SPECIAL MEETING – BOARD OF ETHICS
AGENDA
APRIL 10, 2025, 7:00 PM
BY ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING

To allow public access, anyone may access a meeting by telephone and/or Zoom, or a recording in the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. Specific instructions and links can be found at norwalkct.gov/meetings.

Members of the public may call in to participate. Callers will not be able to see the meeting participants. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, dial *9 on the phone and you will be called on by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. All speakers must state their name and address. Comments must be on a topic on the agenda, and are limited to three minutes. Anyone disrupting the orderly conduct of the meeting, including by using threatening, hateful, or sexually-explicit language, will be removed. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who wish to provide "live comments" may also use the Zoom meeting platform. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, click the “raise your hand indicator” and you will be called by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. All speakers must state their name and address. Comments must be on a topic on the agenda, and are limited to three minutes. Anyone disrupting the orderly conduct of the meeting, including by using threatening, hateful, or sexually-explicit language, will be removed. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via email in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be included into the record, they must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Please email Brian Candela at bcandela@norwalkct.gov with the subject line “Public Comment” to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting: approve minutes from March 27, 2025 regular meeting of the Board of Ethics

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Vote to appoint investigating panel to investigate Ethics Complaint dated March 8, 2025

B. Vote to appoint investigating panel to investigate Ethics Complaint dated March 19, 2025

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. DISCUSSION

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. If any ethics complaints are received prior to the meeting, it is anticipated that the Board of Ethics will enter into executive session to consider same.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

CITY OF NORWALK
BOARD OF ETHICS REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 27, 2025
VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING AND COUNCIL CHAMBER

ATTENDANCE: Patricia Agudow; Chair, Patricia Toni, Katherine Williams– Murchinson, Amy Ayala, Michelle Sawyer

STAFF: Brian Candela

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Candela called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Candela called the roll as represented above. A Quorum was present.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting: February 27, 2025

** **MS. AGUDOW MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.**
** **MS. SAWYER SECONDED THE MOTION.**
** **THE MOTION PASSED WITH FOUR IN FAVOR AND ONE ABSTENTION (MS. WILLIAMS– MURCHINSON)**

OLD BUSINESS

A. Discuss the Board of Ethics' slides and the accompanying education/training programs for the City and its Officers and Employees.

Mr. Candela gave an update. He stated he believed all the video presentations were now complete. He said he would double- check, and once it's confirmed he would inform everyone. He outlined the next step of getting them posted and logged on to the city website.

Ms. Agudow was curious if anyone had talked with HR and IT about how they would roll out the videos. Ms. Sawyer noted nothing had been submitted, they had decided to talk about it at the next meeting. She felt it would be better to have the videos uploaded to see what everything looks like.

Mr. Candela requested a motion to move public participation.

**** MS. AGUDOW MOVED TO CHANGE THE ORDER OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public wished to speak.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss and vote on new chair of the Board of Ethics

Ms. Toni nominated Ms. Agudow.

**** MS. SAWYER MOVED TO APPROVE MS. AGUDOW AS THE NEW CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF ETHICS.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Discuss and vote on revisions to City Code § 32-11 – Subsequent Employment

Mr. Candela said that 32-11 subsection B is located in the agenda packet. He stated it creates a limited exception to the barring of subsequent employment until one year after your stint with the city. Mr. Candela said they wanted to extend a brief exception to the Medical Director who serves in the Health Department. He noted the city has had a difficult time filling this position. He described the candidate as someone with a medical degree. Mr. Candela indicated they had a person who is retired from the practice of medicine and currently works in the Health Department who would like to switch over to the role of Medical Director. He stated this exception would allow him to do that. He reiterated the exception was only for this position due to the difficulty of filling it.

Mr. Candela read the amendment into the record..

Ms. Agudow wanted to know the rationale behind only having the exception for the Medical Director position. Mr. Candela stated again it was due to the difficulty of filling the position with a qualified candidate.

Mr. Candela responded to Ms. Sawyer's question by saying this would be a permanent exemption. He clarified for Ms. Toni that this was a paid position. He explained the person would have to resign from the Board of Health in order to become the Medical Director. After that, his former position on the Board of Health would have to be filled. Mr. Candela then explained the process after it was approved by the Board of Ethics.

There were no revisions or changes to the language as drafted.

**** MS. TONI MOVED TO APPROVE THE LANGUAGE AS WRITTEN AND SEND IT TO THE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.**
**** MS. WILLIAMS-MURCHINSON SECONDED THE MOTION.**
**** THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UN ANIMOUSLY.**

DISCUSSION

There were no discussion items brought to the floor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. If any ethics complaints are received prior to the meeting, it is anticipated that the Board of Ethics will enter into executive session to consider same.

**** MS. WILLIAMS MURCHINSON MOVED THAT THEY ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**
**** MS. SAWYER SECONDED THE MOTION.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The board members entered executive session at 7:16 p.m.

Mr. Candela stated the Board of Ethics exited executive session. No actions or votes were taken during executive session and motions were made.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. SAWYER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

**** MS. TONI SECONDED THE MOTION**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
China Mayhew
Telesco Secretarial Services