City of Rochester Board of Ethics - October 9, 2018

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:50pm in Council Chambers by Board Chair Carl Steinbrenner.

Members present:

Scott Ginett Hon. Loretta Scott Carl Steinbrenner Timothy Weir

Members not present:

Mia Hodgins Calvin Lee Naimah Sierra

Non-Members Present:

Tim Curtin, Corporation Counsel Larry Champoux Darien Lamen Andrew Seager Tom Pastecki Beth Tarduro

Approval of Minutes:

• Approval of Minutes for the September 11, 2018 meeting were unanimously approved.

Pending Business:

• Chair Steinbrenner reviewed C18-3 involving Mary Freund Tilton, Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Secretary Weir then provided updated information pertaining to Sam Tilton's professional and personal relationship with the Gabels and Dan Singal. Mr. Champoux was also allowed the opportunity to address the main points of his complaint.

Three board members determined that no ethics code violations occurred with respect to this complaint. Board Member Ginett withheld his vote until reviewing the forthcoming advisory opinion which the board agreed to prepare for the next meeting.

• The Chair reviewed C18-6 involving Deputy Mayor Alexander. Secretary Weir then provided updated information pertaining to the Deputy Mayor's email communications with his staff and the City's "Vacation for Executive New Hires" policy.

The Board unanimously determined that no ethics code violations occurred with respect to this complaint. The Board also agreed that an advisory opinion addressing the issues raised in the complaint would be prepared.

• The Chair reviewed C18-5 involving the City's application for an Empire State Development grant. The Chair also noted the complainant, Mr. Orsi, refused to answer questions from the Board at the September meeting. Secretary Weir provided updated information documented in a memo prepared by Chief of Staff Alex Yudelson dated 9.24.2018.

The Board unanimously determined that no ethics code violations occurred with respect to this complaint. The Board also agreed that an advisory opinion addressing the issues raised in the complaint would be prepared.

- The Chair reviewed C18-7 involving Councilmember Gruber. Secretary Weir provided updated information documented in an email from Councilmember Gruber to Corporation Counsel dated 9.28.2018. Mr. Seager, Mr. Pastecki, and Ms. Tarduro were then given the opportunity to emphasize the primary points in their complaint.
- The Board unanimously determined that no ethics code violations occurred with respect to this complaint. The Board also agreed that an advisory opinion addressing the issues raised in the complaint would be prepared.

New Business:

• The Chair recommended that due to the lateness of the hour the remaining agenda items be covered at the next board meeting in November.

Adjournment:

• The Chair's motion to adjourn at 8:35pm was unanimously approved.

Next Meeting: November 13, 2018; 6:30 pm

Rochester City Hall

30 Church Street, Council Chambers