

Code of Ethics

Town Board

Town of Ashford

West Valley, New York 14171

Dated: December 28, 1970

Resolution by: Fred Horning, Town Councilman

Seconded by: Lawrence Heinz, Town Councilman

Whereas, Town Boards are required by General Municipal Law Article Eighteen, Section Eight Hundred Six, to adopt a Code of Ethics setting forth for the guidance of its officers and employees the standards of conduct reasonably expected of them, and

Whereas, such Code is to provide standards for officers and employees with respect to disclosure of interest in legislation before the Town Board, holding of investments in conflict with official duties, private employment in conflict with official duties, future employment and such other standards relating to the conduct of officers and employees as may be deemed advisable.

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved:

Section 1. Pursuant to the provisions of Section Eight Hundred Six of the General Municipal Law, the Town Board of the Town of Ashford recognizes that there are rules of ethical conduct for public officers and employees which must be observed if a high degree of moral conduct is to be obtained and if public confidence is to be maintained in our unit of local government. It is the purpose of this resolution to promulgate these rules of ethical conduct for the officers and employees of the Town of Ashford. These rules shall serve as a guide for official conduct of the officers and employees of the Town of Ashford. The rules of ethical conduct of this resolution as adopted, shall not conflict with, but shall be in addition to any prohibition of Article Eighteen of the General Municipal Law or any other general or

special law relating to ethical conduct and interest in contracts of municipal officers and employees.

Section 2. Definition.

(a) “Municipal Officer or Employee” Means an officer or employee of the Town of Ashford, whether paid or unpaid, including members of any administrative board, commission or other agency thereof. No person shall be deemed to be a municipal officer or employee solely by reason of being a volunteer fireman or civil defense volunteer, except a chief engineer or assistant chief engineer.

(b) “interest” Means a pecuniary or material benefit accruing to a municipal officer or employee unless the context otherwise requires.

Section 3. Citation. This Code of Ethics shall be cited as follows: “Code of Ethics of the Town of Ashford – 1970”

Section 4. Standards of Conduct. Every officer or employee of the Town of Ashford shall be subject to and abide by the following standards of conduct:

(a) Gifts. He shall not directly or indirectly, solicit any gift; or accept or receive any gift having a value of twenty- five (25) dollars or more, whether in the form of money, services, loan, travel, entertainment, hospitality, thing or promise, or any other form, under circumstances in which it could reasonably be inferred that the gift was intended to influence him, or could reasonably be expected to influence him, in the performance of his official duties or was intended as a reward for any official action on his part.

(b) Confidential Information. He shall not disclose confidential information acquired by him in the course of his official duties or use such information to further his personal interest.

(c) Representation before one’s own agency. He shall not receive, or enter into any agreement, express or implied, for compensation for services to be rendered in relation to any matter before any municipal agency of which he is an officer, member or employee or of any municipal agency over which he has jurisdiction or to which he has the power to appoint any member, officer or employee.

(d) Representation before any agency for a contingent fee. He shall not receive, or enter into any agreement, express or implied, for compensation for services to be rendered in relation to any matter before any agency of his municipality, whereby his compensation is to be dependent or contingent upon any action by such agency with respect to such matter, provided that this paragraph shall not prohibit the fixing at any time of fees based upon the reasonable value of the services rendered.

(e) Disclosure of Interest in Legislation. To the extent that he knows thereof, a member of the Town Board and any officer or employee of the Town of Ashford, whether paid or unpaid, who participates in the discussion or gives official opinion to the Town Board on any legislation before the Town Board shall publicly disclose on the official record the nature and extent of any direct or indirect financial or other private interest he has in such legislation.

(f) Investments in Conflict with Official Duties. He shall not invest or hold any investment directly or indirectly in any financial, business, commercial or other private transaction, which creates a conflict with his official duties.

(g) Private Employment. He shall not engage in, solicit, negotiate for or promise to accept private employment or render services for private interests when such employment or services creates a conflict with or impairs the proper discharge of his official duties.

(h) Future Employment. He shall not, after the termination of service or employment with such municipality, appear before any board or agency of the Town of Ashford in relation to any case, proceeding or application in which he personally participated during the period of his service or employment or which was under his active consideration.

Section 5.

Nothing herein shall be deemed to bar or prevent the timely filing by a present or former municipal officer or employee of any claim, account, demand or suit against the Town of Ashford, or any agency thereof on behalf of himself or any member of his family arising out of any personal

injury or property damage or for any lawful benefit authorized or permitted by law.

Section 6.

Distribution of Code of Ethics. The Supervisor of the Town of Ashford shall cause a copy of this Code of Ethics to be distributed to every officer of the Town of Ashford within five (5) days after the effective date of this resolution. Each officer and employee or appointed thereafter shall be furnished a copy before entering upon the duties of his office or employment.

Section 7.

Penalties. In addition to any penalty contained in any other provision of law, any person who shall knowingly and intentionally violate any of the provisions of this code may be fined, suspended or removed from office or employment, as the case may be, in the manner provided by law.

Section 8.

This resolution shall take effect upon its adoption this 28th day of December, 1970.

Vote of the Town Board:

Lewis Klahn (aye), Raymond Nelson (aye), Fred Hornung (aye), Lawrence Heinz (aye), Arnold Proctor (aye)



Patricia R. Dashnaw
Town Clerk

TOWN OF ASHFORD

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This is to certify that
this is a true and
correct copy

Patricia R. Dashnaw, Registrar

Patricia R. Dashnaw
Ashford Town Clerk