

The Board of Selectmen held a public hearing on September 1, 2015, at the Town Hall to hear public comment on a Code of Ethics Ordinance. Present were: First Selectman Robert Morra; Selectmen Robert Neil, Sandra Pierog and Gwen Marrion; Administrative Officer Joyce Stille and several members of the public.

Mr. Morra opened the Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m.

R. Morra spoke to the public on the creation of the Code of Ethics Ordinance. It was recommended by the Charter Review Committee and fully supported by all the Selectmen. He opened the hearing for comments and questions.

Milton Hathaway, 44 Quarry Road, said he had compared the document to the state Code of Ethics. He recommended the BOS incorporate a provision for a form to fill out for filing requests or notice of ethics issues. He thought there should be emphasis on confidentiality, which would help to solve such issues quickly, simply, and discreetly. R. Morra agreed. J. Stille said there would be additional guidance on the process.

Cheryl Udin, 31 Keeney Drive, noted that the code contained outdated pronoun usage, which in some cases was specifically male, and suggested all male or female pronouns be changed to they/their/them. R. Morra agreed, and it will be corrected.

Matthew Giuffre, 81 Country Club Road, BOE Chair, raised the concern that language in sections 8-10 might prevent former employees in the education system from student or child advocacy in the district. Matthew said he also questioned whether it could apply to BOE staff. Both the BOS and M. Giuffre agreed to discuss the language further with the BOE and Town lawyers.

Richard Tuthill, 233 Bolton Center Road, questioned the language in Section 8-10 and asked when a current Board member may contract with the town to provide goods and services.

S. Pierog moved to continue the public hearing to October 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. R. Neil seconded. Motion carried 4:0:0.

The BOS and subcommittee will review comments for the public hearing on October 6th. The hearing was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Benitez, Recording Secretary

Please see minutes of subsequent meetings for approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.