



Municipal Officials Ethics Commission

Minutes

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

5:00 PM

Board Room, City Hall

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Roll was called by Bonnie Buckmaster, Public Works Assistant.

Members Present

Bryan Dehner, Chair

Gil Scott

Jerry Felker

A quorum of the Board was present

Bonnie Buckmaster, Public Works Assistant; was present on behalf of the City.

3. Approve the November 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes

**GIL SCOTT MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR
THE NOVEMBER 8, 2021 MINUTES WITH REVISIONS;
JERRY FELKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED 3-0.**

4. Consideration of Joseph W. Vanover as legal counsel for Ethics Commission

Joseph Vanover gave a brief overview of his professional experience, and noted that he is currently serving as a Platte County Commissioner. He assured the Commission that there are no conflicts of interest as the PC Commission serves the northern portion of Platte County and does not include Parkville. Vanover also stated that he does not have a personal relationship with Mayor Nan Johnston. He will only serve the Ethics Commission and will assist in the investigation with hearings and advisory opinions.

**GIL SCOTT MOTIONED TO ACCEPT JOSEPH VANOVER
AS LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE ETHICS COMMISSION;
JERRY FELKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED 3-0.**

5. General Discussion of Conflicts of Interest

Joseph Vanover, legal counsel, outlined Municipal Code Section 107.050 and addressed the complaint that referenced the Commissioners having a conflict of interest by being appointed by the Mayor or Aldermen; which Joseph confirmed that does not constitute a conflict of interest.

6. Closed Session, pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (1), for Confidential or Privileged Communications between a Public Governmental Body or its Representatives and its Attorneys

There was a brief discussion of what would warrant a closed session and it was decided that a closed session was not needed at this time.

7. Discussion of Timeline to Proceed

1. Recommend two applicants to the Board of Aldermen to fill the vacancies in Ward 1 and Ward 4.
2. Review the complaint and the response to make a decision on how much investigation is needed.
3. Possible hearing with witnesses. The Mayor has the right to require a hearing and has the right to have an attorney to cross examine witnesses and to provide her own witnesses.
4. Once a report has been created then the Mayor has five days to respond and then this will go before the Board of Aldermen and then they will either follow or ignore your recommendations.

8. Review and Discussion of Appointments to Fill Two Seats on Ethics Commission

Ward 1 Applicants

Michael Pearl – Bryan is familiar with Michael Pearl and his family and would recommend him for Ward 1. The Commission would have liked if there had been a resume attached to the application.

Sheryl Biermann – The Commission referred to the application language stating that she is active in the Platte Landing Park issue and said that the City needs to earn back the trust that is lost. Chair Bryan Dehner said that Sheryl wrote him directly and felt that she is not an impartial candidate. The Commissioners agreed.

Vince Carlisle – The Commission noted that the application was dated June 2021 to be appointed to either the Diversity and Inclusion Commission or Ethics Commission, which was prior to the complaint being filed, which the Commission liked.

Corky McCaffrey – The Commission noted that application was received in May, which is before the complaint was filed. Chair Bryan Dehner, mentioned that he knows of Corky as an acquaintance and feels she would be impartial. The Commission agreed.

After a brief discussion, the Commission removed two of the applicants; and made a decision for recommendation of the other two applicants for the Board of Aldermen to choose from.

JERRY FELKER MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN APPLICANTS VINCE CARLISLE OR CORKY McCAFFREY TO FILL THE WARD 1 VACANCY ON THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS ETHICS COMMISSION; GIL SCOTT SECONDED; MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Ward 4 Applicants

Abby LacKamp – Chair Dehner said that has heard good and positive things about her and that she has been active in the community.

John Carter – It was noted that Mr. Carter is named by the Mayor in her response to her complaint regarding finance complaints. Commissioner Felker said that John had been publicly against the Mayor. The Commission felt that Mr. Carter would not be fair and impartial and would not recommend his application.

GIL SCOTT MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN APPLICANT ABBY LACKAMP TO FILL THE WARD 4 VACANCY ON THE MUNIIPAL OFFICIALS ETHIS COMMISSION; JERRY FELKER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED 3-0.

9. Other Business

A. Meeting Dates for Upcoming Meetings

January 5, 2022 or January 13, 2022 will be tentatively held with a confirmation from the applicants

B. Attorney Vanover notified the Commission that Alderman Whitley has requested the Commission issue an advisory opinion

C. Attorney Vanover suggested the Commission request the reports of the Platte County Sheriff's Office regarding the investigation of alleged public records destruction. The Commission agreed. Attorney Vanover stated he would prepare a letter requesting the records to be signed by Chairman Dehner

10. Public Comment

Elaine Kellerman clarified that her application had been sent some time ago and that the Mayor had said that she would not put her name in as one of candidates for the Ethics Commission and that she had filed the complaint against the Mayor.

11. Adjourn

**JERRY FELKER MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 6:18 P.M.; GIL
SCOTT SECONDED. MOTION PASSED 3-0.**

The minutes for December 15, 2021, having been read and considered by Municipal Officials Ethics Commission, were approved on this the 5th Day of January, 2022.


Bonnie Buckmaster, Public Works Assistant

1/5/22
Approval date