

Ethics Board

Minutes

ETHICS BOARD MINUTES

November 14, 2000

Chair Lee Sisson called the meeting to order at 11 a.m. Present: members Stan Smith, Mike Neuens. Absent: Alternate Tom Horton. Also present: Alderman Wilkens, City Clerk Judy Weter

MINUTES

Motion by Smith, seconded by Neuens to approve the minutes from October 3, 2000. Motion carried unanimously.

COMPLAINTS

None.

PERKS DISCUSSION

Chair Sisson reported the City Council referred the policy on Fact Finding Trips (adopted by Ethics October 3, 2000) back to the Ethics Board.

Alderman Wilkens explained his concerns on the exception. He feels present staff and council is honest but he also feels the exception leaves gray areas. Future staff may be influenced by businesses providing meals, trips or entertainment.

The Board agreed Aldermanic expense accounts were not designed for fact finding trip expenses such as the recent trip to Omaha to view the turbine generating power plant.

The Target grand opening at which food was served was discussed. The Board feels these grand openings are just a normal way of doing business in the commercial world. The issue to be determined later is the appropriateness of City staff and officials to participate.

Motion by Neuens to modify the proposed policy to read in part as follows:

POLICY

To avoid the appearance of impropriety, all costs shall be paid for by the City, including travel, lodging and meals. The City shall invoice the business for all trip expenses as part

of the application review fee.

Seconded by Smith. Carried unanimously.

The Board discussed transportation provided by the applicant (developer). The consensus was the applicant should not be allowed to provide transportation and the policy, as stated, is clear enough.

The next meeting will be held Jan. 30, 2001 at 11 a.m.

Motion to adjourn by Smith at 11:30 a.m.. Seconded by Neuens and carried unanimously.

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