

CODE OF ETHICS
Effective 12/70
Amended 9/90

Section 1. Pursuant to the provisions of section eight hundred six of the General Municipal Law, the Town Board of the Town of Dryden 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 local government. It is the purpose of this resolution to establish a code of ethics for the officers and employees of the Town of Dryden. These rules shall serve as a guide for official conduct of the officers and employees of the Town of Dryden. The rules of ethical conduct of this code 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 Dryden, 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. Standards of Conduct. Every officer or employee of the Town of Dryden shall be subject to and abide by the following standards of conduct:

(a) Gifts. They shall not directly or indirectly, solicit any gift; nor accept any gift having a value of seventy-five 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 them, or could reasonably be expected to influence them, in the performance of their official duties or was intended as a reward for any official action on their part.

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

(c) Representation before one's own agency. They 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 over which they have jurisdiction or to which they have the power to appoint any member, officer or employee.

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(d) Representation before any agency for a contingent fee. They 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 the Town, whereby their 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 they know thereof, a member of the Town Board and any officer or employee of the Town of Dryden, 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 they may have in such legislation.

(f) Investments in conflict with official duties. They shall not invest nor hold any investment directly or indirectly in any financial business, commercial or other private transaction, which creates a conflict with their official duties.

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

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

Section 4. 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 Dryden, or any agency hereto on behalf of themselves or any member of their family arising out of any personal injury or property damage or for any lawful benefit authorized or permitted by law.

Section 5. Distribution of Code of Ethics. The Town Supervisor of the Town of Dryden shall cause a copy of this Code of Ethics to be distributed to every officer and employee of the Town of Dryden within 10 days after the effective date of this resolution. Each officer and employee elected or appointed thereafter shall be furnished a copy before entering upon the duties of their office or employment.

Section 6. 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 suspended or removed from office or employment, as the case may be, in the manner provided by law.

Section 7. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect immediately.