preparation of handout summarizing the ethics complaint process. Joshua Eves is continuing to work on this project with Peter Hughes. The committee will place this on the agenda for the next regular meeting.

Under New Business there was discussion of creating a complaint form which could be accessed through the town's website. Peter Hughes made a motion to have such a form prepared. John McGrath seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

The chairman brought to the attention of the members that the terms of Peter Hughes, Robin Dixon-Rouse and John McGrath are scheduled to terminate in December. All three agreed to continue to serve if their appointments were renewed by the mayor and the town council.

The committee will discuss preparation for the joint meeting with the Board of Education at the regular December meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on December 10th, 2015 at the second floor conference room of the Windham town hall.

Submitted by John McGrath, Secretary
November 23, 2015