

Regular Ethics Commission Meeting

Civic Center, 2 Park Drive South,
Commission Chambers Room 206, Great Falls, MT

CALL TO ORDER: In the absence of Chairperson Carmen Roberts, Vice-Chair Katrina Stark called the meeting to order at 11:03 AM.

ROLL CALL: Ethics Committee Members (CM) participated electronically via Zoom: Katrina Stark and Carl Rostad. Chairperson Carmen Roberts was excused.

RECOGNITION OF STAFF: City Attorney Sara Sexe and City Clerk Lisa Kunz.

Due to the COVID-19 health concerns, public participation is welcomed and encouraged as follows:

- Attend in person. Refrain from attending in person if you are not feeling well. The City will require social distancing at the meeting, and may limit the number of persons in the Commission Chambers according to applicable health guidelines.
- Provide public comments via email. Comments may be sent via email before 8:00 AM on Wednesday, August 12, 2020, to: commission@greatfallsmt.net. Include the agenda item or agenda item number in the subject line, and include the name and address of the commenter. Written communication received by that time will be shared with the Committee and appropriate City staff for consideration during the agenda item and before final vote on the matter; and will be so noted in the official record of the meeting.
- Call-in. The public may call in during specific public comment periods at 406-761-4786. All callers will be in a queued system and are asked to remain on hold and be patient. Calls will be taken in the order in which they are received. Callers will be restricted to customary time limits. We ask for your patience in the event there are technical difficulties.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES - - November 6, 2019.

CM Rostad moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Stark, that the Ethics Committee approve the meeting minutes of November 6, 2019.

Vice-Chair Stark asked if there was any discussion amongst the Committee or comments from the public. Hearing none, Vice-Chair Stark called for the vote.

Motion carried 2-0.

2. CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION ON APPOINTMENT OF AN ALTERNATE MEMBER TO THE ETHICS COMMITTEE.

Vice-Chair Stark disclosed that she knows the family of applicant Kenneth Engelhardt. Mr. Engelhardt's wife and daughter used to work with her at the University of Providence. However, she had no supervisory power over Mrs. Engelhardt or her daughter.

CM Rostad moved, seconded by Vice-Chair Stark, that the Ethics Committee recommend to the City Commission the appointment of Kenneth Engelhardt as an alternate member to the Ethics Committee for the remainder of a three-year term through December 31, 2022.

Vice-Chair Stark asked if there were any comments from the public. Hearing none, Vice-Chair Stark asked if there was any discussion amongst the Committee.

Vice-Chair Stark spoke in support of applicant Kenneth Engelhardt's military background and other service work.

CM Rostad noted that both applicants were excellent candidates for the committee. He spoke in support of Kenneth Engelhardt's experience in government that would bring more context of experience to the position.

There being no further discussion, Vice-Chair Stark called for the vote.

Motion carried 2-0.

3. CONSIDER A CHANGE TO THE RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR GOVERNING ETHICS COMMITTEE RELATED TO ADDRESS REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT DURING ETHICS COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

City Attorney Sara Sexe reported that this item is consideration of a change to Rule 7.01.2 of the Rules and Procedures for Governing Ethics Committee adopted by the Committee.

In July of this year the City Commission adopted a resolution amending Rule 10.1 of the City Commission Rules of Conduct and Procedure of Commission Meetings that provided an option to not provide, for privacy reasons, a person's address. Staff researched other cities' policies and recommended to the City Commission that, in light of balancing citizens' privacy and interests or claims thereof, the City Commission amend its rules to allow speakers the option to either provide their address or state whether they are a City resident for the record.

For convenience, Attorney Sexe read the proposed motion for the record, agreed to and adopted as a motion by **Vice-Chair Stark, seconded by CM Rostad, that the Ethics Committee accept a change to its rule regarding requiring addresses for public comment during meetings to allow speakers to provide either their address or state whether they are a City resident for the record.**

Vice-Chair Stark asked if there were any comments from the public. Hearing none, Vice-Chair Stark called for the vote.

Motion carried 2-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

None.

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Vice-Chair Stark moved, seconded by CM Rostad, to **adjourn the regular meeting of August 12, 2020, at 11:13 a.m.**

Motion carried 2-0.

Katrina Stark, Vice-Chairperson

Acting Secretary – City Clerk Lisa Kunz

Minutes Approved: February 3, 2021