

BOARD OF ETHICS

June 17, 2024

Special Meeting – 8:15 pm

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
MELWINTON, CT

2024 OCT 23 PM 12: 18

Lynne S. Marci
Town Clerk

I. Call to Order

Chairman Lyn Connery called the Board of Ethics Committee Special Meeting to order at 8:17 pm.

II. Roll Call & Determine Quorum

Commissioners Present

(Ellen) Lyn Connery

Robert Gerrol

Edwin Zacharias

Nancy Cappello

Kristen Wagner

Frank Marci

Commissioners Absent

Mary Camilli

Spencer Lombard

We do have a quorum.

III. Public Participation

None.

IV. Remarks by Board Members

Frank Marci asked if the Board was going to have a second public participation, Chairman Lyn Connery stated no, only one. Robert Gerrol asked if the Board was going to have an Executive Session, Chairman Lyn Connery answered no and advised to make remarks during Remarks by Boards Members and to remember not to name any names. Robert Gerrol stated that he has to name names otherwise what he has to say isn't going to make any sense. Chairman Lyn Connery asked if he could say complaint and respondent. Robert Gerrol stated that he wanted to talk about the testimony of the last respondent and asked if this was the time to do that, you can't name names. Chairman Lyn Connery stated that she was under the impression that the Commission had a discussion and tonight was going to be the vote, any conversation didn't need to happen because that was the feeling of the Board. Robert Gerrol stated that it didn't make any sense to him because there are some things that he would like to mention but he can't say

names and is confused as to how to get his point across. Frank Marci stated that this should have happened at the last meeting, they all went around the table during Executive Session and everybody had a chance during Executive Session last time to voice their feelings. Robert Gerrol stated no Frank, that's not what I'm saying, I've had time to think about what we talked about last week but there are other issues that I want to mention about the discussion we had and the discussion I want to bring up but if you don't want me to say anything, fine. Robert Gerrol stated if we're here just to do a vote, fine then lets just do a vote but that's not right. Chairman Lyn Connery stated that they will go through the agenda and will schedule another meeting for Executive Session. Robert Gerrol stated that he thinks they are through with meetings and won't be saying it to anyone and that'll be the end of it. Frank Marci stated that we had the opportunity to say our piece around the table at the end of Executive Session. Chairman Lyn Connery stated that she thinks Robert Gerrol had time to think about it and has more comments. Frank Marci asked if he was changing his position, Robert Gerrol replied that he is not changing anything, I thought about what went on at the session we had and I have other things to mention that I think we should consider but perhaps its just my opinion about something and perhaps it really doesn't matter at all because I know what the vote's going to be so I guess it doesn't matter. Chairman Lyn Connery stated that she would be happy to schedule another meeting for Executive Session, Robert Gerrol replied that it was not worth it, forget it.

Chairman Lyn Connery asked if anyone had remarks. Frank Marci stated that he bumped into one of the respondents, their case has been resolved, he brought up an interesting point to me, years ago we came up with this complaint form which was meant to give an opportunity to make a complaint to the Board of Ethics and to have a proper channel to do so. Frank stated it was brought to his attention that we should also consider having a form so that if someone does file a complaint, we should then be able to notify a respondent that a complaint has been filed against you based on X, Y and Z, you have X amount of days to say your piece because the Board will be meeting at a later date to discuss whether or not the complaint needs to move into an investigative point because right now as we have it, anybody can make a complaint against anybody, really its very easy to move that into an investigation but we should have the opportunity for somebody else to say "hey this is really what happened" this way the Board can see both sides of the story before the Board decides to move it into an investigation. Frank stated they went to a situation, the complaints were leaked, people's reputations were called into question, it was very uncomfortable for the respondents, we saw stress that it caused, I think it would make sense to hear both sides before moving into an investigation.

Chairman Lyn Connery asked, do we have any other remarks by board members. No additional remarks were made.

V. Approve Minutes
A. May 28, 2024

Chairman Connery made a motion to approve minutes from May 28, 2024, seconded by Frank Marci, all were in favor, none opposed. Motion passed.

VI. Complaint #4

Chairman Connery made a Motion that the Newington Board of Ethics finds that Complaint #4 filed on 10/10/2023 was found not to have established probable cause that a breach of ethics and violation of the Newington Code of Ethics took place.

Roll Call Vote

(Ellen) Lyn Connery- Agree
Robert Gerrol- Disagree
Edwin Zacharias- Agree
Nancy Cappello- Agree
Kristen Wagner- Agree
Frank Marci- Agree

Motion carries, 5-1.

VII. Schedule Meetings

Next scheduled meeting is in October, before Halloween. Tuesday, October 15 at 6:30pm.

VIII. Public Participation

None.

IX. Adjournment

Chairman Lyn Connery made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Kristen Wagner seconded it. Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.