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**ETHICS BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
September 24, 2015**

Present: Chairman James Friedman, Suzanne Dorszynski, Randall Erickson, David Johnson, Morrice Blackwell, Stephen Richman, Justin Strom, Martin Huennekens

Also Present: Attorney William Dineen (Special Counsel for the Ethics Board), Attorney Joseph M. Peltz (Attorney for the Complainant), Attorney H. Stanley Riffle, (Attorney for the Respondent) Alderman Mark T. Gierl (Respondent), Interested Party for the Respondent, Executive Assistant Lina Prosser

Chairman Friedman called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM

Approval of Minutes of July 7, 2015

Action: Motion to approve the meeting minutes of July 7, 2015 (Erickson/Blackwell)

Result: Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Appointment of Attorney William Dineen as special counsel for the Ethics Board

Action: Motion to appoint Attorney William Dineen as special counsel for the Ethics Board. (Blackwell/Dorszynski)

Result: Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Stephen Richman, a Board member appointed by Alderman Gierl for District #5, spoke to the Board regarding his association with Alderman Gierl. The members of the Ethics Board agreed Stephen Richman has the ability to objectively hear the case.

No one present stated an objection.

Closed Session

Action: Motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(a), Wisconsin State Statutes, to deliberate concerning a case which was the subject of any judicial or quasi-judicial trial or hearing before that governmental body, (b) Considering the investigation of charges against a person, except that the person has the right to demand that the evidentiary hearing or meeting be held in open session, (f) Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations, and/or (g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. (Erickson/Johnson)

Result: Motion passed by unanimous vote. The Ethics Board convened into closed session at 6:15 PM.

Upon a motion to convene into closed session, interested parties left the meeting.

Reconvene into open session

Action: Motion to reconvene into open to take action on items in closed session.
(Huennekens/Blackwell)

Result: Motion passed by unanimous vote. The Ethics Board reconvened into open session at 7:25 PM.

After reconvening into open session, interested parties returned to the meeting.

Chairman Friedman stated the Ethics Board debated the sufficiency of the complaint under the Mequon Municipal Code, as well as, procedural rules and voted unanimously that the verified ethics complaint does not allege facts sufficient to constitute a violation of the ethics code.

Attorney William Dineen, Special Counsel for the Ethics Board, stated a written letter will be provided to both parties conveying the decision of the Ethics Board.

Adjourn

Action: Motion to adjourn the meeting. (Erickson/Dorszynski)

Result: Motion passed by unanimous vote. The meeting of the Ethics Board adjourned at 7:27 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lina Prosser, Executive Assistant