

**Local Finance Board
Local Government Ethics Law
December 11, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 9:20 am by Melanie R. Walter, Chairperson. Patricia Parkin McNamara, Executive Secretary, stated that in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, C.10:4-6 et seq., proper notice was given to the Secretary of State, the *Star-Ledger* and the *Times of Trenton*. A roll call was taken: 5 members were present: Chairperson Walter, Alan Avery, Francis Blee, William Close and Ted Light. Dominick DiRocco, Idida Rodriguez and Adrian Mapp were absent. Mr. Mapp arrived at 9:27 am. A quorum was present. Also present were: Adam Masel, Deputy Attorney General and staff members: Nick Bennett, Dana C. Jones, Margaret Roberts and Dina Venero.

At 9:24 am, a motion was made by Ms. Walter and second by Mr. Blee to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing complaints, advisory opinions and to receive related legal advice. A voice vote was taken. Motion passed.

AO 19-008, AO 19-009, AO 19-010 and AO 19-011 were discussed.

At 9:48 am, a motion was made by Ms. Walter and second by Mr. Mapp to go into open session. A voice vote was taken. Motion passed.

MINUTES

The October 9, 2019 and November 13, 2019 meeting minutes. A motion was made by Ms. Walter and second by Mr. Blee to approve the minutes. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative, 2 absent (Mr. DiRocco and Ms. Rodriguez). For the November minutes: 5 affirmative, 2 absent (Mr. DiRocco and Ms. Rodriguez), 1 abstain (Mr. Close). Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.1. A motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Mr. Blee to dismiss the complaint as without any reasonable factual basis and to require the municipality to submit a copy of its new policy regarding the facts underlying this matter to the Local Finance Board. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative, 2 absent (Mr. DiRocco and Ms. Rodriguez). Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.2. A motion was made by Mr. Mapp and second by Mr. Blee to dismiss the complaint as without any reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative, 2 absent. (Mr. DiRocco and Ms. Rodriguez). Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.3. A motion was made by Mr. Avery and second by Mr. Close to dismiss the complaint as without any reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative, 2 absent. (Mr. DiRocco and Ms. Rodriguez). Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.4. A motion was made by Ms. Walter and second by Mr. Blee to: (a) dismiss the complaint filed against 8 of the accused as without any reasonable factual basis; and (b) authorize an investigation against 1 of the accused A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative, 2 absent. (Mr. DiRocco and Ms. Rodriguez). Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.5. A motion was made by Mr. Mapp and second by Mr. Close to dismiss the complaint as without any reasonable factual basis and to refer the matter to the Division of Fire Safety, within the Department of Community Affairs. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative, 2 absent (Mr. DiRocco and Ms. Rodriguez). Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.6. A motion was made by Mr. Mapp and second by Mr. Blee to authorize an investigation against the accused. A roll call was taken: 5 affirmative, 1 abstain, 2 absent (Mr. DiRocco and Ms. Rodriguez). Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.7. A motion was made by Mr. Mapp and second by Mr. Blee to dismiss the complaint against the accused for lack of jurisdiction. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative, 2 absent (Mr. DiRocco and Ms. Rodriguez). Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.8. A motion was made by Mr. Blee and second by Mr. Light to dismiss the complaint as without any reasonable factual basis. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative, 2 absent (Mr. DiRocco and Ms. Rodriguez). Motion passed.

Concerning the matter of III.A.9. The matter was deferred.

Concerning the matter of III.A.10. A motion was made by Mr. Blee and second by Mr. Mapp to find the local ethics board is not precluded from rendering a decision in the matter. A roll call was taken: 6 affirmative, 2 absent (Mr. Di Rocco and Mrs. Rodriguez). Motion passed.

The Local Finance Board determined to break from the Ethics portion of the meeting and take a brief recess. A brief recess was taken. The Local Finance Board will reconvene to consider applications.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Parkin McNamara
Executive Secretary
Local Finance Board

PPM/dv