

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE ETHICS BOARD - TOWNSHIP OF EDISON**

October 27, 2022

A Regular Meeting of the Ethics Board was held in the Council Chambers on the second floor of the Municipal Building on Thursday October 27, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 7:09pm by Chairperson Stevens followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Board members Blick, Kearstan, Stevens & Zelingher (via zoom) Attorney Kipnis (via zoom) and Secretary McCray.

The Secretary advised that adequate notice of this meeting, as required by the Open Public Meetings Act of 1975, has been provided by an Annual Notice sent to The Home News Tribune and posted in the Main Lobby of the Municipal Complex on October 20, 2022.

OLD BUSINESS

Local Government Ethics Complaint (Complaint # 22-01 & Complaint # 22-02)

Secretary McCray asked the board, while waiting for the complainant if the board could move on to New Business. All board member present agreed.

At 7:22pm Complainant entered the meeting. Attorney Kipnis addressed the complainant questioning exactly what is being sought. Whether there is a withdrawal on complaint # 22-01 and clarification on complaint #22-02. The Complainant explained initial intent was to receive advisory opinion. Mr. Kipnis questioned if the actions have occurred or if an opinion on possible ethics charges could occur. Complainant agreed that was the intention of seeking an advisory opinion due to feeling potential ethics violation could take place. Attorney restated the actions listed in the complaint have not occurred. The board cannot adjudicate either respondent(s) because the violation has not occurred in either case. The board is now aware that complaint filed was for advisory. The board and the complainant then discussed past practice of promotional criteria of the police department. Mr. Kearstan recommended the complainant contact the Municipal Attorney in regards to the possible violation could occur. Attorney stated these complaints should be withdrawn or dismissed without prejudice. The board asked the Complainant what they would like to do. The Complainant stated they would withdraw the two complaints. All board members present agreed. Complaint #22-01 & # 22-02 were withdrawn at this time. Complainant left the meeting approximately 7:56pm

Attorney Kipnis then gave a recap of the meeting for Mr. Rudnitzky who entered the meeting via zoom at 7:52pm.

NEW BUSINESS

E-mailed complaint from [REDACTED] dated 10/10/2023 submitted to the Municipal Clerk. Attorney Kipnis explained that this email cannot be accepted as a formal complaint. The complaint needs to be signed to be accepted. Mr. Kipnis explained that the Township should direct the complainant of proper filing procedures. Secretary McCray stated that an email was sent back explaining proper filing providing a Local Ethics form. At this time a formal complaint has not been received.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

Mr. Rudnitzky entered the meeting via zoom at 7:52pm.

Next meeting to be held was not scheduled at this time.

A motion was made by Mr. Kearstan and seconded by Mr. Blick to adjourn the meeting at 7:59pm.

Deborah Stevens
Chairperson

Marlena McCray
Secretary