

City of Sandy Springs Board of Ethics Meeting was held at Sandy Springs City Hall, 7840 Roswell Road, Building 500, Sandy Springs, Georgia, 30350, on April 13, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.

Call to Order

Chairman Cindy Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Roll call

Assistant City Clerk Kelly Bogner called the roll.

Board Members Present: Cindy Johnson, David Price, Jonathan Levine, Steve Soteres, and Ganapathy Subramanian. Darlene Trigg was absent.

Staff and Representatives Present: City Attorney Wendell Willard and Assistant City Clerk Kelly Bogner.

Ruling on a Quorum

Chairman Cindy Johnson ruled a quorum was in place for the meeting.

New Business

a. Swearing in of new boardmembers Steve Soteres, GG Subramanian

Judge Donald W. Schaefer read the Board of Ethics Oath of Office to Steve Soteres and Ganapathy Subramanian as they separately raised their right hands. At the conclusion of the Oath, Steve Soteres and Ganapathy Subramanian and signed the Oath of office.

City Attorney Wendell Willard stated the Ethics Ordinance is relevant so that the Board and Commission members are aware of the City's standards. The City is guided by its ordinances and Charter provisions. The Ethics Ordinance applies to all elected officials or members of the Boards, Commissions, and committees of the City, excluding the Judges. The Judges are controlled by the State Judicial Qualification Commission for complaints. The City has had very few ethics complaints since its inception. There is a procedure the City goes through when a complaint is filed. The initial complaint is sent to the City Attorney's office and he will review it. From that review he will determine if there is something that may be a potential violation of the Ethics Ordinance. He will then prepare a report to the Board of Ethics setting forth those finding. From there, the Board of Ethics will go through the procedures outlined in the City Ordinances such as potential hearings.

b. Other new business

David Price thanked City Attorney Willard and Staff Attorney Kathy Williams for creating the Ethics acknowledgment form.

City Attorney Willard asked who the Ethics Ordinance and acknowledgement form have been distributed to.

Assistant City Clerk Kelly Bogner responded to the Board of Appeals and the Planning Commission. She can also distribute them to the City Council.

City Attorney Willard asked that the Ethics Ordinance and acknowledgement form be distributed to the City Council.

Approval of minutes from January 13, 2016 Regular Board Meeting

Motion and Vote: David Price moved to approve the January 13, 2016, meeting minutes. Jonathan Levine seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

There was no Old Business.

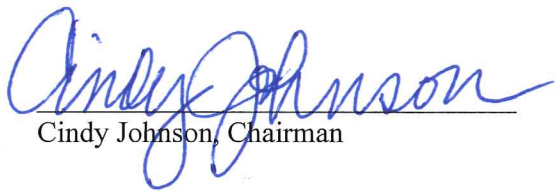
Chairman Cindy Johnson stated the Board is not a proactive committee that actively seeks individuals making ethics violations. It is the general public that would file a complaint with the City and then the Board will review it.

City Attorney Willard stated the City is unique in that we have employees that work for contract companies. The public safety employees such as the Police and Fire Department are employed by the City. They are governed through their own department procedures relating to conduct. Sandy Springs is recognized as a Certified City of Ethics, which is awarded by the Georgia Municipal Association.

Adjournment

Motion and Vote: Jonathan Levine moved to adjourn the meeting. David Price seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Date Approved: July 13, 2016


Cindy Johnson, Chairman


Michael Casey, City Clerk