Government Affairs Committee - September 10, 2014

Present: Samuel Saverine, Frank Mollo Hickey, Victoria Elliot, Deborah Kovall, Candace Jones-Pacholski, First Selectman, Michael Criss

Absent: Andrew Goldstein

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. Discussion ensued revolving around encouraging persons for run for office. Topics included providing training for elected volunteers, and whether the town should have an ethics committee to avoid the perception of impropriety. Topics discussed included samples of ethics committees, Roberts Rules of Order, FOI training, video library of training options and New Member Manuals developed by various commissions, and the possibility of using UCONN and CCM as trainers.

Selectman Criss distributed the mission for the committee. It is to determine if the Town of Harwinton needs an ethics commission and if so how it should look. The committee will research other towns of comparable size and provide results of how many towns have such a commission. The committee will also determine the makeup of a commission and provide options to the Board of Selectmen. The committee will work collectively to find cost effective options to training elected officials and determine what should be required of officials once they are elected. All recommendations will be placed in a comprehensive report forwarded to the Board of Selectmen.

Officers are: Chairman, Frank Hickey, Vice Chair, Victoria Elliot, Secretary, Candace Jones-Pacholski.

The next meeting will be held on September 25, 2014 at 7:30 PM. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Submitted by: Candace Jones-Pacholski, Secretary

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