

Government Affairs Committee Meeting

October 9, 2014, 7:30 PM

PRESENT: Chair, Frank Mollo-Hickey, Victoria Elliot, Candace Jones-Pacholski, Marie, Knudsen and Deborah Kovall

ABSENT: Andrew Goldstein, Samuel Saverine

The meeting was called to order at 7:32pm. A motion was made by Deborah Kovall to accept the minutes of September 25, 2014. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Victoria Elliot seconded by Deborah Kovall and approved by a 5-0 vote that:

The Government Affairs Committee of the Town of Harwinton recommend to the Board of Selectmen the following:

1. The services, courses and training opportunities offered by but not limited to CCM, UCONN and the Town Attorney be used to inform commission and committees members. The following training should be mandated but not limited to Parliamentary Procedures, Ethics and Freedom of Information regulations.
2. Training in Land Use issues should be required for all Land Use Officials in addition to the above services and courses & training.

3. The party Chairmen and/or those whom may consider running for office or commissions be made aware of the responsibilities, duties, commitment and protocol associated with the positions being sought.

A motion was made by Deborah Kovall, seconded by Victoria Elliot and approved by a 5-0 vote that:

The Government Affairs Committee of the Town of Harwinton recommend to the Board of Selectmen the following:

4. The Board of Selectmen establish the Harwinton Code of Ethics and that it be based on rules and regulations adopted by the Town of Litchfield, Ct. The committee further recommends the establishment of a formal Board of Ethics Committee which should be comprised of a minimum of 3 persons with a maximum of 5 members. The composition should consist of at least 1 member from each party and at least 1 unaffiliated person. A person who serves on the Board must not be a currently appointed or elected official in the Town of Harwinton. A prospective member who has served in an official capacity must have been out of office for a period of no less than 3 years. The terms of the members of the Board of Ethics should be a minimum of 3 years up to a maximum of 5 years so as to overlap elections and/or any change in administration or town boards. The Board of Ethics meetings be held in accordance with the Litchfield Code of Ethics when pertaining to possible executive sessions. The Board of Selectmen establish comprehensive procedures in which any resident can file/and submit an Ethics complaint.

5. The committee recommends that at the time of approval of the Harwinton Code of Ethics that all new and existing elected or appointed officials and hired employees receive and sign for a copy of the Code of Ethics.

The members of the committee wish to be informed when these proposals are to be on the Board of Selectmen agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Submitted By: Candace Jones-Pacholski, Secretary

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ON 10/15/2014 AT 12:20 PM
ATTEST NANCY E. ELDRIDGE TOWN CLERK