

**Beacon Falls Ethics Board
10 Maple Avenue
Beacon Falls, CT06403**



**BEACON FALLS ETHICS BOARD
Special Meeting
April 5, 2017
MINUTES
(Subject to Revision)**

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Alliance

Members Present: Rod Farrell, Ned Grace, Jim O'Dell, Lars Edgren, and Eva Newell

Others Present: Atty. James Sheehy; John Smith, Chairman of Inland Wetlands; Joe Rodorigo, Chairman of Board of Finance; Wendy Rodorigo, Town Treasurer; Brian Cloney; Jeremy Rodorigo; and Jerry Smith.

The Clerk called the meeting to order at 7:34 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Chairman Rod Farrell called the Roll Call of Commissioners present at tonight's meeting. Present were Ned Grace, Lars Edgren, James O'Dell, and Eva Newell.

3. Closed Session

The Ethics Board entered in Closed Session with Atty. James Sheehy at 7:35 PM.

The Ethics Board invited Joe Rodorigo into Closed Session at 8:07 PM.

The Ethics Board came out of Closed Session at 8:14 PM.

4. Review of Procedures Regarding Filing and Receipt of Complaints

Atty. Sheehy reviewed the Town of Beacon Falls Board of Ethics Compliant Procedures. Atty. Sheehy noted that the complaint is considered completely confidential and the complaint to be filed with the Board of Ethics in care of the Town Clerk's office. This is done since the Ethics Board does not have their own office. Atty. Sheehy also noted that the Complain Form shall be signed and dated by the complainant under oath. The form may be mailed in a sealed envelope or hand delivered in a sealed envelope, and will be date and time stamped by the Town Clerk and remained sealed.

Atty. Sheehy indicated that the Ethics Board, at a special meeting, shall investigate the allegations, may call witnesses for testimony, and make a determination as to whether there is Probable Cause to proceed with a hearing. Atty. Sheehy asked if the Members had any questions and there were none at this time.

5. Unfinished Business

R. Farrell indicated that a complaint was brought against Joe Rodorigo on 12/07/2016. The complaint was considered in Closed Session for the purpose of determining if there is Probable Cause to go forward and to hear testimony. R. Farrell noted that this is to remain confidential and certified letters will be mailed to the Complainant and Respondent unless the Respondent would like to request that the decision is made in Open Session. The Members spoke to J. Rodorigo who indicated that he would like the decision announced in Open Session.

The Members did not find Probable Cause to continue with the complaint and letters will be mailed to the Complainant and the Respondent. R. Farrell noted that the Members did not find that J. Rodorigo used his position as Chairman of the Finance Board for the purpose of enriching himself or gaining any commercial advantage. R. Farrell also noted that Zoning files are public information and available to anyone who like to see them.

R. Farrell asked for a motion to be made in regards to the complaint against J. Rodorigo.

Motion to have the complaint against Joe Rodorigo dismissed due to the lack of probable cause: **Motion made by N. Grace and seconded by E. Newell; no discussion; all ayes.**

6. New Business

There was no new business discussed at tonight's special meeting.

7. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:22P.M.: **Motion made by N. Grace and seconded by J. O'Dell; no discussion; all ayes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marla Scirpo
Clerk, Ethics Board

DRAFT