



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK Ethics Commission

302 Main Street • Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475-1741
Telephone (860) 395-3123 • FAX (860) 395-3125

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES **MONDAY JANUARY 30, 2023**

-Second Floor Conference Room
OLD SAYBROOK TOWN HALL

VIDEOCONFERENCE / TELECONFERENCE

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Cassella called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Members present:
D. E. Hunt, via Zoom
K. E. Knobelsdorff-McKay, via Zoom
P. A. Ladd, via Zoom
M. J. Lewandowski.

One member of the public present via Zoom

2. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes January 20, 2022

Motion: Lewandowski/Knobelsdorff-McKay – approve with correction to meeting date as submitted:

In favor: Cassella, Knobelsdorff-McKay, Ladd, Lewandowski; Hunt-Abstain

Approved

3. **Comments from the Public:**

None

4. **New Business**

- a. **Election of Officers**

Motion: Nominate E. Cassella as Chair, Lewandowski/Knobelsdorff-McKay

Motion: Close nominations, Hunt/Lewandowski

Approved

Approved

Motion: Nominate M. Lewandowski as Secretary: Cassella/Ladd:

Motion: Close nominations; Cassella/Ladd

Approved

In favor: Cassella, Hunt, Knobelsdorff-McKay, Ladd; Lewandowski-Abstain
Approved

b. Annual meeting schedule

Discussion about change to schedule

Motion: adopt Regular Meeting schedule; Hunt/Knobelsdorff-McKay

Thursday, April 20, 2023; 6:00 pm

Thursday, July 20, 2023; 6:00 pm

Thursday, October 19, 2023; 6:00 pm

Thursday, January 18, 2024; 6:00 pm

Approved

5. Request for Advisory Opinion

First Selectman, Mr. Fortuna requests advisory opinion on whether having a town employee, Mr. Larry Bonin, install a Bilco door at his house complies with the Old Saybrook Code of Ethics. Mr. Fortuna also states in his request, "I do not want any appearance of impropriety or hint of favoritism in this transaction."

Discussion: Commission reviewed Sections 23-3A (conflicts of interest) and 23-5A and B (gifts, prohibited gifts, prohibited sources).

Commission reached consensus that based on Mr. Fortuna's letter, under the Code of Ethics, the potential transaction *could* create the appearance of a conflict of interest, even if one is not there.

Motion: Provide opinion that based on Mr. Fortuna's letter, where he does not want any appearance of impropriety or hint of favoritism, the transaction could create the appearance of a conflict of interest under 23-3a, even if one is not there. Cassella/Ladd

Approved

6. Adjournment

Motion: (Lewandowski/ Knobelsdorff-McKay): **Approved**. Adjourned at 7:50pm

Next scheduled Regular Meeting: Thursday, April 23, 2023, 6:00 pm hybrid: Second Floor Conference Room and via Zoom/teleconference

Submitted: M. J. Lewandowski