

## **Town of Somers Ethics Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes**

Date: July 17, 2025

Location: Selectmen's Executive Conference Room, Somers Town Hall

Attendees: Commission members present were Sherri Marquis, Colin Landry, Everett Morrill, and Joel Emlen; also attending was the Town of Somers Attorney Carl Landolina

#### **I. Introduction**

The Town of Somers Ethics Commission (the "Commission") met on July 17, 2025, to discuss an ethics complaint (the "Complaint") with a date stamp of June 30, 2025, filed pursuant to Article II, Section 26-6 of the Town of Somers Code of Ethics (the "Code"). Upon taking roll, Chairperson ("Chair") Marquis noted that with four (4) members in attendance, there was a quorum. No commissioner raised a conflict of interest regarding the allegations in the Complaint.

#### **II. Recusal of Chair and Interim Appointment**

Chair Marquis distributed and read a typed statement regarding her status as Chair (and a member) of the Commission. Chair Marquis serves as the Municipal Veterans Representative for the Town of Somers ("Town") and receives a biannual stipend of \$1,500. Under Article II, Section 26-5.B of the Code, no "employee of the Town or the Somers Board of Education" may serve on the Commission. Article I, Section 26-2 defines "employee" as "[a]ny person receiving a salary, stipend or wages from the Town of Somers for services rendered, whether full- or part-time, at the time an alleged act occurred." Through e-mail, Attorney Landolina provided the First Selectman with a legal opinion on Chair Marquis's eligibility to serve on the Commission as a result of receiving the stipend. The Board of Selectmen, as the governing authority over the Commission, must now render a decision on this question of eligibility to serve. Until such time, Chair Marquis has recused herself from participating in all matters before the Commission. The Commission unanimously approved Everett Morrill as the Interim Chair.

At approximately 7:10 p.m., Interim Chair Morrill moved, and the Commission approved, entering a closed session to discuss the Complaint. The Commission came out of the closed session at approximately 8:01 p.m.; no votes were taken during the closed session.

Once back in open session, Attorney Landolina stated he will follow-up with the Board of Selectman on the status of appointing up to two (2) alternate members, as the present composition of the Commission stands at three (3) members.

#### **III. Approval of Minutes and Next Meeting**

The Commission unanimously approved the minutes from the July 9, 2025, meeting. The Commission will meet again on Thursday, August 7, 2025, with an agenda to be developed and posted on the Commission's website.

*The meeting adjourned.*  
*Joel Emlen, Secretary*