



City of Salisbury
ETHICS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 8, 2024

Commission Members Present

Neill Carey
Anthony Sarbanes
Timothy Stock
Sandeep Gopalan

In Attendance

Ashley Bosche, *City Attorney*
Jessie Turner, *Mayor's Office*
John Rankin, *Member of the Public*
Danny Long, *Volunteer Fire*

The Ethics Commission met at 9:00 am in the HQ Conference Room

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 am.

Review and Approval of January 24, 2024 Minutes

- T.S. motioned, and S.G. seconded a motion to approve the Ethics Commission meeting minutes from January 24, 2024. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Review of Commission Application

- Lily Chi-Fang Tsai—T.S. motioned and N.C. seconded and the Commission agreed to forward the application on to the Mayor for review.

Code of Ethics Review

- S.G. emailed a couple of edits
- A.B. recommends presenting to the City Council at an upcoming Work Session—Ethics Code and a general overview of what the Ethics Commission has been working on
- T.S. and A.B. will attend the 2/20/24 Work Session to do this presentation.

Discussion on Advisory Opinion 2023-03

- T.S. read the updated draft.
- T.S. motioned to approve the draft, N.C. seconded and all agree

Discussion on Advisory Opinion 2024-01

- Danny Long, member of the Salisbury Volunteer Fire Department shared his perspective and answered the Commission's questions concerning budget, hiring procedures, and hierarchy.

- The Committee discussed this Advisory Opinion in relation to Advisory Opinion 2023-01 where it was advised that City employees should not be members of City Boards/Commission/Committees.
- T.S. reminded the Commission that its purpose is to provide an outside review and recommend best practices—advisory opinions are not judicial.
- N.C. motioned to modify Advisory Opinion 2023-01 to include Fire Department Volunteers. The motion was not seconded and did not pass.
- Discussion was tabled. A.B. will draft what she believes to be the consensus and the Commission will review that and discuss it again at the next meeting.

Approving Minutes

- T.S. motioned and N.C. seconded and all agreed that a draft agenda will be approved via email when there is not a next meeting scheduled.

Public Comment

- J.R. asked about the final decision on Advisory Opinion 2023-03 and shared his opinion on the matter.

Next Commission Meeting

- The next Ethics Commission meeting will be held February 20, 2024, at 9:30 am in the Salisbury Headquarters Conference Room.

A motion to adjourn was made by N.C. and seconded by T.S.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am.

Minutes Recorded By: Jessie Turner, *Mayor's Office*