

ETHICS BOARD

Date and Time: Thursday, May 5, 2016 at 4:00 pm in the Board Room of City Hall
Members Present: Chet Suski, Peter Hessert, Sue Lang and David Piehler
Others Present: Toni Rayala, Clerk, Stephen L. Weld of Weld Riley Attorneys in Eau Claire representing the Board-via telephone, and media

In accordance with Chapter 19, Wisc. Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and sent to the Daily Herald in the proper manner. It was noted that there was a quorum present and the meeting was called to order by the City Clerk.

Selection of Chairperson

Piehler nominated Chet Suski for Chair, seconded by Hessert. Motion carried unanimously. Suski was selected as Chair of Ethics Board and was handed the gavel to preside over the meeting.

General Discussion regarding role of Ethics Board under City Code of Ethics

Attorney Weld discussed the duties of the Ethics Board. Municipal Code 2.03 explains that the job of the ethics board is to determine whether actions of the individual being complained about violate the standards of conduct explained in the code. The investigation would require the submittal of a verified complaint in writing, signed and sworn to under oath. The Board will submit to the accused a copy of the complaint within 10 days; and, then to determine first whether or not there was probable cause to believe that a violation of the chapter has occurred. If probable cause is found, the ethics board is required to investigate further which would include taking testimony.

Consideration of motion to adjourn into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(f) and (g), Wis. Stats, for the purpose of preliminary consideration of complaint of alleged violations of City Code of Ethics against specific persons which if discussed in public are likely to have a substantial effect upon the reputation of persons discussed in those complaints and to confer with legal counsel who is rendering advice regarding potential litigation that the Ethics Board may become involved in, including discussion regarding review of information related to conduct of elected officials.

Motion by Piehler, second by Suski to convene in closed session. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Piehler, Lang, Hessert, Suski. Noes: 0. Motion carried unanimously. Board went into closed session at 4:10 pm.

Motion by Suski, second by Lang to adjourn the meeting in closed session. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.